

CG - Gathering

Sermon Series: The Letters of John
Sermon Title: Love Proves the life — 1 John 3:11-24



Call to Worship (Read Romans 5:8)

'For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. '

Pray

"Father, thank You for loving us while we were still sinners. Let that love now shape how we love each other tonight. Amen."

Questions for Discussion: (Read: 1 John 3:11-24)

1. Did you find anything encouraging or challenging from the text or from the sermon this week?
2. John says love isn't new truth, just ancient gospel reality. Why might a church (or a Christian) start treating love as old news — something to move past rather than grow deeper into?
3. Cain's spirit of hatred can take many different forms today: bitterness, resentment, envy, rivalry, indifference. Which of these is most likely to quietly show up in your own heart toward someone in our church or your family?
4. John defines love by an event (the cross) and not a feeling. How does anchoring love to something historical and objective — rather than sentiment — change the way you think about loving difficult people?
5. Verse 23 summarizes the whole Christian life as two things: believing in Christ and loving one another. Why do you think John refuses to separate these? What happens to a faith that has one without the other?
6. As a group, is there a way you could put verse 18 into practice together this week — someone to visit, a need to meet, a burden to share?

Gospel community Challenge: This week, think of one specific person — not “people” in general — and do one concrete act of love for them before we meet again. Not a text saying you're praying for them, but an actual deed: a meal, a visit, a phone call, an hour of your time, or meeting a real need. Then come back next week ready to share who it was and what you did."

Sermon - Notes

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1. The Old Command Renewed

2. The Pattern to Reject: Cain's Hatred

3. The Pattern to Follow: Christ's Love

4. The Assurance That Follows