

FIVE GOOD REASONS TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER

1 John 4:7–21

In baking a cake, there are some ingredients that are more essential than others. While sprinkles and nuts add texture, it's the eggs, flour, and sugar that actually make it a cake. The same is true of a healthy church family. There are many *potential* elements that can be added to the recipe but they're not all of equal importance. While a building may add stability and significant attendance can bring excitement, it's commitment to the gospel and submission to the word, prayer and evangelism, baptism and communion, discipleship and discipline, love of God and love of God's people that make it a church. And it's this last essential ingredient we're going to examine at this morning—a love for one another. The hard reality is, if a church family fails to love one another it cannot be and do what God desires it to be and do. Familial love is the eggs, flour, and sugar of church life. It's an essential, foundational ingredient.

ONE Good Request: Love One Another

vv. 7, 11, 12, 21

FIVE Good Reasons

1. It's a way to show-off our relationship with God vv. 7–8, 15–16
2. It's a way to respond to God's love for us vv. 9–11, 19
3. It's a way to make visible the invisible God vv. 12–14
4. It's a way to confidently face coming judgement vv. 17–18
5. It's a way to show we're people of integrity vv. 20–21