

Three Ways to Treat People

1 JOHN #7

Text: 1 John 3:11–18

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us.

1 JOHN 3:16

1



BIG IDEA

Every relationship is shaped by one of three responses: hatred, indifference, or Christlike love.

2



KEY TRUTHS

- John contrasts Cain's hatred with Christ's sacrificial love.
- The natural life treats people by what they deserve.
- The Christian life treats people by how Jesus treated us.
- Love is not merely spoken; it is demonstrated.
- Real love moves toward people in practical generosity.

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MAIN EMPHASIS

- Hatred destroys.
- Indifference withholds love.
- Christlike love lays itself down for others.
- We know we have passed from death to life because we love the brothers.
- Jesus is the model and source of our love.

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WHAT THIS MEANS FOR US

- Reject hatred, resentment, and revenge.
- Refuse indifference toward people in need.
- Practice visible, practical love.
- Let the cross reshape how you treat others.
- Treat people by grace, not by payback.



KEY APPLICATION / CALL

REJECT HATRED. RESIST INDIFFERENCE. PRACTICE CHRISTLIKE LOVE.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which response comes most naturally to you: hatred, indifference, or love?
2. How does Cain warn us about where unchecked anger can lead?
3. What does Jesus' example teach us about real love?
4. Who in your life needs practical love from you this week?

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PRAYER FOCUS

Father, deliver us from hatred and indifference. Fill us with the love of Jesus so that we treat people with grace, sacrifice, and practical compassion. Teach us to love not only in word, but in deed and truth. In Jesus' name, amen.