

Love in Action
1 John 3:11-4:6

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NOTES

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Suggested Questions for Individual
Study or Group Discussion*



- Songwriters have written about love for millennia. How is love portrayed in today's love songs?
- Using John's words in 1 John 3:11-4:6, how would you define love? How does this connect with what John has previously written?
- As John again contrasts love with hate (cf. 1 Jn. 2:9-11), who are given as models of each (1 Jn. 3:12-16)? For both love and hate, identify its origin, how it is expressed, and the impact it has on others.
- In what ways do "our hearts condemn us" (1 Jn. 3:19-20)? How have you experienced this? What remedy does John prescribe for self-condemnation? How do we put this into practice?
- What is God's command (1 Jn. 3:23)? What is the result of keeping God's command? How is this a good and helpful summary of the Christian life and faith?
- In 1 John 4:1-6, John again warns of false teachers (cf. 2:18-27). What sets apart false from true prophets? Why is it important to "test the spirits"? How is John's admonition relevant and helpful in our cultural climate with its competing religious, social, and political truth claims?
- If we do not truly believe that Jesus has come in the flesh from God (1 Jn. 4:2), what difference does it make? How does that concretely impact the ways in which we walk in the light (cf. 1 Jn. 2:5-6)?
- How do you feel called to put Christ-like love into action this week? With whom? How can your small group pray for you as you love in deed and in truth?

*Adapt or select questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.