



First John

abiding faith

“Tough Love” | Karen Lee | April 27th, 2025

Love One Another

a.1 John 2:9 - “Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness.”

b.1 John 3:11 “¹¹ For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. “

c.1 John 3:14 “We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.”

Love One Another

- d. 1 John 4:7-8 “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.”
- e. 1 John 4:20 “If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar.”

1 John 5:1-3

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of Him. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

1 John 5:4-5

⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – Our faith. ⁵

Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
it should leave me.



4 Takeaways

A. Resemble our Father



1 John 5:1

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of Him.

1 John 5:1

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of Him.

1 John 5:2

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

4 Takeaways

A. Resemble our Father

B. Obey His Commands

John 15:12

This is my commandment, that you
love one another as I have loved you.”

John 13:34-35

“³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ **By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**”

1 John 5:3

³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Cornerstone Love Inventory

- Prepare meals
- Support young families
- Care for fur babies
- Do yard work
- Celebrate milestones

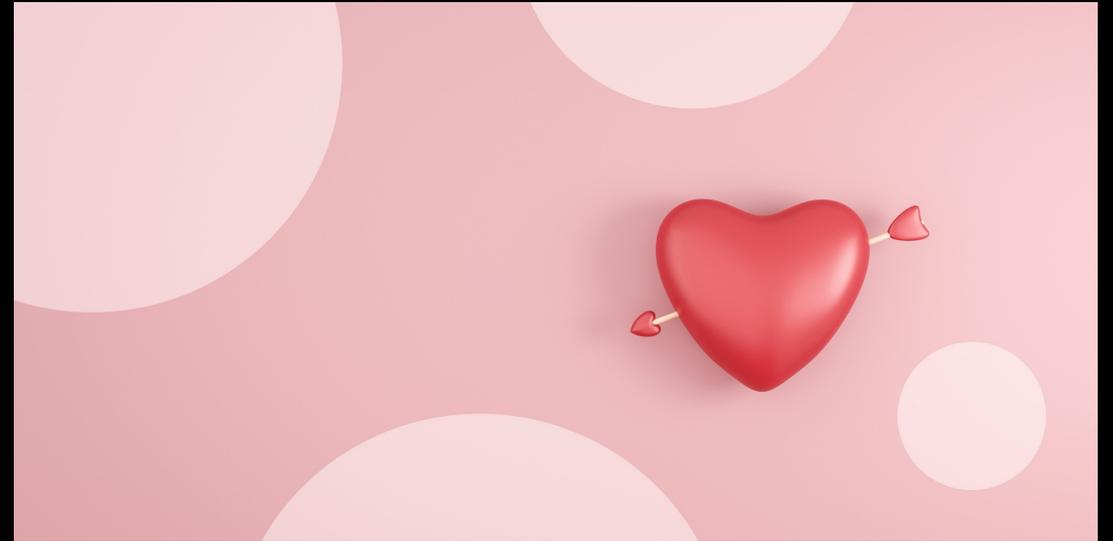


1 Peter 1:22

“Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, **love** one another deeply, from the heart.” (NIV)

4 Takeaways

- A. Resemble our Father
- B. Obey His Commands
- C. Love Deeply



Love Deeply, From the Heart

"Our love grows soft if it is not strengthened by truth, and our truth grows hard if it is not softened by love."

John Stott

Ephesians 4:15

¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...

What are LoCos?

4 Takeaways

A. Resemble our Father

B. Obey His Commands

C. Love Deeply

D. Have Loving Conversations (LoCos)

Having LoCos

- Asking the Uncomfortable Questions



Having LoCos

“¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

Having LoCos



- Asking the Uncomfortable Questions
- Asking Caring and Curious Questions

Having LoCos

- Asking Caring and Curious Questions
 - How is your walk with the Lord right now?
 - What are you learning from God's Word these days?
 - What has God been teaching you lately?

Having LoCos

- Addressing the Uncomfortable Topics
- Asking Caring and Curious Questions
- Calling Out Actions That Diminish Our Witness



Having LoCos

- Calling Out Actions That Diminish Our Witness
 - 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - “³¹ So whether you eat or drink or **whatever** you do, do it all for the **glory of God.**”

Having
LoCos

=

Showing
Tough
Love

Why Don't We Show Tough Love



A. It's
uncomfortable

Why Don't We Show Tough Love

- A. It's uncomfortable
- B. Fear of hurting the person
- C. Fear of hurting the relationship



2 John 1:5-6

⁵As I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. ⁶ And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

Application

- A. Pray for Holy Spirit to give you courage to engage in a LoCo.
- B. Pray for a humble heart for yourself and others..
- C. Ask God for a deeper love for God's people.