

That You May Know

What Kind of Love? — 1 John 3:1-3
March 24, 2019

See what kind of love the Father has given to us...

-1 John 3:1

I. The Kind of Love (v.1)

- Given only to children of God (John 1:12-13; John 3:36; 8:44; Ephesians 2:1-3).
- Only known and understood by those who have a biblical view of God and a biblical view of man (Genesis 8:21; Psalm 51:5; Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Matthew 7:11; Romans 3:10; 1 John 1:8; 3:1).
- This love is enormously vast, magnificently beautiful, lavished on those who do not deserve it, and it surpasses knowledge (Romans 8:38-39; Ephesians 3:17-19; 1 John 4:18).
- The cross, our depravity, and the wrath of God poured out on Jesus shows us how great God's love is.
- God tells us of his great love so we will focus on him and not ourselves (2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3:1).
- The world does not know "us" because it does not know God (Romans 1:18; 6:21; 1 Corinthians 2:11; 14; 1 Peter 4:4; 1 John 3:1).

II. We Shall Be Like Him (v. 2)

- Now though those in Christ hate their sin, they still sin (Romans 7:14-25).
- When Jesus returns those in Christ will be sinless (1 John 3:2).

III. Focusing on God Leads to Purity (v. 3)

- Everyone who hopes in Jesus seeks purity (1 John 3:3).
- Sin is what we do when we are not thankful to and for God.
- Focusing on who God is and what he has done motivates us to trust and obey God and this leads to purity in every area of life (Exodus 20:2; Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Titus 2:11-14).
- Begin your day focused on the glory of God (Psalm 90:14; 2 Corinthians 3:18).

KNOW: God's love for those in Christ is so great and magnificent that it surpasses knowledge. Those who are not in Christ will not understand you. We are to seek purity in every area of life.

DO: Start each day praising God for his attributes, including his perfect love. Thank God for his love, grace, and mercy as displayed in the gospel several times each day. Focus on God rather than yourself. Seek to be pure in every area of life for the glory of God out of gratitude for who God is and what he has done.

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read 1 John 3:1-3

1. In what ways did the sermon comfort and convict you?
2. Why is the love that God has given to those in Christ so great (Hint: Consider the biblical view of God and the biblical view of mankind)?
3. How has focusing on God's undeserved love for you in Christ transformed different areas of your life? (Encourage everyone to answer!)
4. Why should we not expect those who are not in Christ to understand us? In light of this, how should we treat them?
5. In what ways does 1 John 3:2 encourage you in the here and now?
6. In what areas of your life do you struggle with purity? According to the sermon, what do you need to do? (Remember, purity relates to every area of life.)
7. For help with purity in any area of life, seek counsel from our Soul Care/Biblical Counseling Ministry.