

GOD WITH US

an advent series

Jesus Is God With Us Who Brings Love

1 John 4:7-12

12.9.18

Tobi Grunick

1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No

one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:7

Beloved, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

“Gott liebt den Menschen. Gott liebt die Welt. Nicht einen idealen Menschen, sondern den Menschen wie er ist, nicht eine Idealwelt, sondern die wirkliche Welt.”

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Ethik*

“God loves men and women. God loves this world. Not the ideal human, but men and women as they are; not an ideal world, but the real world.” (*Translation*)

“Beloved”

Greek: agapetos [pronounced: agapehtos]

The recipients of God’s “Agape” love, the carriers of God’s love.

“These things can be true, but we need to discover that they are not, and never will be, the truest thing.”

- David Lomas, *The Truest Thing About You*

Why is it so hard for us to understand and live in the truth that God loves us?

1 John 4:10

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:11-12

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

John 13:34-35

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

“Love incarnate must be the badge that the Christian community wears, the sign not only of who they are but who their God is.”

- N.T. Wright, *The Early Christian Letters for Everyone*

“The goal for anyone that receives prayer is to feel loved. The environment is loving. The goal is always love. This is about God wanting to love his people. That’s what people need to experience.”

- Darren Rouanzoin

“Last night at evening service, I had an incredible encounter of witnessing two people who had stood up for depression and

suicidal thoughts (that didn't know each other) and during the second set, I watched them find each other from across the room and start praying for one another. Others joined and we asked them how they were feeling, and one just said really LOVED and SEEN and the other was crying too hard to talk, but it was lit.”