**We Love Because He First Loved Us**

***(1 John 4:7-21)***

***“Because God loved us first and now abides in us, we must love one another as we abide in God.****”*

***God’s Action Toward Us***

1. **God loves us (vv. 19, 7-8, 10-11)**
	* God’s love always takes the initiative.
2. **God sent his Son for us (vv. 9-10, 14)**
	* God expresses his great love for us by sending his Son, both as our propitiation and our Savior.
3. **God abides in us by his Spirit (vv. 12- 13, 15-16)**
	* We have assurance from God that He abides in us because He has given us his Holy Spirit

***Our Response Toward Him***

1. **We love (vv. 19, 7, 12, 17-18, 20-21)**
	* We are called and commanded to love God and love others
2. **We believe (vv. 15-16)**
	* If we are to have God abide in us so that we can love and abide in God, then we must confess and believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that One God sent as the Savior of the world.
3. **We abide (vv. 13, 15-16)**
	* We are to abide in God because He abides in us.