



Loving
Selected Scriptures
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl
December 22, 2024

God loving us.

1. Sacrificial love.

(John 3:16; 10:11; 15:13; Romans 5:6, 8, 10; 8:7; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:5; Philippians 2:6-8; Colossians 1:21)

2. Saving love.

(Jeremiah 31:3; John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9; 8:31-39; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:1-10; 5:2; Titus 3:3-7; 1 John 3:1; 4:10)

Loving God.

1. Why?

(Luke 10:27; Romans 5:3-5; 1 John 4:10, 19)

2. How?

(Judges 17:6; Luke 10:27; John 14:21-24; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 2 John 1:6)

Loving Others.

1. Believers.

(John 13:14-15, 34; 15:12, 17; Romans 12:10; Ephesians 4:14-16 1 John 3:11, 23; 4:7-8, 10-11; 1 Peter 1:22; 2:17; 4:8)

2. Those who are not yet believers.

(Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 2:16-17; John 13:34-35; Galatians 5:13-15; 1 John 3:18)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. As we begin this Christmas week, review our path thus far in Advent... *waiting, preparing, rejoicing*. Have you been framing this season by these key factors? Have you been *counting up* to Christmas by counting some of God's promises about the Savior and what they mean to you? It's not too late to start!

Have you been preparing the way of Christ to come to people who do not yet know Him? Be alert to, even make some opportunities to do that this week. Have you chosen to live in God's joy? Choose to do that this week, asking God to guide your attitude, responses, all your words and actions.

Tuesday. On Sunday we talked about God loving us. Among the many things the Bible tells us about God's love, we noted that His love is sacrificial and saving. Review the Bible references listed on the outline and any notes you made. Try writing a letter to God, expressing your thankfulness, praise and awe for His great love to you.

Wednesday. God has poured out His love to the core of our being (see Romans 5:5). Because He reached out to us and washed away our sin and guilt, we should love Him (see 1 John 4:10, 19). We are to love God with all our being, and one of the marks of doing that is obeying Him—accepting and following His commands, all of His truth in the Bible (see John 14:21-24 and 2 John 1:6). It is only as we do this that the closeness and warmth of our relationship with God will increase. What is the state of your love for God in the middle of this Christmas week?

Thursday. Jesus not only commands believers to love one another, He tells us this is a key mark of His followers. Read the references on the outline about this. What is the state of your love for other believers—all believers, including those you don't understand or those you don't agree with? We are also to love people who are not yet believers (check the references on the outline). How is that to be done? How are you doing?

Friday – Saturday. This evening (Friday) we meet for our Christmas Eve Service and tomorrow is Christmas Day. This evening we will sing carols, listen to Scripture and music and think about God's peace, the peace Christ brings. Prayerfully prepare for this time of celebration. Pray for all who will join us, that they might be open to listen to God reaching out to them.