

1 John 3:11-24
“Relationship Matters”

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Let's turn to the book of 1st John...
 - And follow along as I read (1 John 3:11-24).

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled today's message:
“Relationship Matters”

LAST WEEK WE LEARNED...

- The clear differences between...
 - A Child of God & A Son of Satan.

THE MESSAGE WAS BOILED DOWN TO...

- Accepting or rejecting God, but there's no pretending.
 - Your thoughts & actions...
 - Reveal who you're really following...
 - Satan / Self / The Holy Spirit.

NOW TODAY... JOHN CONTINUES...

- With more identifying characteristics...
 - As he talks about Christian relationships!

~STUDY~

LOOK AT (v.11)...

- The message = Greek (*An - Ge - Le' - A*).
 - Meaning news or announcement.

GOD HAS PROVIDED YOU & I...

- With the Good News...
 - Thru the announcement of the Gospel message!
 - And He made it personal...
 - By bring it thru His Son – (Hebrews 1:1-2).

SO... JOHN SHARES WITH BELIEVERS...

- About ***“Relationship Matters!”***

HE SAYS... THE WAY WE TREAT OTHERS...

- Reveals whose son we are.

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AS CHRISTIAN’S WE SHOULD BE KNOWN...

- For loving one another!

JESUS SET THIS EXAMPLE IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN.

- HE was eating His last meal with His disciples...
 - And predicts how He will be betrayal.

BUT HERE’S THE POWERFUL PART...

- As the event unfolds in (John 13:34-35)...
 - Jesus tells the disciples to love one another...
 - As HE has loved them (sacrifice & service)...
 - And He finishes by saying...

“By this all will know you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

THIS IS THE “WHAT TO DO” (v.11) *“love one another”*?

(Eph. 4:1-3)

- Lowliness = A modest or low view of one’s importance.
- Gentleness = Be kind & careful.
- Longsuffering = Put with the provocations & frailty of others.
- Bearing with = Put up with & endure... even listen to weak ones.

- Bond = A uniting principal that controls movement.
- Of peace = Peace between individuals.

TURN TO (1 Peter 3:8-9)...

- Have compassion = Sympathetic or suffering with others.
- Tenderhearted = Compassionate
- Courteous = Friendly & kind

(v.12)

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT NOT TO DO.

- Cain in (Gen. 4:1-16) was a guy that wanted to do things...
 - According to his own ways.
 - And it resulted in others getting hurt.

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(v.13)

DON'T TRIP WHEN THE WORLD...

- *Hates you*...
 - Look what Jesus said to the Pharisees...
 - As He was battling it out with them...
 - In (John 8:44).

CONFLICT WITH THOSE...

- Not following Jesus is to be expected!
 - However... It's reassurance to those...
 - That are followers of Christ (v.14).

SO AS WE COME AWAY FROM THESE VERSES...

- Just understand that Murder & Hatred ...
 - Belongs to the worlds standards...
 - And is what the average person does!

LISTEN...

- As we watch the riots erupt across this country again...
 - The Christian quickly realizes this world is NOT home!
- The responses of the rioters to the election is...
 - Reflective of people & a society that is secular...
 - Meaning... without God!

IS THERE ANYONE HERE THAT IS PATRIOTIC?

WHEN WE SEE THE UNRAVELING OF OUR SOCIETY...

- As Christian's this is a call to battle!
 - This is why Jesus came.
 - He has made of fishers of men.

GET THIS PICTURE IN YOUR MIND...

- Of pulling one person at a time from a burning car...
 - And literally saving a soul from Hell.

THIS IS WHY WE ARE HERE...

- And the worse it gets... the harder we fight!
 - God has given this church a mission to reach our city...

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- And I want to ask you to get on board and help as we prep...
- For 2017 in reaching a wider audience!
 - Your prayers / financial contributions / Service.
 - Radio launch by year-end
 - Video & sound help
 - Children’s ministry
 - Clean team
 - Security
 - Café
 - Parking lot

EACH SEGMENT OF MINISTRY...

- Enables a wider audience to hear the word preached.

(vv.16-17)

NOW... HERE IS...

- A picture of the Christian NOT getting it.
 - This type of Christian is still living a life of indifference.
 - Their life is wasted with self-interest!
 - There is no sacrifice or contribution at church...
 - To advance the gospel message.

(Titus 3:3-8) Gives us the aim of Godly living.

- Basically it is a call to action.
 - **Do we understand this gang???**

OK HERE’S WHAT WE’VE SEEN:

- The motivation of Satan (vv.11-15) murder/hatred
- The motivation of Self (vv.17) indifference
- Now, the motivation of the Spirit (vv.18-24) love/compassion

(vv.18-24)

LOVE COMES OUT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

- (v.16) Legitimate Christian love is seen in...
 - Sacrifice & service
- TURN TO (James 1:22 & 27)

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- Christian love is...
 - Personal & active
- (v.18) Finally, Christian love is...
 - In deeds & truth.

FINALLY...

~AS WE CLOSE TODAY~

LET’S SEE THE BLESSINGS OF LOVE.

- First there’s an Assurance (vv.19-20) = Fruit
- Second there’s Answered Prayers (vv.21-22) = Fellowship
- Third the Abiding Presence of the Holy Spirit (vv.23-24) = Power

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD MATTERS...

- We partake of the work of God’s Spirit in the body...
 - And we advance the cause of Christ outside the church.

SO I CALL YOU TODAY...

- To jump onboard in loving & serving Jesus Christ...
 - With your life!
 - WILL YOU STAND WITH ME!?!

LET’S PRAY.