

God Loves Us Sacrificially

Focus: on loving God more in response to his sacrificial love for us

LOVE IS NOT JUST A
FEELING, IT'S
COMMITMENT AND
ABOVE ALL A
SACRIFICE.

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

RESOURCES:

Here is a short helpful article on the meaning and significance of propitiation:

<http://>

[blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/
trevinwax/2014/02/20/pagan-
propitiation-vs-biblical-
propitiation/](http://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/trevinwax/2014/02/20/pagan-propitiation-vs-biblical-propitiation/)

2016 Annual Priority:

To establish a greater devotion to believing and being shaped by the three great loves embedded in our mission statement's goal of becoming a mature and ministering worshiper of God; love for God, love for the church, and love of neighbor.

Discussion:

- Read 1 John 4:9-10. How was the sending of God's son in the incarnation an act of sacrifice on Jesus' part? (read Phil. 2:5-8 and 2 Cor. 8:9)
- Discuss the meaning of propitiation in v. 10. What does it mean and why is this sending Jesus to do this work a sacrificial and loving act on God's part?
- What does this phrase from 1 John 3:16 teach us about God's love for us... "that he laid down his life for us"? Consider it bit by bit... "laid down"... "his life"... "for us". What does each piece reveal?
- How do 1 John 3:16 and 4:9-10 draw out the way the different members of the Trinity bring the love of God to us? Add Hebrews 9:14 and Rom. 5:5 to the discussion. How does the participation of the full trinity in the love of God for us relate to the teaching of 1 John 4:8 that God is love?
- How does meditating on the cross work of God help you believe his love for you (1 John 4:16)? How do you use the Scriptures to remind you of God's love for you? (share ideas and passages!)
- Read the crucifixion account from one of the gospels and spend time worshiping and thanking the Triune God for his sacrificial love even for us!

