

## Perfect Love Casts Out Fear – I John 4:13-21

1. We can be confident that we know God because His Spirit lives in us (4:13-16).

- The Spirit makes us able to confess that Jesus is the Son of God (4:15).
- The Spirit makes us able to live in love (4:16).

2. God's love is being perfected in our lives (4:17-21).

- The perfection of God's love drives out fear (4:17-18).
- The perfection of God's love drives out hatred (4:19-21).

### **Questions for Discussion & Application:**

1. What was difficult, helpful, or challenging from this study of God's Word?
2. How much emphasis do you put on the role of the Holy Spirit in your own Christian life?
3. Why might we sometimes be tempted to underestimate the Spirit's role and importance in our lives?
4. What things does the Holy Spirit empower the Christian to do (4:15-16)?

5. What specific evidence of the Spirit's work do you see in your own life?
6. When God's love is perfected in us it drives out fear of judgment in our relationship with God (4:17-18). How have you experienced this to be true in your own life?
7. Do you ever struggle with fear of judgment? If so, how does this passage speak into this fear?
8. When God's love is perfected in us it drives out hatred and replaces it with love for others (4:19-21). How have you experienced this to be true in your own life?
9. What does this passage say is true of a person who claims to know God, to be a Christian, and to be filled with the Holy Spirit but does NOT live a life marked by love for other believers?
10. How is God growing you in unselfish and practical love for other believers?