

Authentically Christian

1 John 4:7-21

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SHINING LIGHT ON AUTHENTIC CHRISTIANITY















God is love. When we take up permanent residence in a life of love, we live in God and God lives in us. This way, love has the run of the house, becomes at home and mature in us, so we're free of worry on Judgment Day—our standing in the world is identical with Christ's.

There is no room in love for fear. Well-formed love banishes fear. Since fear is crippling, a fearful life—fear of death, fear of judgment—is one not yet fully formed in love.

1 John 4:16b-18





We are going to love—love and be loved. First we were loved, now we love. God loved us first. If anyone boasts, “I love God,” and goes right on hating their brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, that person is a liar. If they won’t love the person they can see, how can they love the God they can’t see? The command we have from Christ is blunt: Loving God includes loving people. You’ve got to love both.

1 John 4:19-21

Jesus, pour Your love so it fills our lives and splashes over on everyone around us, as it does from us to You. May we be infused with strength and purity, filled with confidence in the presence of God our Father when You, our Master, arrive with all Your followers.

...from 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

