Our Holy Assurance Policy:

Confidence in God’s Love

The Apostle John often referred to himself as the one Jesus loved. At the last supper, John wrote, “One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him” (John 13:23). It is interesting that in John’s account of his time with Jesus he never used his own name. But what we do read is that John referred to himself as the one Jesus loved.

John was not singling himself out, but was highlighting a rare singularity: the love of Jesus itself. We are blessed that John wrote a letter aimed directly at our hearts. The Holy Spirit inspired this letter so that all of us would be able to declare, along with John, that we too are the ones Jesus loved.

It takes discipline and devotion to be able to work through an entire book of the Bible. As we work through these passages we are forced to contend with some rather dense rhetoric. There is the danger that these passages can be skipped over so fast that the holy nutrients hidden in God’s Word will have no time to seep into our hearts. God wants his people to be brimming with his love. God is love. He wants us to have his love so that we will have confident strength to live for him in our lost world.

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**1 John 4:16-21**

16 A LIVING LOVE

17-18 A CONFIDENT LOVE

19-21 A REAL LOVE

▪ God’s love given

▪ God’s love tested

▪ God’s love commanded