

1/12/2025



## THAT POWERFUL LOVE

We sang about love this morning.

Do we really understand it?

Do we really understand **unconditional** love?

Also: *A lot of things that we call love don't rise to the level of what love is and what love does.*

## LOVE IS **NOT** DEFINED BY EMOTIONS!

It is **not** touchy, feely.

It is **not** a group hug.

It is **not** warm puppies, snuggles.

It's **not** closeness.

These are all descriptions of feelings!

These are all normal and great and special, but...

## IN OUR TEXT, 1 JOHN 4:7-21, JOHN TALKS ABOUT “LOVE”

Explains it more than the other 2 times in this letter:

- briefly in chapter 2 – as evidence of our fellowship with God.
- then in chapter 3 love was evidence of our sonship with God; that we love one another.
- both instances above are brief compared to these 15 verses
- where the Greek term *αγαπε* is used 27 times

## THE SOURCE OF LOVE IS GOD. **TWO FACTS:**

### I. **God is Love** (vs. 8b, 9, 10, 16, 19)

- A. He defines love
- B. God is love; not love is God

### II. **God demonstrates love** (9-10, 14)

- A. Sent His only Son, Jesus
- B. Sent Him to be the propitiation – means to appease His wrath; to make payment

## CONCLUSION:

- Have you accepted God's love?
- Do you understand, Christian, that God is love?
- God's love reaches down to us. Why?
- Who can understand His love?!