

# A WORD ON WORSHIP

## REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM NOV. 9, 2014

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

*Hear Sunday Sermons at [www.SunriseTC.org](http://www.SunriseTC.org)*

### **1 John 4:7-9**

*“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”*

You may identify with the early believers. John has already emphasized the importance of love in 2:7-11 and hit it again in 3:11-18. We may be prone to say, “Okay, brother, we’ve got that one down now. Let’s move on to something else.” But John not only repeats the imperative to love one another but also he hits it longer and harder than at any other point in the book. He wants to make sure that we understand that love is not an optional virtue for the believer. It is to be the distinguishing mark of the church in the world. John goes so far as to say that if you do not love others, you do not know God! So we all need to examine our own lives by this supreme standard.

While love is the inevitable result of being born of God, it is not the automatic result. John tells us, “Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.” The implication is the life of God imparted to us in the new birth manifests itself in love for others. If we are children of the One whose very nature is love, then we will be like our Father. But at the same time, John writes, “Beloved, if God so loves us, we also ought to love one another.” Love is not automatic nor effortless! We always have room for growth in love.

Love is not opposed to truth. John has just spent six verses warning us (4:1), “do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” He did not say: “Let’s just set aside those points of doctrine where we disagree and come together where we do agree, loving those who differ on these matters.” Because these men denied essential truth about Jesus Christ, John calls them false prophets, whose teaching is the spirit of antichrist. Love does not mean that we set aside the truth for the sake of unity.

We must exercise wise discernment here. Some doctrinal differences are not essential to the gospel, and we need to love brothers who differ with us on these matters. Some of these doctrines are important for how we live the Christian life, and so we may vigorously debate them among ourselves. But we must always remember that we are debating as brothers in Christ. If we divide from one another over every minor point of doctrine, we fall into the errors of “fighting fundamentalism.” At the heart of that sort of cantankerous behavior is a spirit of pride, where I assert that everyone must agree with me on every minor issue. At the same time, some issues fall into a gray zone, where salvation may not be at stake, but to embrace a particular view will have momentous consequences. We should not accuse those who differ with us of not being saved, unless they also deny the essentials of the gospel.



**Sunrise Community Church**  
*Come acknowledge the Lord in our midst*  
**EVERY SUNDAY BEGINNING AT 8:45 A.M.**

## The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™  
<http://www.hymntime.com/>

### Under The Blood (Hewitt)

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/u/n/t/untblood.htm>

"The blood of Jesus Christ...cleanseth us from all sin."  
 1 John 1:7



Words: Eliza E. Hewitt,  
 (1851-1920) Music:  
 William J. Kirkpatrick  
 in Songs of Redemption  
 (Boston, Massachusetts:  
 Christian Witness Company, 1899).

Lord, keep my soul from day to day,  
 Under the blood, under the blood;  
 Take doubt and fear and sin away,  
 Under the precious blood.

#### Refrain

*Under the blood, the precious blood,  
 Under the cleansing, healing flood;  
 Keep me, Savior, from day to day;  
 Under the precious blood.*

The sinner's refuge here alone,  
 Under the blood, under the blood;  
 Here Jesus makes salvation known,  
 Under the precious blood.

#### Refrain

Lord, with Thyself my spirit fill,  
 Under the blood, under the blood;  
 And work in me to do Thy will,  
 Under the precious blood.

#### Refrain

Sweet peace abides within the heart,  
 Under the blood, under the blood;  
 And gifts divine their joy impart,  
 Under the precious blood.

Refrain

The Holy Spirit, hour by hour,  
 Under the blood, under the blood,  
 Exerts His sanctifying power,  
 Under the precious blood.

#### Refrain

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE

### November 2014

NOVEMBER 2014							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Nov. 9	8:45 AM	1st John 4 verses 4 to 7 Why Love is Required					1
	10:30 AM	Sunday School					2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Nov. 11	7:00 PM	Bible Study at Kikkert's Veteran's Day					9 10 11 12 13 14 15
Nov. 14	6:30 PM	Friday Night Fellowship					16 17 18 19 20 21 22
Nov. 16	8:45 AM	1st John 4:12-16 <i>The Assurance of Abiding</i>					23 24 25 26 27 28 29
	10:30 AM	Sunday School					30 1 2 3 4 5 6
Nov. 18	7:00 PM	Bible Study at Kikkert's					
Nov. 21	7:00 PM	Game Night					
Nov. 23	8:45 AM	Thanksgiving Celebration					
	10:30 AM	*** All Church Pot Luck ***					
Nov. 25	7:00 PM	Bible Study at the Kikkert's					
Nov. 27		Thanksgiving					
Nov. 28		No Friday Night Activities					
Nov. 30	8:45 AM	John 4 verses 17 to 21 ( <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> ) Confidence on the Day of Judgment					
	10:30 AM	Sunday School					

### Advent begins Sunday, Nov. 30

#### North Korea releases Kenneth Bae and Matthew Todd Miller

[www.FOXNEWS.COM/](http://www.FOXNEWS.COM/) Nov. 8, 2014

North Korea has released two American citizens, Kenneth Bae and Matthew Todd Miller, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence said Saturday.

The agency said the men have been allowed to leave North Korea and are on their way home, accompanied by agency Director James Clapper.

Bae and Miller were the last Americans held by North Korea following the release last month of Jeffrey Fowle.

Miller, who's from California, was serving a six-year jail term on charges of espionage, after he allegedly ripped his tourist visa at Pyongyang's airport in April and demanded asylum.

Bae, who's from Washington state, is a Korean-American missionary with health problems. He was serving a 15-year sentence for alleged anti-government activities.

"We welcome (North Korea's) decision to release both Mr. Bae and Mr. Miller," the U.S. intelligence office said. "We want to thank our international partners, especially our Protecting Power, the government of Sweden, for their tireless efforts to help secure their release."

Bae was arrested in November 2012 while leading a tour group in North Korea. He was accused by the North Korean government of crimes against the state. Bae's family and the State Department have repeatedly called for his release on humanitarian grounds, citing his failing health.



Pray  
for the  
Persecuted  
Church