



April 21st, 2024 • 1 John 4:7-12

Page 1023 in the church Bibles • The Fruit of the Spirit
Message #1 “Love” • Theme Verses: Galatians 5:22-23
by Pastor Marcus Johnson



Audio versions of Sermons and detailed sermon notes are available on our
website: LakeRegionBibleChurch.org (see “Messages 2024” tab)

The Fruit of the Spirit: & the Call to Love One Another

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
(Galatians 5:22-23 ESV)

1. Beloved, let us love one another:

- for love is from God

- because we are born of God

- because we know God

2. Beloved, we ought to love one another:

- because God so loved us

- for God abides in us

- for God’s love is perfected in us

3. How to love one another (two examples from Galatians 5)

- Use our freedom in Christ to love & serve one another (vs13-15)

- Walk by the Spirit & we will not gratify the desires of the flesh (v16)

Excursus: John’s litmus test for Knowing Christ/Having Eternal Life

Highlights listed below are some insights & themes adapted from various sources including:
1 – 3 JOHN, by Robert W. Yarbrough (ECNT) & *The ESV Study Bible* (Crossway)

In *The Gospel of John*, John writes that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and have life in His name (Jn 20:30-31). In *1 John*, John writes to those who believe in the name of the Son of God (Jesus Christ) so that we might know that we have eternal life (1Jn 5:13). Listed below are three key themes in *1 John* which give us assurance that we know Christ and have eternal life (a litmus test for who truly believes in Him, is born of God).

Doctrine: if we believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God (1:1ff; 3:23; 4:1; 5:1)

Ethical: if we obey God’s commands (1:5ff; 2:3ff; 3:4ff; 5:16ff)

Relational: if we love one another (2:9ff; 3:10ff; 4:7ff; 5:1ff)