

March 16, 2020

## Knowing Love

1 John 4:16, “And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.”

Are you a person who likes to play trivia games? Some people just have a knack for trivia questions. They are a walking encyclopedia of trivial facts. I remember the craze a few years back with the board game Trivial Pursuit. It seems everyone was playing it. Now you might wonder where I'm heading with this, but just humor me for a moment. We seem to put stock in being people who are able to name the fourth president of the U.S., or the inventor of the can opener. But let me tell you what scripture calls knowledge; and it is not trivial at all.

The Greek term for knowing or knowledge is *ignosi*, which means not only knowing a fact, but experiencing and being aware of something. Here in today's passage, John begins by stating that we know and rely on the love God has for us. In other words, we have experienced the love of God. I believe many walk around, not understanding how much God loves them and not realizing what He has done for them, because they have not experienced that love personally. And why is that? They are consumed with what this world calls important, but what we understand is really "trivial pursuit."

In Matt. 16:26, Jesus states: “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” The fact is that most people think that the things of value in this world are things they can own, or conquer, or accomplish. But on the day we stand before God, we will realize that none of those things really matter. John says in essence, that experiencing God's love makes all the difference in how we live and love God and others. Have you, and do you experience God's love? I have, and I do. And because of this, I don't want what the world says is important; I want to continue to experience this wonderful relationship with my loving Father.

Dear Lord, thank You for not just telling me that You love me, but showing me how much You love me through Your sacrifice for me. You took on the form of a man and then took my sin to the cross and shed Your perfect blood for me. I can never repay You and I don't deserve it, but I'm so very thankful for Your great love. In Jesus Name, Amen