



1 John 3:11-24 (NIV)

¹¹For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹²Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. ¹³Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.

¹⁴We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

What love isn't 1 John 3:11-13

_____ proves _____ 1 John 3:14-15

What love is 1 John 3:16-18

We are _____ to _____ 1 John 3:19-24

Worship in Song

Doxology/This Is How We Know
Build Your Kingdom Here
A Mighty Fortress

FaithStory

Jenny Miller

Community Life

Offering

Love Does

Message

Love Does
Pastor Brian Suter

Closing Song

Our Father

Recommended reading during the current message series:

August 16 *Love Power* 1 John 4:1-16
August 23 *Headwaters of Love* 1 John 4:17-5:5
August 30 *The Certainty of Love* 1 John 5:6-21



Getting the Love Thing Right #7 Love Does

1. What were some general take-away's that you had from this sermon?

Leaders, we want to encourage you to go section by section through the passage of scripture: 1 John 3:11-24 together.

2. Read 1 John 3:11-13 together
 - a. This section highlights the life and mistakes of Cain, and shows us what love isn't.
 - b. Love isn't jealousy.
 - i. How might our own tendency toward jealousy make it hard to love people?
 - ii. Make it personal – how have you struggled with this, and how has it impacted your ability to love?
 - c. Love isn't hatred
 - i. Might seem simple, but how can hate get in the way of us loving?
 - ii. How have you struggled with hate, and how did you move beyond it? Are you still there? What might be some next steps to move beyond it?
3. Read 1 John 3:14-15
 - a. This section shows us that how deeply we love proves how deep the life (and love) of Jesus has gotten into us.
 - b. Thinking about your own life – how has the love the God has given to you given you the ability to love people even when it's hard? Get real specific, but keep it appropriate in regard to names, etc...
 - c. From your own experience, what are some practical things that we can do to enable God's love to enable us to love people?
4. Read 1 John 3:16-18
 - a. This section shows us what love is: Sacrificial, Generous, Action.
 - b. Which one of these three do you feel like God is calling you to be about most in this season of your life?
 - c. What are practical steps that you can do to be prepared to love in that way?
 - d. What are some other scripture passages that point us to what love looks like? (*1 Corinthians 13, Colossians 3:12-17, etc*)
5. Read 1 John 3:19-24
 - a. This section reminds us that because we have been given God's love, there is absolutely nothing that needs to hold us back from loving people the way that he has loved us.
 - b. In your journey of life and faith – is there anything that used to stand in the way of you getting the love thing right that you've been freed up from? Would you be willing to share that?
 - c. God is greater than our hearts... Is pointing to the reality that we don't need to live in shame any longer- no matter what. How does shame play a role in holding us back from loving God and people?

What now? *What is one way that God is calling you to love & who might the recipient be?* End your groups in prayer as a result of your answers.