

Do We Possess God's Love?
Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel
1st John Study - emphasis on 1st John 4:7-14
Sunday – September 28th, 2025

CONTEXT: John continues providing a self-test whereby we are furnished assurance of salvation (1 John 5:13). Possessing God's kind of love is the subject in this portion of the letter for our self-examination. Those in Christ possess a sense of love for God's children, God's chosen brethren in the world that is unique. Our connection to one another by love exists because of what God has done in the heart of each of His own. This study emphasizes our relation to one another in love as a distinguishing mark of those in Christ. John has already addressed love in chapter three (3:11-18). This portion from John shows us that one of the defining marks of true conversion, as contrasted with the world and those with mere profession of Christianity, is a special bond of love that all brethren possess for one another.

Outline of 1st John (underlined portion is the immediate context)

- I. The Reality of Fellowship with Christ (1:5- 5:12)
- B. The Characteristics of Fellowship (1st John 3:1-3:24)
- C. The Cautions for Fellowship 1st John 4:1-21)
 - 1. Caution against deception (4:1-6)
 - 2. Concern for brethren (4:7-14)

<i>Key Words & times used</i>
● love (9)
● we (7)
● another (3)
● loved (3)
● beloved (2)
● loves

Introduction:

- 2. Concern for brethren (4:7-14)
 - a) The manifestation of God's love (4:7-10)

- Compelling love (4:7-9)

- Cause of love (4:10)

- b) The mark of God's love (4:11-14)
 - Chosen to portray His love (4:11-12)

- Confirmation by our love (4:13-14)

Closing:
