

(1 John 4:8) Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

- ✓ _____ is love.
- ✓ Love is experienced when we _____ God.
- ✓ Honoring God starts with _____ according to God (in Christ) and moves to _____ others to God. (to Christ)

(John 13:34) So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

--- Three choices concerning every relationship ---

1. I can see them as someone to _____.

(Matthew 5:43-48) “You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy. But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

2. I can see them as someone to _____.

- We are driven by the wrong _____.
(James 4:1-3) What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.
- We are using the wrong _____.
(James 4:5-6) Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him. And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

- We are fighting the wrong _____.

(James 4:7-8) So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

3. I can see them as someone to _____.

- When I love well, I become conformed more into the _____ of God and better give _____ to God.

(2 Corinthians 3:18) So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

--- Love Well Perspective---

- ✓ I can _____ His love.

(1 John 4:10) In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

(Colossians 3:14) Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.

- ✓ I can _____ in His love.

(1 John 4:11) Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

(1 John 3:18) Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

- ✓ I can _____ in His love.

(1 John 4:16-17) We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect.

(1 John 4:12) No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.