

Fourth Study “Love One Another”

We have seen God’s love for us and his desire to have a relationship with us. We respond to that love by pursuing a relationship with him through our faith in Christ, our obedience to the word and our repentance. We enter into that relationship fully through our baptism. *Then what?* God not only has a plan for our relationship with him, but a plan for our relationship with each other.

1 Peter 1:22-23 A close relationship with God inspires a close relationship with each other. As we love him, God wants us to love one another; deeply and from the heart. We demonstrate that love in two ways.

1. Love for Each Other

John 13:34-35 We love each other because Jesus loves us

1 John 4:7-21 Our sincere love for God is manifest by the love we have for one another. Loving each other is not a suggestion but a command from God (John 15: 12,15)

Mark 12:28-34 Loving each other is the 2nd greatest commandment. This is VERY important to God and should be to us.

What is love?

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 The “marks of love.” Study these and apply them to your relationships. This is true sincere fellowship. This is the love God wants between us.

2. Love for the Church (the body of Christ)

What is the “church?” The Greek word is “Ekklesia” “A group of people called out for a purpose.” God has called us out of the world to be in his family, the body of Christ.

Acts 2:24-47 A “snapshot” of the first church.

Colossians 1:18 Christ is the head of the church but we all have a role in the body.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 We are baptized into this body and we all have an equal place in this family. We need each other!

Hebrews 10:23-25 As we hold on to the hope God gives us, we hold on to each other for support. We need the time with each other.

Romans 12:3-13 We all have gifts and the use of these gifts is aimed at serving and encouraging one another.

Assignment: Read select “One Another Scriptures” (See separate page)

Question: What do this study and the “one another scriptures” show you about God’s design for the church?

