



for May 10 sermon

I John 3:11-24

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 John 3:11-15 Why does John use the story of Cain and Abel to illustrate his point about love? According to verse 15, how does John define murder in the heart of a believer?
- 1 John 3:16-18 We often think of love as a feeling. How does John define love in verse 16? What “test” does he give in verse 17 to see if the love of God truly dwells in us? .
- 1 John 3:18 Last week, we each named someone who was difficult to love. Thinking through this past week, did your love for them look more like “words and speech” or “actions and truth”?
- Follow-up: What was the biggest internal barrier (pride, fear, busyness) that kept you from loving them well this week? How well do you think you handled it? What do you think God would want you to differently?

- John 3:19-22 When our hearts “condemn us” for our lack of love or our hidden sins, what truth does John tell us to rest in (v. 20)? How does “knowing that God is greater than our hearts” give us the confidence to keep following Him?

- 1 John 3:23-24 What are the two parts of God’s command in verse 23? How does believing in the name of Jesus provide the fuel for loving one another?

PRAYER

- Read verse 14. Thank God for the ways you have seen Jesus in your partner this week. Pray that the Word would remain in them so they don’t drift back into indifference or hatred.
- If your partner expresses a sense of guilt or “condemnation” during the check-in, pray for the Spirit’s comfort.
- Identify one physical, tangible action you will take this week for the person you are working to love