

LOVED TO LOVE
SERMON SERIES IN 1 JOHN

SERMON LISTENING GUIDE // DATE: _____

1 John 2:3-11 // ³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. ⁷ Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸ At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹ Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. ¹⁰ Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Loving Others

1 John 2:3-11

Why is love for others a sign of knowing God?

I. The completion of love for God

A. What commandments? (v. 3-4)

B. Love for God completed (v. 5)

II. The conduit of love from God

A. The act of imitating Jesus (v. 6-7; John 13:34-35)

B. The why of imitating Jesus (v. 8)

III. The revelation of the heart of God

A. Hatred – self-centered (v. 9, 11; Luke 6:22; Isa. 5:20)

B. Love – other-centered (v. 10; 1 Cor. 1:23)

APPLICATION GUIDE

1. What do you think are the most important signs of knowing God? Where does love for others fall on your list?
2. Why is it so important to understand love for others as a conduit for God's love in Christ? How does the continuation of Jesus' earthly ministry through you shape your perspective on the command to walk in the same way in which he walked?
3. Who are you rejecting, excluding, and/or insulting (hating) in the name of being right? How is your hatred being influenced by what you read?