

The Assurance of a Clean Heart - 1 John 3:18-24

- I. Love produces assurance of the truth, v. 18-20
 - A. The close connection of love and truth, v. 19

B. The righteous standing, v. 19

C. The quieting of our conscience, v. 19-20

- II. Love assures us that our prayers will be answered, v. 21-22
 - A. God's assurance through a clean conscience, v. 21

B. The assurance of answered prayer, v. 22

- III. Love assures us of our close union with Christ, v. 23-24
 - A. God's assurance begins when we are united with Christ, v. 23

B. God's assurance grows as we love as God commanded, v. 23-24

- When you are struggling with assurance, do you remind yourself of the truth that Christ has declared?
- How does experiencing God's love transform your understanding of your own worthiness before Him?
- What reassurance do you need from God concerning your standing before Him?
- What actions do you need to take to hear the reinforcement of His love?
- In what ways can loving others help you feel closer to Christ?
- What truth from scripture helps you overcome feelings of inadequacy when you feel you have failed?

Next week: 2 Cor. 4:1-12