

## 3:16 - A Recipe for True Love

Psalm 22:14-18 ♦ 1 John 3:16

"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."  
(Michelangelo)

### To Share or Not To Share

*What is your favorite Thanksgiving food?*

For Thanksgiving and Christmas, my wife René always \_\_\_\_\_ sweet potato pies. Not long after we married, my Grandmother Allen gave René the \_\_\_\_\_, which was my Great Grandmother's. She said, "Tim loves these pies, and it's your \_\_\_\_\_ to make them."

For Christmas, René always \_\_\_\_\_ a rum cake. A great \_\_\_\_\_ in our first Church baked one \_\_\_\_\_ us for Christmas every year. I loved it, so René asked for the \_\_\_\_\_, but she just smiled and said, "\_\_\_\_\_ make one for him next year, too." René understood, but after she died, her husband gave René the \_\_\_\_\_.

A lot of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ goes into preparing those two desserts - from \_\_\_\_\_ that were, in one way or another, \_\_\_\_\_ shared.

There is only \_\_\_\_\_ "recipe," if you will, for true \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ has gladly \_\_\_\_\_ it with us.

### 1 John 3:16

"This is how we know what \_\_\_\_\_ is: Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ down His \_\_\_\_\_ for us. And we ought to \_\_\_\_\_ down our \_\_\_\_\_ for our brothers" (1 John 3:16).

Love in the Bible is always an \_\_\_\_\_/a \_\_\_\_\_.

In our \_\_\_\_\_, as in all things, God is not a passive \_\_\_\_\_ but an active \_\_\_\_\_.

God calls us to follow His \_\_\_\_\_/His recipe.

"Dear children, let us not love with \_\_\_\_\_ or tongue but with \_\_\_\_\_ and in truth" (1 John 3:18).

### Ingredient #1

The first ingredient in true love is \_\_\_\_\_.

"... a band of \_\_\_\_\_ men has encircled Me, they have \_\_\_\_\_ My hands and My feet" (Psalm 22:14-18).

"Love so amazing, so \_\_\_\_\_, demands my soul, my life, my \_\_\_\_."

*Lord, give me the desire to love \_\_\_\_\_ sacrificially.*

### Ingredient #2

The second ingredient in true love is \_\_\_\_\_.

Love is spelled \_\_\_\_\_.

In "Christians in the Age of \_\_\_\_\_," Ed Stetzer fleshes this out.

*Lord, give me the desire to spend more time loving \_\_\_\_\_.*

### Ingredient #3

The third ingredient in true love is \_\_\_\_\_.

In "Guideposts" magazine, Corrie ten Boom recalled her \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a guard at the concentration camp where her sister died.

*Lord, give me the desire to forgive \_\_\_\_\_.*

### Takeaway

God has shared with us His recipe for \_\_\_\_\_ love and is calling us to \_\_\_\_\_ it with others.

"For Thyself, \_\_\_\_\_ gift divine, to our race so freely \_\_\_\_\_;  
For that great, great love of \_\_\_\_\_,  
Peace on earth and joy in heaven:  
Lord of \_\_\_\_\_, to Thee we raise  
This our hymn of \_\_\_\_\_ praise."

This Thanksgiving let's start asking God to help us follow His \_\_\_\_\_ for true love by "laying \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ for our brothers."

