



“More Than Words”

“Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other, let us show the truth by our actions.” 1 John 3:18

A. God’s appeal to us...

“See how very much our Father loves us...” Vs 1a

1. He calls us His children.

“...for He calls us His children, and that is what we are!” Vs 1b

2. He wants the best for our future.

“Dear friends, we are already God’s children, but He has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears....” Vs 2a

3. He wants to give us a new vision.

“But we do know that we will be like Him, for we will see Him as He really is.” Vs 2b

4. He wants to take away our sins.

“And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in Him.” Vs 5

5. He gave His life for us...He loves us that much!

“We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us.” Vs 16a

B. Our response to His love...

“So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.” Vs 16b

1. Because He loves us, He calls us to keep pure.

“And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as He is pure.” Vs 3

2. Because He loves us, He calls us to not continue in sin.

“Anyone who continues to live in Him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know Him or understand who He is.” Vs 6

3. Because He loves us, He calls us into right living.

Right living shows our relationship to God.

“Dear children, don’t let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous.” Vs 7

4. Because He loves us, He gives us a new identification...we do not continue in sin as that shows we have no relationship with God.

“But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. Those who have been born into God’s family do not make a practice of sinning, because God’s life is in them. So they can’t keep on sinning, because they are children of God.” Vs 8-9

5. Because He loves us, He commands us to love other believers as there is no room for hate!

“If we love our brothers and sisters who are believers, it proves that we have passed from death to life. But a person who has no love is still dead.” Vs 14

C. “More than words” or putting our words into practice...

“Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.” Vs 18

1. To love one another is not a new commandment.

“This is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another.” Vs 11

2. What you do with your hands speaks louder than what you do with your mouths.

“...let us show the truth by our actions.” Vs 18b

3. Whatever deeds you do, must be accompanied with love. Don’t make promises you can’t keep.

“And this is His commandment: We must believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.” Vs 23

“If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing.” 1 Corinthians 13:3

4. The deeds we do are merely those needs that God brings into focus in our everyday lives. No deed is ever too small.

“Do the small thing to show the main thing – God is love!”

“If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God’s love be in that person?” Vs 17

“Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, ‘Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well’—but then you don’t give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?” James 2:15-16

5. God commands us to put both our mouth and our deeds into practice...with love!

“Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.” Vs 19

“And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.” Colossians 3:17

D. And when we discover God’s love, we find...

“And we know He lives in us because the Spirit He gave us lives in us.” Vs 24b

1. Our fellowship with God has changed.

“Those who obey God’s commandments remain in fellowship with Him, and He with them.” Vs 24a

2. Our fellowship with one another has changed.

“But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.” Vs 1:7

3. Our ability to come to God boldly has changed.

“Dear friends, if we don’t feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence.” Vs 21 (Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything. Vs 20)

4. Our prayers have changed.

“And we will receive from Him whatever we ask because we obey Him and do the things that please Him.” Vs 22

5. Our eternity has changed.

“I tell you the truth, those who listen to My message and believe in God who sent Me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.” John 5:24

To begin a relationship with Jesus...

Text: I Choose Jesus to 88202

Next Week: Love God/Love People “Victory is Ours”

1 John: Chapter 4