

Week 4: FULLY KNOWN; FULLY LOVED: Known By Our Love 1 John 4:7–12

We began the series with this truth:

You are fully known and fully loved by God.

We learned to move from information to relationship.

We learned to abide in Christ and stay connected to our Shepherd.

Now we ask the final question: **If we truly know God... does it show?**

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” — John 13:35

3 Elements of REAL LOVE that God is calling us to...

1. Love Requires Action

“Let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” — 1 John 3:18

God didn't just feel love.

He acted. He sent His Son.

Love:

- Shows up
- Serves
- Sacrifices
- Moves toward people

Warm feelings are not biblical love.

Love costs something.

Church Reminder:

Our building, Summer Sizzlers, and VBS are not programs — they are opportunities to make Christ's love visible.

We are not a country club with a cross.

We are a mission outpost with open doors.

2. Love Tells the Truth

The world says love means affirmation without confrontation.

The Bible says love rejoices in the truth (1 Corinthians 13:6).

“Speaking the truth in love...” — Ephesians 4:15

Real love says:

- “I care about you too much to lie to you.”
- “I will walk with you toward Christ.”
- “I won't celebrate what harms you.”

The cross proves: Sin is serious. Love is greater.

Biblical love is holy love.

3. Love Is the Standard

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” — Matthew 7:12

Jesus takes it further:

“Love your enemies... do good... expecting nothing in return.” — Luke 6:27–35

Love:

- Blesses instead of clapping back
- Serves instead of seeking revenge
- Shows kindness when it isn't deserved

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” — Romans 12:21

This kind of love cannot be explained by personality.

It can only be explained by Christ in us.

Personal Reflection

- Is my love friendly... or intentional?
- Comfortable... or costly?
- Silent... or truth-filled?
- Reciprocal... or sacrificial?

Your Challenge This Week

Before you leave today:

1. Write down one name.
2. Choose one act of intentional love.
 - A call
 - A meal
 - A conversation
 - An apology
 - A sacrifice of time

Do not wait.

Final Reminder

The world is watching. They will **not** know us by:

- Our doctrine
- Our music
- Our building
- Our events

THEY WILL KNOW US BY OUR LOVE.

Let us be a church that is truly, biblically, sacrificially

Known By Our Love.