Bible Study Guide

HEREIN IS LOVE



A Bible Study on God's Love, the Cross, and Loving One Another

Introduction

The cross reveals a kind of love the world rarely understands. Jesus laid down His life not for a circle of people who had always loved Him, but for sinners who had rebelled against God. Biblical love is not merely a warm feeling; it is the character of God expressed in self-sacrifice. Such love becomes the measure of genuine discipleship.

Fill in the blanks from the KJV text, then read the brief explanation.

Bible Study Questions

1 **What did God send His Son to be for our sins?** (1 John 4:10)

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the _____ for our sins."

God's love took the initiative in providing Christ's atoning sacrifice. We do not earn that love by first loving Him.

2 **What assurance does the Father's gift of His Son give us?** (Romans 8:32)

"He that spared not his own _____, but delivered him up for us all,"

The gift of Christ is the deepest evidence of God's willingness to save.

3 **What does Jesus say a person may lay down as the greatest expression of love?** (John 15:13)

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his _____ for his friends."

Love is measured by what it is willing to give, not merely by what it feels or receives.

4 **Why did the Son of man come?** (Mark 10:45)

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to _____, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Christ's greatness is revealed in service and sacrifice.

5 **What reconciles sinners to God?** (Romans 5:10)

"we were reconciled to God by the _____ of his Son,"

Christ's sacrifice restores sinners to fellowship with God.

6 **What were we when Christ died for us?** (Romans 5:8)

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet _____, Christ died for us."

God's love extended to the undeserving. The cross calls us to show mercy to those who do not merit our affection.

7 **How should we treat our enemies?** (Matthew 5:44)

"_____ your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

Christ's disciples seek the good of those who oppose them rather than returning injury for injury.

8 **What is cast out by perfect love?** (1 John 4:18)

"but perfect love casteth out _____:"

As we abide in Christ, His love gives assurance and removes the torment of condemnation.

9 **What does John reveal about God's character?** (1 John 4:8)

"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is _____."

God's love is the source and standard of Christian love.

10 **Why may we give God our burdens?** (1 Peter 5:7)

"Casting all your care upon him; for he _____ for you."

Our burdens matter to our heavenly Father; we need not bear them alone.

11 **What standard does Jesus give for loving one another?** (John 13:34)

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another;

_____, that ye also love one another."

The commandment is measured by Christ's own sacrificial love. It asks more than ordinary affection.

12 **How are we commanded to love our neighbor?** (Matthew 22:39)

"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as _____."

The law of love calls us to seek another person's good with the care we desire ourselves.

13 **What identifies the disciples of Jesus to the world?** (John 13:35)

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have

_____."

Christlike relationships bear public witness to the life of the Saviour within His people.

14 **How does biblical love respond to others?** (1 Corinthians 13:4)

"Charity suffereth long, and is _____; charity envieth not;"

Love reveals itself in patient and kind behavior rather than mere sentiment.

15 **How should we overcome evil?** (Romans 12:21)

"Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with _____."

Christ's way of victory is not retaliation, but faithfulness and love.

16 **Why are we able to love God?** (1 John 4:19)

"We love him, because he _____ loved us."

Our response begins with the love God has already shown us. His initiative supplies the motive for our obedience.

17 **What does love for Jesus lead us to do?** (John 14:15)

"If ye love me, keep my _____."

Loving obedience is the response of a heart that trusts its Saviour.

18 **How should God's forgiven people treat one another?** (Ephesians 4:32)

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, _____ one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Receiving mercy changes how we respond to others' mistakes.

Appeal

Will you receive God's love as revealed in Christ, and allow that love to determine the way you treat those who are difficult to love?

Commitment

I choose to receive the love of God in Jesus and, by His grace, love others as He has loved me.

_____

Signature

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