

1 John 3:11-25

One Point: Love actively and genuinely

1. What is something that people do that drives you nuts?
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Read v. 11-15

1. Where did Cain get it wrong? (Gen 4:3-8)
 2. How do Jesus' teachings on anger apply to John's simple message? (v. 11, Matt 5:22-24)
 3. In what ways is love the antidote for hatred?
 4. If we feel hatred towards someone, how can we address the roots that are feeding that hatred?
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Read v. 16-18

1. What do Jesus' actions on the cross teach us about the manner in which we should love others? How do we live an others seeking, self-denying life like Jesus?
 2. What are the factors in our lives that make us indifferent toward others?
 3. Why is it important to not just focus on loving everybody but also focus on specific people in your life? How does this apply to discipleship?
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Read v. 19-24

1. How does pursuing an active and genuine love clear us from the condemnation that we would feel otherwise?
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What I will be talking about

From what John has written in these verses, we can see that the simple message is for us to actively and genuinely pursue a lifestyle of love. We can also see that God's singular command encompasses two truths: to believe in Jesus and love one another. We can, lastly, have assurance in prayer and our relationship with God if we do what He's asked all along – simply love another actively and transparently.

Are you living this lifestyle of active and transparent love? This question is more geared towards those who have trusted their lives into God's hands. Take the time to contemplate: (1) Do I surely believe in Jesus and have I received the gift of Him laying down His life for me? (2) If you have this assurance, are you living the lifestyle of active and genuine love?