

## **XO Sermon Part 3 The Family Relationship**

### **Background of 1 John and it's Author**

See last 2 week's handout for more background info. (You can see it on our app under the sermons button) Our default mode is to revert back to selfishness, not to love. For this reason, the New Testament as a whole and the apostle John in particular never tire of exhorting us to love the family. In fact, the church father, Jerome, said that when the apostle John was in his extreme old age, he was so weak that he had to be carried into church meetings. At the end of the meeting he would be helped to his feet to give a word of exhortation to the church. Invariably, he would repeat, "Little children, let us love one another." The disciples began to grow weary of the same words every time, and they finally asked him why he always said the same thing over and over. He replied, "Because it is the Lord's commandment, and if this only is done, it is enough."

### **Today's Text:**

1 John 3:1, 11-15

*1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*

*11 For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. 12 Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. 13 Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, [b] if the world hates you. 14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. 15 Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.*

### **Sermon Points:**

**The love that should be between family members should be the kind of love that is \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Storge* - love that is \_\_\_\_\_, unforced, familial love; a great example of *storge* love is the love that a parent has for a child.

- 1. God didn't have to, but He \_\_\_\_\_. (V1)**
- 2. We should, but we \_\_\_\_\_. (v11)**

3. The world doesn't have to, but they \_\_\_\_\_. (v12-13)

4. Salvation says we will, but we \_\_\_\_\_. (v14-15)