

Matthew 5:45 (p. 1215) God's love sends...

John 3:16 (p. 1335) God's love sent...

Romans 5:8 (p. 1415) God showed His love...

1 Timothy 1:12-15 (p. 1490) God showed love for me,
the...

Read Romans 8:31-39 (especially 8:38-39), then answer
these questions:

Is there anything that can make God stop loving anyone?

Is there anything that can make God stop loving you?

Exploring God's Love



God Loves the World

The Bible says “God is love.” What does that mean? What is true love? How does God show love? Does God’s love affect our lives? How? In these Bible studies, we will look at God’s love for the world and God’s love in our lives. We will have four studies.

1. God Loves the World.
2. God Loves His Church.
3. We Love Other Christians with God’s Love.
4. We Love the World with God’s Love.

In each study, we will use the Bible as the authority to tell us about God and His love. Our feelings, thoughts, and experiences can lead us the wrong way. But God’s word will tell us the truth. Now we begin our first study.

What is Love?

We talk about many kinds of loves. For example, you might say you love your husband/wife, watching football, and growing roses. Name some things you love. How is your love different for each thing?

Think about an ideal (a dream) relationship, for example, the perfect husband or wife. What things would make them perfect for you?

If a person didn’t have any of those characteristics, could you still love them just as much? If they were not perfect, but they were rotten, would you love them the same?

Do We Deserve God’s Love?

Do we have any characteristics that would make God want to love us? If so, what are they?

What are we like? Read what the Bible says about us in Romans 3:9-18 (page 1413).

Are there any exceptions? Is there maybe one person good enough to earn some of God’s love? Look again at Romans 3:10-12 (p. 1413).

God’s Kind of Love

Think again about the things we love (people, football, etc.). How does God’s love compare with our love?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (p. 1441). This describes the kind of love we SHOULD have, and it describes the kind of love God DOES have for us. Is God’s love weak, unreliable, judging?

How Does God Show His Love?

Love without actions is not much love. As one song says, “Love is a verb.” Love does things! What did or does God’s love do? Read the next verses and see.