

LOVE CAME DOWN

December 24, 2023 1 John 4:16 by Bob Branch
Advent 2023, part 4

“Why?” God’s why is love.

God is **Light**. God is **Life**. God is **Love**.

“God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.” **1 John 1:5** (Isaiah 9:2, 6)

“*the life* was revealed, and we have seen and testify and announce to you *the eternal life* that was with the Father and was revealed to us.” **1 John 1:2** NET (Eph. 2:1, 4-5)

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.” **1 John 4:16**

BIG IDEA: Discovering/Rediscovering God’s love for you is the greatest difference-maker in life—and the main reason for Christmas!

What is this love that motivated God?

1. God’s love is _____.

“this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” **John 3:16** NET (James 1:5, 17)

2. God’s love is _____.

“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.” **1 Cor. 13:4-7** NLT

3. God’s love is _____.

The LORD is my shepherd,
I lack nothing.
He takes me to lush pastures,
he leads me to refreshing water.
He restores my strength.
He leads me down the right paths
for the sake of his reputation.
Even when I must walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no danger,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff reassure me.
You prepare a feast before me
in plain sight of my enemies.
You refresh my head with oil;
my cup is completely full.
Surely your goodness and faithfulness will pursue me all my days, and I will live in the LORD’s house for the rest of my life.”
Psalms 23 NET

4. God’s love is _____.

“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.” **1 John 3:16** (Jn. 15:13)