



Pastor Scott Archer 11.23.2014*
Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
www.ccclamesa.com

The Priority and Power of Love

Series: *The Fruit of the Spirit – Living a Life that Pleases God*
Galatians 5:22-23/1 John 4:7-21

The Four Loves:

- ❖ Eros – sexual and possessive, based on merit and attraction (not used in N.T.)
- ❖ Storge – the natural affection one feels for family
- ❖ Phileo – friendly, brotherly love, based on merit and mutual interest
- ❖ Agape – God-like love, unmerited and self-sacrificing

Romans 5:8 (NIV) — **8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Central Thought: God created us for and calls us to an uncommon, God-like love that can only be accomplished through the continuing presence of the Spirit of Jesus within us.

Galatians 5:22 (NIV) — **22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness...

*Access today's sermon notes via your smartphone or tablet with the **YouVersion** Bible app from LifeChurch.tv. CCChurch Guest Wi-Fi password: central8360church.

❖ God is the source of love

1 John 4:7–8 (NIV) — **7** Dear friends, let us love one another, for **love comes from God**. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love**.

❖ God is the model of love

1 John 4:9–10 (NIV) — **9** This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **10 This is love:** not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

❖ We are called to God-like love

1 John 4:11–12 (NIV) — **11** Dear friends, **since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another**. **12** No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:19–21 (NIV) — **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. **21** And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Homework/Questions

- ❖ Read/reflect on 1 John 4:7-21.
- ❖ Open your heart in faith to God's unmerited love for you in Christ Jesus, and ask him to forgive you and fill you with his Holy Spirit.

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