

**L-path Teaching**  
**March 24, 2024**

Title: **THE LIFE AT ITS BEST IS TO LOVE**

Text: **1 John 4:7-17**

*16And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.*

**Introduction:**

- **John wrote this so people would experience God's love and love for one another. He wanted them to know that Jesus came in the flesh. He wanted the church to persevere in the Christian faith.**
- **Love is more than an emotion.**
- **The definition of unconditional love is without restrictions or limits - unquestioning.**

**Why does Unconditional love lead us to live a Life at its best?**

**1. Because God is the source of unconditional Love.**

- **But by working on our relationship with God, reaching out to Him, and trusting Him for everything we can begin to know an unconditional love we have not known before.**

**2. Because Unconditional love makes sacrifices.**

- **God's love is so far-reaching that He sacrificed His own son to pay the penalty for our sins and bridge the gap between sinners and a holy God.**
- **God has already made the ultimate sacrifice for us. If we want to love this way, we need to make sacrifices, too.**

**3. Because you don't have to earn it to have it.**

- *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."*  
**- Ephesians 2:8-9**
- **This is an extraordinary concept to consider. Jesus' death on the cross already paid for our salvation. By taking on the penalty for sin, He made it possible for God to offer His unconditional love to us.**
- **Following Christ means God's love comes free of charge. (The best thing in life are free!)**

**4. Because you just have to accept it.**

- *Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."*  
- **John 4:13-14**
  - The woman at the well was looking for love in all the wrong places. After several husbands and then being with someone else, she was tired, until she met Jesus. Her life was completely changed.
- 5. Because you can never lose unconditional love.**
- **Nothing can separate you from the love of God, no matter how badly you believe you have messed up your life. With a heart of repentance, you can always come back to the Father. He will greet you with a kiss and invite you to a party thrown in your honor.**

#### How to love people unconditionally?

- 1. To be like Christ, you have to love unconditionally.**
  - **Love is an action. It takes practice.**
- 2. To surrender your expectations.**
- 3. To love yourself freely.**
  - ***"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. - 1 John 3:1***
- 4. To lay down your life for God, you pick up unconditional love.**
- 5. To Forgive. Because it is the soil that allows unconditional love to grow.**

#### DISCUSSION:

1. In your life, share your personal experience about the unconditional love of God.
2. How do you show unconditional love to other people? Please explain.
3. Why do you think that loving unconditionally by God and others leads your life at its best?