

# **Introduction**

## **The Test of Love**

**1 John 4:7-16 - since God's nature is love, our love for one another is the test of the reality of our spiritual life.**

**1 John 4:7-11**

**7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**

**8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.**

**9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.**

**10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.**

**11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.**

# Introduction

## *Key Verse*

*1 John 5:13*

*These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may [continue to] believe in the name of the Son of God.*

**1 John 4:12-21**  
**“Abiding in God**  
**Abiding in Love”**

V 12

Perfected Love

## V 12 Perfected Love

*Galatians 5:13-14*

*For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not [use] liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, [even] in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*

**Vv 13-15**

**Perfected Assurance**

# Vv 13-15 Perfected Assurance

**John 15:4**

*Abide in Me, and I in you.*

**John 15:7**

*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you.*

## Vv 13-15 Perfected Assurance

*First, it is the Spirit of God in us that is the abiding presence of Jesus – the presence of His Spirit is how He abides in us.*

*Secondly, it is the testimony of the Holy Spirit within us that makes it possible for us to know that we abide in Him. As Paul puts it in Roman 8:16: "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God."*

*The Holy Spirit gives us this assurance. - Guzik*



## Vv 13-15 Perfected Assurance

*“God’s call to any man and the anointing of the Spirit for service are conditioned upon that man’s heart response.”*

*— Alan Redpath, The Making of a  
Man of God: Lessons from the Life of  
David*

# Vv 13-15 Perfected Assurance

*Rom 10:9-10*

*...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

**V 16**

**We Have Known and  
Believed God's Love**

Vv 17-18

The Perfecting of Love

**V 19**

**We Love Him Because  
He First Loved Us**

**Vv 20-21**

**The Commandment  
to Love**

## Vv 20-21 The Commandment to Love

*Matthew 5:23-24*

*Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.*

# Taking it Home

*Galatians 5:22-23*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love,*

*joy,*

*peace,*

*longsuffering,*

*kindness,*

*goodness,*

*faithfulness,*

*gentleness,*

*self-control.*



## MEDITATION VERSE

*1 John 4:16*

*And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.*

# Calvary Chapel Ridgeline Williamstown, KY



# **BENEDICTION**

## **1 Thessalonians 3:12-13**

**may the Lord make you increase and  
abound in love to one another and to all,  
just as we [do] to you, so that He may  
establish your hearts blameless in holiness  
before our God and Father at the coming of  
our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.**