

# God Incarnate in the Age of AI

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## The Epistles of John

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Read 2 John. In this brief but powerful letter, John, the son-of-Thunder turned apostle-of-love, encourages Christians to continue in Christ's commandment to love one another. This love is not sentimental, romantic, or built on compatible personalities. It is agape love. A chosen love. A committed love. A love that does not depend on reciprocation but on resolve. And remarkably, it can be commanded. In fact, it is commanded by God. That should not surprise us, because this kind of love flows from His very nature. "God is love" (*1 John 4:8*). He does not merely practice love; He defines it.

Importantly, John connects love and truth. To love someone with agape love means to desire what is spiritually best for them. That means we care about their eternal good. Therefore, it cannot be loving to affirm what God calls sin. It cannot be loving to remain silent when truth would rescue. Certainly, we must be patient with those who are growing, forgiving because we ourselves have been forgiven, and merciful when appropriate. But equating love with avoiding hard conversations is not biblical love. God's love is both tender and holy, compassionate yet confronting. He corrects because He cares.

There will be some who reject the truth. Even when we gently and faithfully "place the ball in their court," some will turn away. Yet others - those who are teachable, humble, and wise - will receive correction as the gift it is. For them, we must be ready to speak truth in love (*Ephesians 4:15*). In those moments it is helpful to remember to "connect to correct." Relationship gives credibility to exhortation. Think of how God has dealt with you: patient, forgiving, persistent. That example should remind us to approach others with humility.

And it's always helpful to remember the apostle Paul's words to Timothy "Pay close attention to yourself and to the teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will save both yourself and those who hear you" (*1 Timothy 4:16*). Let us love deeply and truthfully. In doing so, we reflect the character of the One who has loved us first.

Prayerfully consider the following this week: Are there situations where fear of discomfort has kept you from speaking truth in love? How can you cultivate a deeper balance of humility and courage so that your love for others reflects both God's tenderness and His holiness? What practical steps can you take this week to "pay close attention" to your godliness and the teaching of God's Word so that your walk with Christ strengthens both your spiritual life and that of those within your sphere of influence? When deciding to "connect to correct," think through how your words can not only be honest, but also helpful and honoring. Wait to speak until it is all three.

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### Weekly Memory Verse:

"And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments."

2 John 6

### Weekly Affirmation:

**I'M WILLING TO BOLDLY  
SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE**

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## FEBRUARY 2026 GROWTH GOALS

- Read 1, 2, 3 John
- Watch the Bible Project video on 1, 2, 3 John (*available on the website*).
- Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- Once a week set aside technology for one hour of social interaction with family or friends.