

## The Year Long Celebration of God

### How Do We Know if We Love God?

1. **Our love for God is shown by our implicit trust in the Lord.** I Thessalonians 5:8 gives us a glimpse into the relationship between faith and love.
2. **Our love for God is shown by our devotion to the person of Christ.** Please read Matthew 10:37 and John 14:21.
3. **Our love for God is shown by our hatred of evil.** Psalm 97:10, Psalm 119:104, and I Corinthians 13:6 all teach us this truth.
4. **Our love for God is shown by our gratitude for God's blessings.** You can read Psalm 116:1, Psalm 116:17, and I John 4:19 for instruction.
5. **Our love for God is shown by our love for God's Word.** The longest chapter in the entire Bible is all about the Bible. It would do you well to read the entire chapter, but Psalm 119:47-48 illustrate this truth well.
6. **Our love for God is shown by the amount of time spent in prayer and fellowship with the Lord.** Colossians 3:1-3 and I Thessalonians 5:17 teach us about this, and so does the example of our Lord. All throughout the Gospels we see how Jesus took deliberate time to commune with His Father.
7. **Our love for God is shown by our desire to vindicate the Lord before the world.** Please read Psalm 5:11 and Psalm 115:1.
8. **Our love for God is shown by our obedience to God's Word.** I John 5:3 and II John 6 are both powerful testaments to this.
9. **Our love for God is shown by our desire to become like the Lord.** I John 3:2-3 says, *"Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."*
10. **Our love for God is shown by our love and respect for other Christians.** For further reading, please check out Ephesians 4:32 and I John 4:20.
11. **Our love for God is shown by our effort to reach the lost with the Gospel.** II Corinthians 5:11-16 is a powerful passage that starts, *"Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others."*
12. And lastly, **our love for God is shown by our longing for Christ's return.** II Timothy 4:8 sums up the heart of the believer when it refers to us as those who *"love his appearing."*