

THE LOVE OF GOD

1 John 3:1 - 10

Devotional Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16 - 21

Background Scripture: 1 John 3:1 - 10

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- **State** the reason the Son of God came
- **Explain** the significance of Christ’s purity
- **Recruit** an accountability partner for mutual resistance to sin

INTRODUCTION: The letter, I John, is considered a “general epistle” because it does not identify a specific church, location, or individual as the addressee. The letter was likely written from Ephesus to the churches of Asia Minor - - churches over which John exercised apostolic leadership. Because of God’s great love for us, He has reached out to make us His children and while we do not know our ultimate destiny, we do know we will be like Jesus and that glorious transformation. How are we living up to our name of “Christian” as we await His return?

KEY VERSE *3 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*
1 John 3:1 / KJV

LESSON:

The Love of God

1 John 3:1 - 3

The Mission of God

1 John 3:4 - 6

SUMMARY: Because we believe our destiny is to be like Jesus, this idea of our true identity should move us to be like Him now. John reminds us that when we break the law - - when we sin - - we rebel against God. Any violation of the moral standards that God has revealed to us is rebelliousness. What we do in the flesh matters. False teachers have little concern for morality. John warns us not to be deceived. Those who “do what is sinful” are of the devil, not God.

QUESTIONS:

1. *How will you live differently in the upcoming week in light of this verse’s promise regarding our future glory?*
2. *How will you be more attentive to the Holy Spirit’s leading as you pursue a life of purity?*
3. *How would you explain the concept of being “born of God” to an unbeliever?*

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
<i>Mon., Aug. 5th</i>	The Love of Christ Compels Us	2 Corinthians 5:16 - 21
<i>Tue., Aug. 6th</i>	Love the Lord Your God	Deuteronomy 6:4 - 13
<i>Wed., Aug. 7th</i>	Fulfill the Royal Law of Love	James 2:8 - 13
<i>Thurs., Aug. 8th</i>	Love One Another	John 13:31 - 35
<i>Fri., Aug. 9th</i>	Renewed in Love	Zephaniah 3:14 - 20
<i>Sat., Aug. 10th</i>	An Everlasting Love	Jeremiah 31:1 - 9
<i>Sun., Aug. 11th</i>	God’s Beloved Children	1 John 3:1 - 10