



04 OCTOBER 2026 AM

1 John 3:16-24

TRIBE-14

= a close-knit community with shared identity

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

1 John 3:16-17

INTRODUCTION

A DRASTIC TEMPLATE 3:16-24

- in chapter three, John has shifted his focus from fellowship in the family of God collectively to the individual and his responsibility to the family

verse 10

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

this verse is the key to the chapter...it describes for us what a genuine Christian really is:

the one who does righteousness

we covered this in 3:3-9 last week

the one who loves his brother

we considered this in 3:11-15 last week

- but this morning in our text, John takes us deeper into this concept of loving one another

he shows us that loving one another is more than doing nice things and helping with a need

- Dr. Warren Webster served as a missionary in Pakistan for over 15 years (1954-1970)...upon his return to the United States, he spoke at a large missions gathering and said:

If I had my life to live over again, I would live it to change the lives of people, because you have not changed anything until you've changed the lives of people.

THIS is what John is wanting us
to understand this morning

1. A BRIEFING ON LOVING PEOPLE

AWARENESS verse 16

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

*Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so...*

it is so familiar as to be redundant...after awhile,
we outgrow the truth of this simple song

but should we?

perceive = to have knowledge

NOTE: in **Matthew 22:18** we are told Jesus *perceived* what the Pharisees were attempting to do in entangling His words

how often do we consider the truth of this statement: that God loved us enough to send His Son to die for us?

John 3:16 For God so loved...

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth...

John goes on to say that when we understand this truth...really comprehend it...we will be willing to lay down our lives for others

Romans 5:7

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die:
yet peradventure for a good man some would
even dare to die.

Romans 16:3-4

Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:
who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto
whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches
of the Gentiles.

John 15:13

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man
lay down his life for his friends.

I could ask you this morning who you would be
willing to die for, and you might even name a few
people...family, your pastor, etc.

and it sounds noble, right?

Priscilla and Aquila did not die for Paul

in reality, John has something deeper in mind,
something that requires a greater commitment...

ACQUISITION verse 17

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

acquisition = to gain or take possession of

notice that John used the word **GOOD**, not *goods*

he is not referring to material possessions

James 2:15-16

If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

good = (*bios*) life

in Greek, there is a definite article

THE LIFE

NIV, ESV change this

in fact, John is saying those who have the ability to live life, or are equipped for life, should be teaching and helping others along the way

Matthew 26:11 ...poor always with you

2 Corinthians 1:4

Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

comfort = *parakletos*

Titus 2:1-10

aged men be sober

aged women teach the younger

young men exhort

Ecclesiastes 6:8

For what hath the wise more than the fool? What hath the poor, that knoweth to walk before the living?

ACTUALITY verse 18

My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

so now, John tells us to put it into practice

as Nike says, *Just do it*

notice how he has a play on words:

word :: deed

tongue :: truth

Isaiah 1:16-17

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

the prophet says it isn't enough to NOT do evil; we must learn to do good

Matthew 7:12 (Luke 6:31) Golden Rule

2. THE BLESSINGS OF LOVING PEOPLE

ASSURANCE verses 19-20

And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

if we do as John instructs us, then we have assurance of our salvation

John 13:35 By this shall all men know...

but are you certain? do you have doubts?

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.

consider Peter and his possible guilty conscience:

Luke 22:32 when thou art converted

Mark 16:7 tell His disciples, and Peter

ANSWERS verses 21-22

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

if we are free from worry or doubt about our walk with the Lord, then we have confidence God hears our prayers

Psalms 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart...

think about it: if you can't be bothered to be a blessing to someone else, why should God pour out blessings upon you?

1 Peter 3:7 ...that your prayers be not hindered.

ABIDANCE verses 23-24

And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

doctrine is important...what we believe

Titus 2:7

In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing incorruptness, gravity, sincerity...

loving one another is equally important

by loving one another in this manner, we are abiding in the love and work of Christ

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.