

1 | God's nature is love.

⁷*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 JOHN 4:7-8*

In the passage above, John writes that God is the ultimate source and definition of true love. In fact, God's love is not just an attribute—it is His very essence. Everything God does is out of love. Anything done apart from His love does not reflect who He is. When we walk in a relationship with God, we learn to follow His ways and love others the way He does. How has God shown you His love? In what ways has God shown His love for others through you?

2 | God's love is demonstrated through Jesus.

⁹*In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 JOHN 4:9-10*

Sin marred and corrupted our understanding of love. Humanity became incapable of reflecting true love, falling short on multiple occasions. But because of His great love,

God chose to send His Son, Jesus, to show us what love looks like. Jesus' death on the cross is the ultimate demonstration of God's perfect love—sacrificial, self-giving, and unconditional. We can understand what true love is like as we know and experience God's love. How has Jesus' finished work on the cross changed your understanding of love?

God's love transforms us from the inside out and restores our identity in Him. John calls his readers as *beloved* and those who genuinely love others as those *born of God*. As we continue to grasp His love, may we go deeper in our relationship with Him and extend His love to the people around us.

APPLICATION

- How has this discussion changed or challenged your perspective of love?
- Are there challenges or roadblocks that hinder you from receiving God's love? Ask God to help you overcome those and walk freely in His love for you.
- Think of people close to you who need to receive God's love this week. How may you demonstrate His love for them through your words and actions?