

## Letting Go to Love

1 John 3:11-24

Remain, 7

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### Love one another ... 3:11-13

"we should love one another"

Envy and jealousy keep us from loving well. v. 12

"we should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother"

Loving others will cause problems. v. 13

"do not be surprised, brothers, when the world hates you"

### We experience the life of God when we love. 3:14-18

"we know that we passed out of death into life, because we love"

When we hate, we are choosing to control our lives.

"no murderer has eternal life abiding in Him"

When we hate, we are choosing to close our hearts.

"if anyone has the world's goods and yet closed his heart"

When we love, we are choosing to let go of our lives.

"he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives"

When we love, we are choosing to live from our hearts.

"let us not love in word or talk but in deed and truth"

### Loving others reassures us that we are remaining in Him. 3:19-24

"by this we shall know that we are of the truth"

But, our hearts will often condemn us ... v. 20a

"whenever our hearts condemn us"

However, God is greater and we rest in Him as we ... v. 20b-21

"God is greater than our heart"

pray in step with the Father's heart. v. 22

"whatever we ask we receive from him"

prioritize His heart as we love. v. 23-24

"love one another just as he has commanded us"

**APPLICATION** ... how do you need to let go in order to love?

**Quote:** "Forgiveness is the name of love practiced among people who love poorly. The hard truth is that all of us love poorly." Henri Nouwen