

June 9, 2019

To Know Christ
1 John 3:11-24
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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

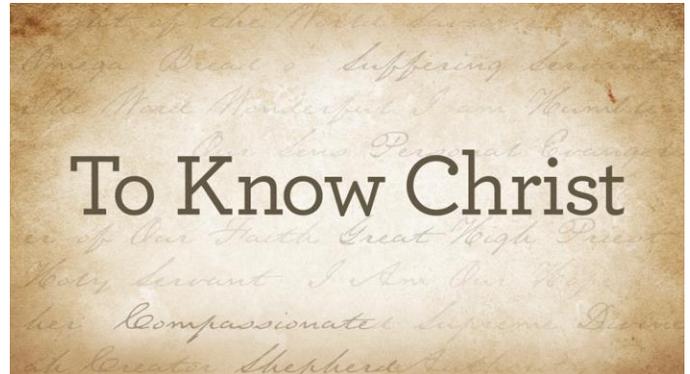
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



The second half of 1 John chapter 3 gives us a passage that is very difficult to understand. However, it is continuing in the theme that we have seen throughout 1 John; the idea of a greater fellowship with Christ. Our relationship with Christ is permanent based on His grace and our faith in Him but, our fellowship with Him can be stronger or weaker. If we were asked, I think we would all say that we would prefer to have a stronger fellowship with Jesus. This week we will talk about how we can have a stronger fellowship with God the Father through Jesus the Son. John challenges us to love our brother. Loving others is not always easy. However, if we love as Christ has first loved us then we will have a deeper more intimate fellowship with God. Join us this week as we seek to understand how we can have a deeper fellowship with Jesus.

⁸ More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

Philippians 3:8

1 John 3:11-24 (NASB)

¹¹ For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another; ¹² not as Cain, *who* was of the evil one and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.

¹³ Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against

him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth. ¹⁹ We will know by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him ²⁰ in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.

²³ This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

V **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. Why did Cain kill his brother?

9. Why would the world hate believers?

10. How do we know we have passed from death to life according to this passage?

11. How do we love one another?

12. Does God give us whatever we ask?

13. How do we know God abides in us?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

14. When have you felt like the world hates you?

15. When is it hard to love people as Christ has loved? How do we overcome this?

16. What can we do to have a deeper fellowship with God?

17. Why would we want a deeper fellowship with God?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes