

1 John 2:7-14

One Point: Love gains everything

1. What food do you love?
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Read v. 7-8

1. Why is it important to address people in love?
 2. What are some of the old things the Holy Spirit makes new when someone becomes a believer? (1 John 4:19)
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Read v. 9-11

1. Why can't be there any middle ground between love and hate? (Rev 3:15-17)
 2. How does it say to treat our brothers and sisters in the Bible? (1 Peter 4:9, Eph 4:25-32, Gal 6:2)
 3. How does hatred blind us?
 4. How do you move past an issue you have with someone and love them?
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Read v. 12-14

1. Why does John switch gears and mention "levels of faith?"
 2. What can happen to a community if we do love our brothers and sisters?
 3. What needs to change so your love lines up with the light?
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What I will be talking about

How we treat others will be a reflection of our relationship with God. Love is not a new command, when Christ died on the cross, he modeled what true love really looked like. In the book Unchristian, many people have been burnt out by going to Church, because it became a place of judgment, legalism and hurt. That's not what it was intended to be. Nor do I think, it was intended for ministries to break up or for us to have damaging relationships with each other because we couldn't act in love and work towards reconciliation. John is telling the people: Hey so you have a doctrinal test of faith, in which you believe Jesus Christ, that is where you find true repentance for sin, and salvation for eternal life. Then you have a moral test in which when you love God, you will obey his commands. But now, he is saying, there is a social test, and that is to love your brothers and sisters. Because when you do that you will gain everything