

LOVING ONE ANOTHER

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

LOVING ONE ANOTHER God's Ongoing Triumph Over the Loveless World 1 John 5:1-5

Born into God's family...

...affectionate love is the norm! (v1)

"Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of [the] God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him."

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. **8** Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. **9** In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that **God sent his [unique] Son** into the world, **so that** we might live through him.

...we delight in the Father and conform our lives to His loving nature. (v2-3a)

*"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and **obey** his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we **keep** his commandments..."*

1 John 3: 21-24 Beloved...we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because **we keep his commandments and do what pleases him**. And **this is his commandment**, that we **believe in the name** of his Son Jesus Christ and **love one another**, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him... (see John 6:29, John 13: 34-35)

...we share in Christ's victory over the loveless world through trust and love. (3b-5)

*"...And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone [having been born] of God overcomes **the world**. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"*

John 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; **I have overcome the world.**"

1 John 4:4 **Little children, you are from God and have overcome** [those who deny Jesus came in the flesh], for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1 John 2: 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but **whoever does the will of God abides forever**.

5 Ways to Love One Another

1. Follow Jesus's self-giving example

"By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked...By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers."—1 John 2:6, 15

2. Guard your heart from contempt toward your Christian family

"Whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes."—1 John 2:11

3. Prioritize sister/brother relationship over loveless, ephemeral things

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."
—1 John 2:15-17

4. Prioritize the physical well-being of Christian siblings over material possessions

"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."—1 John 3:17-18

5. Pray for sisters and brothers tangled in sin

"If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life"—1 John 5:16

Reflection & Discussion

1. Read 1 John 4:7-9 Is your daily experience characterized by a deepening affection for God and his people based on the Father's proof of love for you in His Son?
2. Review the list of "5 Ways to Love One Another". Select one to think on and talk to the Father about this week. Ask for opportunities to grow in love toward your Christian family, especially in your own home.

SONGS

"Stand In Your Love" - Ethan Hulse Josh Baldwin Mark Harris Rita Springer

"This Is Amazing Grace" – Phil Wickham, Josh Farro and Jeremy Riddle

"O Come to the Altar" - Christopher Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, and Wade Joye

"O Praise the Name (Anástasis) - Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson, and Benjamin Hastings

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$33,211.00

WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$1,163,500.10

YTD GENERAL NEED: \$1,234,520.00