

**Love the God Who is Love**  
*Love the Love Series (Part 3)*

1 John 4:7-5:12; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 8-15-21

*He pleases God whom God pleases.* – Augustine

**1. Love fueled by trust is the vision for life.**

This text highlights the reality that love is crucial and cannot be emphasized too much! – 1 John 4:7; 4:16a; 4:19; 5:2-3

**2. The most important thing in life is loving God.**

This text emphasizes the concept and necessity of loving God. - 1 John 4:20; 4:21; 5:1; 5:2; 5:3

*Why is love for God important?*

- It is commanded by God. – Matthew 22:35-38
- It divides humanity. – Exodus 20:5-6
- It is what Christians do. – Romans 8:28
- God deserves our love. - 1 John 4:19
- We will not love others without loving God. – 1 John 5:2
- We become like what we love. – Psalm 115:4-8

**3. Loving God is being pleased with God above all and living to please God above all.**

This text highlights the ‘pleasing’ aspect of loving God. – 1 John 5:1; 5:3a

*How is God’s love for us and our love for God alike and different? (from John Owen)*

- A ‘Wedded’ Love – Zephaniah 3:17; Psalm 73:25-28
- A ‘Because’ Love – Isaiah 49:14-16; 1 John 4:19; Psalm 116:1
- A ‘Right’ Love – Jeremiah 2:13; Malachi 1:6
- An ‘Up and Down’ Love – Micah 7:18; Revelation 2:4

- A 'Channeled' Love – Romans 8:38-39; Hebrews 7:23-25

#### **4. I can grow in love for God through reconciliation and relationship.**

This text highlights both the need for reconciliation and the need for relationship in loving God. – 1 John 4:9-10; 5:3

*So how do we grow in love for God?*

- Present your life to God in repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus. – Acts 20:21; Romans 5:10; 12:1-2; Ephesians 5:31-33

*Can you grow in love for someone while being their enemy?*

- Pursue the love of God. – 2 Thessalonians 3:5; Jude 1:21

*Can you grow in love for someone without investing time and effort in that relationship?*

- Ponder God's Word. – Psalm 119:159; 91:14; Ephesians 3:14-19

*Can you grow in love for someone without getting to know them so you can trust their heart for you?*

- Pray. – Psalm 116:1; Luke 11:9-13

*Can you grow in love for someone (that you are dependent on) without depending on them and seeing them come through for you?*

- Practice Obedience and See God's Faithfulness as You Trust Him. – John 14:21

*Can you grow in love for someone without following their directions and finding out in experience just how good and wise they are?*

#### **5. In Christ, God is pleased with me and I am pleased with God, so I live to please God.**

This text also highlights the reality that God is pleased with those who trust in His Son. – 1 John 4:18; 5:11; Luke 2:14; Matthew 3:16-17; Hebrews 11:6

*Three Questions Everyone Should Ask*

- Is God pleased with me? Have I place my *faith* in the Lord Jesus?
- Am I pleased with God? Am I fixing my *hope* on God alone?
- Am I living to please God? Am I practicing *love* according to God's Word?