**Agape: The Motivating Factor**

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

1 John 4:7-12

**Purpose** - That we recognize God’s character and love for us so that we can show His love in and through our lives.

**Objectives**

* Examine how God’s love is demonstrated to us.
* Examine how His love works in our lives and how it should affect our lives.

**God’s Demonstration of Love to Us**

God demonstrated His love to us by sending Christ.

Romans 5:6-11

We experience God’s love long before we actually know what it is. God is good whether we recognize it or not. God is who He is whether I know it or not.

Isaiah 55:6-11

When we turn from our ways and turn to God and accept His love, He generously forgives us.

His love continues to work in our lives and makes us productive in His kingdom.

Our character and integrity are transformed by His love and we become more and more like Him.

Numbers 23:19

* God is self-existent.
* He is eternal in relationship to time.
* He is unlimited in relationship to the immensity of space.
* He is immutable/unchanging in His nature.

Malachi 3:6

We must allow God to reveal Himself to us and view His love based on that revelation.

When God reveals His mercy to me. I can look at my life and see how He has demonstrated His mercy to me throughout my life.

Exodus 34:5-7

**Yahweh**: the proper name of the one true God

Knowledge and use of the name implies personal or covenant relationship.

The revelation of God is personal. The word may go forth in group settings, but every individual has to hear it, receive it and respond to it for themselves.

**Mercy**: good favor when not necessarily deserved

Psalms 86:5-8

God is faithful to the relationship that He established with man by grace, despite our unworthiness and rebellion.

Lamentations 3:22-24