

## **A Loving Fellowship 1 John 3:10-24**

### **I. Brotherly Love – 3:10-11**

1. Brotherly love is a birthmark – 10  
Those born of God love family members  
Jesus set this as a birthmark – Jn. 13:35
2. God proclaimed this in the beginning - 11  
God is love, those who share His nature, love  
Normal for families to love one another  
God's design when establishing families  
This was a major principle in God's law  
Family members to love & care for family

### **II. Hatred = absence of love – 3:12-15**

1. Cain shows lack of brotherly love – 12  
By it proved that he was not in God's family  
What he did was evidence of his evil nature  
Jealous of His righteous brother & killed him  
Though given opportunity to do right - Gen 4:6,  
7
2. Expect hatred from the world – 13  
Those not in God's family may hate us
3. New birth brings love for brethren – 14  
God's principle of love is true in His family
4. Hatred indicates one is not family – 15  
Hatred leads to murder  
Jesus taught this in Matthew 5:21- 22  
He linked up hatred with murder  
Hatred prompts one to commit murder  
A murderer must be changed to have eternal life  
Paul spoke of this in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

### **III. True Family Love – 3:16**

1. God's love is seen in Jesus Christ – 16  
Jesus demonstrated compassion on earth  
He was even willing to sacrifice His life for us  
God's kind of love focuses on needs of others
2. This sacrificial love should be in us – 16  
Holy Spirit produces this love in us – Gal. 5:22  
We ought to be willing to so love our brothers

### **IV. True Love is Practical – 17-18**

1. God's love makes us willing to share – 17  
Resources to be shared with brother's need  
God's love in us is seen in compassion  
Lack of compassion shows lack of God's love
2. True love is seen in action not words – 18  
Easy to claim to have love but what do we do  
Actions prove the reality of our words  
Example of early church – Acts 4:32-35

### **V. Proofs of Family Love – 3:19-24**

1. Assurance we are in God's family – 19-21  
Presence of God's love gives us assurance  
Not how we got in family but assures we are in

- If we lack assurance God is final authority  
Good when our heart does not condemn us
2. Assurance of answered prayer – 21- 22  
When assured we have confidence in prayer  
When we please God we can expect answers
  3. Affirmation of the Holy Spirit – 23-24  
Faith in Christ & love for brethren is obedience  
Jesus' command in John 13:34-35  
Spirit assures us as we follow His commands  
He bears witness with our spirit – Rom. 8:16