



Discussion Questions for Lesson # 6: Love



I John 4:7-21 (NIV)
Oct. 27, 2020
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1. Why do we so often associate the word “love” with our emotions?
2. In **Gal. 5:13-15** we read: “You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.” How do we bite and devour each other within the church?
3. In **I John 4:11**, John writes that since God loved us, we also ought to love one another. What can make that difficult?
4. In **I John 4:12**, John writes that if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. What is the implied consequence of *not* loving one another? What does that do to a community?
5. According to **I John 4:18**, there is no fear in love. In fact, we’re told that perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. What kind of fear does John have in mind?
6. In **I John 4:20-21**, John writes: “Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.”

John doesn't address problems that don't exist, so there must have been a lack-of-love problem within the church. What does that look like within our own congregations? And what are we to do about it?

