



## **The Believer's Life of Love**

**(1 John 3:11-15)**

*Study Notes Handout: March 25<sup>th</sup>*

*This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another... 1 John 3:11*

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- *God teaches us to love by putting some unlovely people around us. It takes no character to love people who are lovely and loving to you. - Rick Warren*
  - *You will never really love until you love someone who hates you. - Jack Hyles*
  - *The world is not a play-ground; it is a school-room. Life is not a holiday, but an education. And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love. - Henry Drummond*
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### Message: Three Questions

#### 1. Why is love the Christian's hallmark? (vs. 11)

- Because...

#### 2. Why should we not be surprised if the world hates us? (vs. 12 - 13)

- Because...

#### 3. Why is our love for one another part of our assurance as children of God? (vs. 14 - 15)

- Because...

### Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- i. How is the world like Cain in the Old Testament? (See Genesis 4:1 - 9)
- ii. Why is our love for one another as fellow believers different than our love for others in the world?
- iii. Have you had an experience of being hated by the world? How did you respond?
- iv. How could you show the love of Christ this week to a fellow believer that you find hard to love?



## Study and Discussion Questions

### *1 John 3:11-15*

#### **Explore It**

1. What message had the readers of 1 John heard from the beginning? (3:11)
2. Why did Cain murder his brother? (3:12)
3. About what should believers not be surprised? (3:13)
4. How can a person know that he or she has passed from death to life? (3:14)
5. What is the result of hating one's brother? (3:15)

#### **Get It**

6. How does the world hate believers today?
7. When have you experienced the hatred of the world?
8. What does it mean to love one's brother?
9. \*When do you struggle with loving other Christians?

#### **Apply It**

10. For what fellow Christian whom you have difficulty loving will you do something kind this week?