

## 1 John 2:7-11

Pg 1021

## Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. John's audience were being plagued by two epidemics—false teaching and apostasy. John tells his readers that he is writing this letter that they may “know that [they] have eternal life” (1 John 5:13). Why does John turn their attention to the old and new commandment to love one another? How does this combat the false teaching and apostasy that was plaguing this early church? How is keeping his commandments (vs. 3) and loving one another (vs. 10) evidence that one truly knows Christ?
2. John speaks in binary terms—love and hate—how is biblical love to be defined? What does biblical hate look like? Why is it important to let the Scriptures define these terms for us? Are there limits to biblical love? If so, what might those limits look like?
3. Jesus, as the ultimate Example, demonstrates this command to love one another perfectly. What are some ways in which we find Him teaching His followers how to love one another? How does Jesus show love to even those we might consider His enemies?
4. John is specifically calling for his readers to love their “brothers” which would be fellow believers. Are we called to love non-believers? Consider the following passages to answer this question—Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 10:25-37; 2 Timothy 2:25; 1 Peter 2:15. How does love for the unsaved, if at all, differ from love for fellow believers? Consider the following passages to aid in your answer—2 Corinthians 6:14; 1 Corinthians 15:33.