

“Blessed Assurance: Loved and Hated”

1 John 3:11-24

Pastor Jim Oakley – December 30, 2018

1) WHEN YOU'RE HATED (v. 11-15)

2) REMEMBER WHAT LOVE IS (v. 16-24)

READ AHEAD FOR NEXT WEEK: 1 John 4:1-6

Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER: If someone says they hate you, what would your first response be?

Read 1 John 3:11-24.

- 1) What do you think is the difference between love and hate?
- 2) What was the difference between Cain and Abel's actions? (Genesis 4:1-12)
- 3) What were Cain's motives in killing Abel?
- 4) How does the example of Cain and Abel frame our understanding of how we interact with the world?
- 5) What possible reasons might the world have for hating Christians?
- 6) How does John define the love we are supposed to exhibit in verse 16?
- 7) What does laying down your life for your brothers and sisters look like?
- 8) What prevents us from filling the needs of others out of compassion?
- 9) The saying, "Preach the gospel at all times, when necessary use words" has been attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, though it's unverified. Is it possible to preach the gospel without words?
- 10) Is it possible to preach the gospel without deeds?
- 11) How does being loved by Jesus and sacrificially loving our brothers and sisters help us rest confidently in God's presence?
- 12) According to verses 23-24, how do we know that we are in Christ?
- 13) How has this passage challenged or encouraged you today?