

We continue our journey through this letter that John wrote to a young church with newish believers as a response to questions raised as philosophies of the world begin to creep into their theology and practice. Topics like what is truth, sources for truth, how to live out your faith, what is love, what does look like in the body of Christ. They faced a lot of cultural, truth not rooted in God and Jesus.

An Introduction to Love

1. The Contrast – “not as Cain, who was of the evil one and slew his brother.”

2. The Jesus Way

- a. Sacrifice – “we know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”
- b. Active – “But whoever has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need...”
- c. Truth – “Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.”

3. The Outcomes

- a. Hate – “Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you.”
- b. Confidence before God – “Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God.”

“John is urging that God is the final arbiter of our personal spiritual well-being. We do not look into our hearts to see if we feel secure and then use this as evidence of our security in the truth. If our conscience condemns, God overrides its verdict. The is possible for two reasons: God is mightier than our hearts, and he knows far more about us than we can ever imagine.” Gary Burge, NIV Application Bible, The Letters of John

NEXT STEPS

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- CONNECTION LUNCH - NOVEMBER 16, 11:30 - FOR THOSE NEWER TO EAGLE
- MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKOUT - JANUARY 16-18, 2026 - REGISTRATION IS OPEN
- NOT SO SILENT NIGHT - STUDENT MINISTRIES - DECEMBER 7
- WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER - DECEMBER 12, 6:30-8:30PM
- WOMEN'S DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDIES, START OCTOBER 21/24, TUESDAY, 7 PM OR FRIDAY, 10AM

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