

Can you find [1 John 4](#) again in your Bible? We've been using [1 John 4](#) all month to help us understand, "What is love?" What does GOD mean when he talks about love? Let's read [1 John 4:7-12](#) together...



Beloved, let us love one another, for love is \_\_\_\_\_ God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God \_\_\_\_\_ love.

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. In 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. Beloved, if God so loved us, \_\_\_\_\_ also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

Sadly, a lot of people live by the motto we can read in [Matthew 5:43](#), "You shall \_\_\_\_\_ your neighbor and \_\_\_\_\_ your enemy." That **wasn't** the way of Jesus, but he knew that's the way a lot of people were choosing to live. "You have heard that it was said... But I say to you..." Jesus is calling all of us to follow him on a different path—a path we can read all about in [Matthew 5:44-48](#). It's the path of the **Golden Rule** where we treat other people the way **WE** would like to be treated ([Matthew 7:12](#)).

**What's that look like?** In [1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#), we have a beautiful description:

Love is patient and \_\_\_\_\_; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or \_\_\_\_\_. It does not insist on its \_\_\_\_\_ way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love honors the God who loved us first. We learn from him to love others as we've been loved by God.

# FOUNDATION STONES




We heard Mr. Jason say that a lot of people have the wrong idea about love. We **don't** live by the motto, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." We live by the **Golden Rule** that Jesus taught us in [Matthew 7:12](#).


"So whatever you wish that others would do to \_\_\_\_\_,  
do also to \_\_\_\_\_, for this is the Law and the Prophets."


Let's think about that... what might it look like at home or school or in the neighborhood to treat other people the way I would like to be treated?


Can you think of any examples from the Old Testament or the New Testament where a person treated someone the way they would like to be treated, even if that person didn't deserve it? [Luke 10:30-37](#) might be a good example for us to read together...


Can you find [1 Corinthians 13](#) in your Bible? Let's think through some of those "Love is..." words. What does it mean to...

 Be patient?

 Be kind?

 Not be arrogant?

 Not be rude?

 Not insist on your own way?