

PEOPLE TURNING INTO LOVE

August 1, 2021 1 John 4:7-12 by Bob Branch
The Power and Complexity of Forgiveness, part 13

BIG IDEA: God is shaping you to love like him, for the same reasons he loves—people turning into love.

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected/complete/mature in us. **1 John 4:7-12 ESV**

- We show the **family likeness when we love—we are like him**.
- Being unloving is the **antithesis of the family likeness**.
- **Love came after you**, took away your sins, rescued you, and gave you real life.
- God loved(s) you even when **you didn't love him**.
- **Experience this love & love back**—love outwardly. “Our love for others is our grateful response to the love God first demonstrated to us.” **1 John 4:19 TPT**
- Invisible God is **made visible** by how we love.
- **God lives & moves** in our love. (John 13:35)
- **God is making us into Jesus-like love. Bob Goff**—“people who are turning into love.”

¹¹ Delightfully loved ones, if he loved us with such tremendous love, then “loving one another” should be our way of life! ¹² No one has ever gazed upon the fullness of God’s splendor. But if we love one another, God makes his permanent home in us, and we make our permanent home in him, and his love is brought to its full expression in us. **1 John 4:11-12 TPT**

4 REFLECTION POINTS:

1. **Change** _____—our way of *thinking-seeing*.
2. **Change** _____. Make love your aim.
Thérèse of Lisieux, “the little way.”
“We reach the goal of fulfilling all the commandments when we love others deeply with a pure heart, a clean conscience, and sincere faith.” **1 Timothy 1:5 TPT**
3. **Change** _____. Am I becoming more loving?
4. **Change** _____. *Pray for love each day.*

“Lord, I want to know your love today in a way that is deep, personal and connective. I want to know it more today that I did yesterday. I open my heart to you and your love. You have loved me first. You have loved me sacrificially. You have loved me well. So, I take some time to rest with you and in your love. I quiet my soul to be with you. Amen.”

“Lord, today I want to grow in loving others well. I want to love others the way you have loved me. I open my heart to you and to those you will bring into my world today. Allow me to partner with you in loving others well. Open my eyes to needs I did not see before. Show me where and how I can join you in loving well. Amen.”