

Sunday – March 15, 2026



Big Idea: Genuine faith in Jesus always produces a growing, sacrificial love for others. Love is the evidence that we truly belong to God.

People often say, "You look just like your father."

Certain traits reveal where we come from. The same is true spiritually.

John writes to believers who were confused by false teachers and competing claims about truth. So John gives them **tests of authentic faith**.

1. Love Reveals Whose Family We Belong To - 1 John 3:11–15

"For this is the message you heard from the beginning: we should _____ one another." (1 John 3:11)

Cain represents a life shaped by: jealousy, hatred, resentment, violence

"We know that we have passed from _____ to _____ because we love our brothers and sisters." (1 John 3:14)

Hatred belongs to the old life.

Love is evidence of _____ life.

Reflection:

Who is God calling you to love more intentionally this week?

2. Love Looks Like Jesus - 1 John 3:16–18

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His _____ for us." (1 John 3:16)

Biblical love is not primarily a feeling.

It is _____ and _____.

John challenges believers:

"If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in _____ but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?"

(1 John 3:17)

"Let us not love with words or speech but with _____ and in _____."

(1 John 3:18)

Reflection:

Where might God be inviting you to demonstrate love in action?

3. Love Gives Us Confidence Before God - 1 John 3:19–24

"This is how we set our hearts at _____ in His presence." (1 John 3:19)

Sometimes our hearts condemn us with: guilt, doubt, insecurity

But Scripture reminds us:

"God is _____ than our hearts." (v.20)

God's command is simple and powerful:

- Believe in the name of _____

- Love _____ another

Faith and love always grow _____.

Reflection:

What helps remind you that God's love for you is secure?

4. Love Comes from God's Nature - 1 John 4:7–12

"Dear friends, let us _____ one another, for love comes from _____."

(1 John 4:7)

"God is _____." (1 John 4:8)

Love begins not with us loving God...

but with _____ loving us first.

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that He _____ us and sent His Son..." (1 John 4:10)

When we receive God's love, it begins to _____ through us.

Reflection:

How has God's love changed how you see others?

5. Perfect Love Drives Out Fear - 1 John 4:13–21

"There is no _____ in love. But perfect love drives out _____." (1 John 4:18)

Fear often comes from: fear of judgment, fear of rejection, fear of failure

God's love replaces fear with _____.

"If anyone says, 'I love God,' yet hates a brother or sister, he is a _____."

(1 John 4:20)

Love for God and love for people can never be _____.

This time tomorrow

To whom would God have me intentionally love?