



**SERIES: JANUARY – BECOMING SPIRITUALLY FIT**

**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**

**Monday 01/03/2022**

**Scripture: 1 John 4:9-10**

**TITLE: Why the Bible?**

This is a love letter from my wife. She wrote it to me when we were dating, and she was in high school. Yes, we are high school sweethearts. For you youngsters out there, we didn't have these smartphones to text sweet nothings and funny gifs. So we would write out these notes and pass them to each other in the halls or when we walked by our cars.

But whenever I would get one of these letters, I would devour it. I'd smell it. I'd hug it. I'd read it over and over again. You see, it was a letter for me, all about me and the object of my affection.

Many people today don't realize the Bible is a love letter that is for us all about the object of our affection. You see, many people don't know why we should engage the Bible. Well, today we want to answer that very question.

Listen to what John writes in 1 John 4:9-10 (CSB):

“God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him. Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.”

This summarizes the overall story of the Bible. In these two verses, we find the problem: our sin. We find the solution: payment for our sin. We find the antagonist: us – enemies of God. We find the protagonist: Jesus Christ.

The Bible is possibly the greatest story ever written. But it's not a fictional story. It's a historical document that captures the creation of the universe, the creation of mankind, the rebellion of mankind, the need for a hero, the love of God for His creation, the continual unfaithfulness of His people, the forgiveness, mercy, and grace of God, the arrival of the Savior, the growth of a soul-saving movement, a prescription for a successful life, and how it all finishes. All of this is contained in this love letter.

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This is why we engage the Bible. It is true. It is history. It is relevant. It is practical. It is pure love. It is for us, about us, and about God – the object of our affection.

So here is my challenge for you today: commit.

We are starting off a new year that has many opportunities and challenges. If we are going to succeed in 2022 and beyond, we must commit to spiritual fitness. That means daily engaging in God's Word. So I am committing to engaging each day. Will you join me?

If so, put in the comments below: I commit. And let me know how I can help you achieve this goal. Pastor Nat is your coach. So let's win the day together.