

### Bible Study 3 – Motivated by love – 1 John 4:7-21

There is much confusion about love because it is defined differently by different “authorities”. Someone said that love is “an intangible connection between two people that feels exceptionally good”. Psychology Today says, “Love is a force of nature. However much we may want to, we cannot command, demand, or take away love”. But we will see that God commands love! True love begins with God, is received from God and changes us.

<b>The context</b>	John writes to assure believers of the certainty of their faith and to refute false teachings that Jesus was not fully human and fully divine (they denied the incarnation). He presents the nature of God and the person and work of Jesus Christ. And that believers are indwelt and taught by the Holy Spirit. He also describes the marks of these in Christian fellowship. The purpose of the book is that believers will “know that you [they] have eternal life” (5:13). John uses simple words to describe deep thoughts.
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#### **PART 1 Read & write each section in your own words – 1 John 4:7-21**

God’s love (v.7-10)	
Loving one another (v.11-12)	
God’s love in us (v.13-18)	
Loving one another (v.19-21)	

#### **PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage**

1. *What does it teach about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?*

2. *What does it teach about people?*

3. *Summarise a key verse in your own words.*

4. *In your opinion, what is the main point being taught in this passage?*

5. *Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?*

6. *Knowing that divine love is unconditional and sacrificial and that God initiates love, how can we (believers) love one another more (v.11, 21)?*

7. *Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?*

God expects those He loves (believers) to love one another. People with divine love have a capacity to love anyone. Sacrificial love makes God visible.

