1 John 3:23–24: The Cutting Room Floor

Main idea: God enables obedience by our abiding in him and him in us.

The command (v. 23)

1. Why would a letter so full of love talk this much about commands?
2. What does it say about God that what he asks of us comes down to believing in his Son and loving one another?
3. Why does it matter that the Trinity engages in something as “ordinary” as loving one another?
4. Should you repent of leaning toward right belief over right love, or vice versa?
5. If someone asked you what you believe, could you say it in fewer than 10 words?
6. Which part of the biblical Jesus are you most tempted to cut?
7. Does it change anything to know that God has been where you are when your love is rejected?

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The commandment keeper (v. 24a)

8. How would someone who knows you well describe you in one present-active-participle phrase? “The one who keeps on _____.”
9. What are changes in your life that could only be explained by life from above?
10. What does it do to you to know that God abiding with us is fulfilled prophecy?

The confidence (v. 24b)

11. What does your neighbor see about the Spirit living in you?
12. Does your prayer life sound like someone who is sure God abides in him?

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