

# GOD'S LOVE LANGUAGE

1 John 2:3-11

January 18, 2026 | Pastor Keith Krell



## SCRIPTURE READING

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1 John 2:3-11; John 13:34-35; Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:39; 1 Corinthians 13

Romans 5:8; Philippians 2:3-8

## STUDY QUESTIONS

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1. What does it look like in your daily life to keep God's Word (2:3, 5)? Are you intentionally learning Scripture and seeking to obey it? Read James 1:21-27. On a scale of 1-10 (10 being consistently obedient), how would you honestly evaluate your obedience to God's Word? Is there an area where you have been resisting or delaying obedience? What is one concrete step you can take this week to obey God in that area? As a church family, how can we encourage obedience to God's Word without drifting into legalism?
2. What does it mean for you personally to walk as Jesus walked (2:6)? How should this be expressed in our CBC community? Who are you intentionally encouraging in their walk with Christ right now? How are you investing in others (family members, friends, or younger believers) to help them follow Jesus more faithfully?
3. What is the difference between loving someone and liking someone (2:7-11)? Is love merely a feeling, or is it something deeper? Are Christians commanded to like one another, or to love one another? If you struggle to like someone at CBC, what does obedience to Christ require of you?
4. Who is the first person (outside your immediate family) you remember truly loving, and why did that relationship matter to you? How would you counsel a married couple who says they have "fallen out of love"? Where should they begin biblically? Is there someone in your life right now whom you find difficult to love? What practical steps can you take to cultivate a Christlike love toward that person?
5. Have you ever harbored hatred, bitterness, or resentment toward a fellow believer (2:9, 11)? How did you justify it at the time? What effect did it have on you spiritually, emotionally, or relationally? What safeguards can you put in place to prevent this kind of heart attitude from taking root again? As a church, how can we foster a culture of repentance, forgiveness, and genuine love so this sin is confronted rather than hidden?

## RECOMMENDED READING

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Charles M. Sheldon, *In His Steps* (public domain, 1896)

D. A. Carson, *The Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God* (Crossway, 1999)

Gerald L. Sittser, *Loving Across Differences* (InterVarsity, 1994)

Alexander Strauch, *Love or Die: Christ's Wake-Up Call to the Church* (Lewis & Roth, 2008)

Donald S. Whitney, *Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church: Participating Fully in the Body of Christ* (Moody, 1996)