



## WORDS MATTER: Love

*What the words we use truly mean.*

### **Opening Prayer**

Loving Father, Your love was shown to us at the death of Your Son upon the cross. Help us to follow the example of this love as we live as Your children. Amen.

**Q: How is the word “love” used in daily life? What do people say that they love?**

**Q: What is your definition of love?**

**Q: What does our culture speak about love?**

**Q: How does the dictionary define love? Should the word “love” only have one meaning?**

**Q: Who teaches us what the true nature of love really is? Read 1 John 4:16.**

**Q: How does Jesus love? Is his love a niceness, happiness, or feeling or something else? How does that love manifest itself? What does this suggest about the nature of love? Read 1 John 3:16–18.**

**Q: Is love mere acceptance of another regardless of what they do? Can a rebuke be loving? Read Psalm 141:5.**

**Q: Does God's love of us include rebuke? Read Hebrews 12:5–6.**

**Q: So how should we speak of love?**

**Closing Prayer:**

Almighty God, you are love. Let us rest in your love given to us in Jesus and share that love every day. In Jesus' name. Amen.