

March 18, 2020

### Knowing Love - Part 3

1 John 4:8, “Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

So knowing God means having a real relationship with Him. You might wonder what that means. How can we truly “know” God? Isn’t He far away and impossible to see? Well I can tell you that you can know God because millions of people have and do. I do. How? Because I reached out to Him and found out that He has always been reaching out to me.

There were times in my life that I felt unloved by people that I thought should love me. Without getting to specific, there were people that I thought should love me, and yet I felt rejected, unwanted, useless, and alone. Perhaps you have felt the same way. Maybe you have been neglected, abused, bruised, and maybe even abandoned. Maybe you have felt that you don’t even really matter to anyone. Well listen to what this scripture reminds us of - God is love.

You won’t find this unconditional love anywhere else, from anyone else. You can search and hope; you can strive and seek; but you will never find anyone else in this whole universe that will love you like God already loves you. And did you catch this phrase God is love. It is not something God does, it is Who He is. He is love. And, because He is love, He then gives His love to all, without reservation. His love is free to us, but it cost Him everything.

Imagine the person in your life that you love so much that you could not imagine them being gone. Now imagine that you would have to give them up, watch them suffer, be beaten, and ultimately crucified. You would watch them labor for breath, be mocked and beaten mercilessly. Why would God allow this to happen to His own Son? Because God is love. Love is not a feeling to Him; it is Him. And because of this great love for you and for me, He demonstrates His love to us. He gives His love with no limits. And then, as we are blessed to receive His love, He asks us to also love like He loves. Love with no limits. Pure love. Unconditional love.

You might wonder how can I give that kind of love? The answer is this - when you give God, you give love. People don’t need to feel good; they need God. If you have Him in your life, then you have life! Now He commands us to give that love to everyone!

Dear Lord, thank You for Your life and Your love. Thank You for demonstrating that love through Jesus. I would never understand what real love is until I understand that real love is You. I want to know You more every day that You give me. I love You Lord, In Jesus Name, Amen