

5-Day Devotional: Loves Comes from God 1 John 4:7-12

Day 1: The Call of God's Love

Read: 1 John 4:7; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

🥊 Key Thought: God calls His children to continue loving one another with His kind of love.

John commands believers to "continue to love one another," reminding us that Christian love isn't optional—it's evidence that we truly belong to God. This isn't surface-level friendliness or temporary affection; it's agape—a love that seeks the highest good of others, even when it's difficult.

Paul's description of love in 1 Corinthians 13 challenges us to love in community, not from a distance. This kind of love requires patience, humility, forgiveness, and intentional relationships where God's Spirit can grow us.

Reflect:

- Where do you find loving others easy? Where is it challenging?
- How deeply are you engaged in relationships where real love can grow?
- Who is God calling you to love intentionally this week?

A Pray: Father, thank You for calling me to love others the way You love me. Grow patience, kindness, and humility in my heart. Help me continue to love—especially when it's hard.

Day 2: The Nature of God's Love

Read: 1 John 4:8; Exodus 34:6; Psalm 103:8–12

Key Thought: God doesn't just show love—He is love in His very nature.

John makes a bold statement: "God is love." Love isn't something God puts on like a coat; it's the core of who He is. Because His nature is love, His actions always flow from love—whether He is correcting, comforting, forgiving, or leading us.

If God is love, then knowing Him naturally produces love in us. A loveless Christian life isn't a personality issue—it's a spiritual one, revealing how deeply (or shallowly) we know God.

Reflect:

- When you think about God's nature, what comes to mind first—grace, judgment, patience, power?
- Do you truly believe God loves you by nature, not by performance?
- How is your relationship with God shaping the way you love others?

A Pray: Lord, thank You that love is not just what You do—it's who You are. Help me know You more deeply so that Your love becomes visible in my life.

Day 3: The Proof of God's Love

- Read: 1 John 4:9-10; Romans 5:6-8; John 3:16
- 💡 Key Thought: The ultimate evidence of God's love is the sacrificial sending of His Son.

John points us to the greatest display of love in all of history: God sent His "one and only Son" so we could have eternal life. Real love begins not with our devotion to God, but with His initiative toward us.

God didn't wait for us to clean up, mature, or turn toward Him—He loved us first, while we were still sinners. The cross isn't just a symbol; it's a declaration that God's love is costly, personal, and unwavering.

Reflect:

- When did God's love first become real to you?
- Are there areas in your life where you still feel the need to "earn" His love?
- How does the cross change the way you see your worth and identity?

A Pray: Jesus, thank You for proving God's love through Your sacrifice. Help me rest in the truth that You loved me first and fully. Let the cross shape the way I live today.

Day 4: The Response to God's Love

- Read: 1 John 4:11–12; Ephesians 5:1–2; Colossians 3:12–14
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John says that since God loved us that much, we "surely ought to love each other." When God's love flows into us but never flows out of us, something short-circuits spiritually.

But when we love others—especially in ways that reflect Jesus—God's love is brought "to full expression" in us. The world can't physically see God, but they can see His love through us. That's His design.

Reflect:

- Who in your life needs to experience God's love through you right now?
- Are there relationships where you're withholding forgiveness, patience, or grace?
- What step can you take today to express God's love tangibly?

A Pray: Father, since You have loved me with such a great love, teach me to love others the same way. Let Your love flow through me so people can see You in my life.

Day 5: Love on Mission

Read: 1 John 4:12; John 15:12–13; Matthew 5:14–16

Key Thought: The world encounters God's love through God's people living it out.

John reminds us that although no one has ever seen God physically, they can see Him at work when believers love one another. Love is our greatest witness to a world longing for something real, trustworthy, and transformative.

Families, classmates, coworkers, neighbors, and communities are all searching—often unknowingly—for God's love. When believers live out agape love, they become living evidence of the God who loves and saves.

Reflect:

- Where has God positioned you to show His love this week?
- How could your reactions, words, or kindness create opportunities for people to see Jesus?
- What step of bold, sacrificial love can you take in your community?

A Pray: Lord, make me a vessel of Your love. Let the people around me experience Your heart through my actions, words, and presence. Shine through me so others may encounter You.