Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, for October 11th, 2026
"A Journey through the Book of 1st John"
"Loving in Deed & Truth"

Sermon Text: **1 John 3:11-24;** Old Testament Text: **Psalm 104:1-9;** New Testament Text: **James 1:22-27.** Read **1 John 3:11-24**, then answer the questions below.

1. Read **1 John 3:11.** When John says, ***"from the beginning,"*** to what is he referring?

2. Read **1 John 3:12.** Cain's deeds were evil even before he murdered Abel. What was it about ***Cain's deeds*** that made them evil while ***Abel's deeds were considered righteous?*** (Hint: See **Hebrews 11:4.)**

3. Read **1 John 3:13.** Why does the ***world hate followers of Jesus Christ?*** (Hint: See **John 15:18-19.)**

4. Read **1 John 3:14.** Is John saying in this verse that Christians will never die?

   What is he saying?

5. Read **1 John 3:15.** Why does John equate hatred with murder? (Hint: See **Matthew 5:21,22.)**

6. John said, ***"You know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him."*** To what does the ***eternal life abiding in him*** refer?

7. Read **1 John 3:16.** What does John say allowed us ***to know love?***

8. What lesson does John say we ought to learn from the example of Christ?

9. Read **1 John 3:17.** What does John say we should do if we have the resources to do so?

10. How well do you keep this command? What might help you to keep it better?

11. Read **1 John 3:18.** What do you think would happen if Christians started to take this command seriously?

12. Read **1 John 3:19-20.** What does John say will reveal to us ***that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him***?

13. Why might ***our hearts condemn us*** even when God doesn't?

14. Read **1 John 3:21-22.** What does John say we will have and receive ***if our hearts do not condemn us?***

15. Read **1 John 3:23.** What does John tells us God expects from us as believers in Christ?

16. Read **1 John 3:24.** What should give us absolute confidence that ***we abide in God and He abides in us?***

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 104:1-9** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
   1. Read **Ps. 104:1.** What does it mean to ***Bless the Lord, O my soul?***
   2. How often do you endeavor to do that?
   3. How does the line, ***"O Lord my God, you are very great,"*** affect the remainder of the Psalm?
   4. Does the fact that ***"God is clothed with splendor and majesty"*** make you more eager or less eager to bless Him?
   5. Read **Ps. 104:2-4.** When you read these verses, what are some words that describe a God who looks like this?
   6. In **v. 4,** who do you think the psalmist is describing here?
   7. Read **Ps. 104:5-9.** When you read these verses, how does it make you feel about the creation of the world?
   8. As you read **vv. 5-9,** what do you think about God's strength and the power of his Word?

II. Next read **James 1:22-27**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions.
   1. Read **James 1:22.** How well do you do at ***being a doer of the word?***
   2. When you fail to ***do what the word says,*** is it due to not understanding what it says or due to apathy in carrying it out?
   3. Read **James 1:23-24.** When a believer looks in a mirror, who should he or she see looking back?
   4. How should that thought help us to better understand what our lives should look like?
   5. Read **James 1:25.** Why will those who do what the word says always be blessed?
   6. Read **James 1:26.** In what ways might ***an unbridled tongue*** make one's Christian witness worthless?
   7. Read **James 1:27.** This verse mentions ***visiting orphans and widows in their affliction.*** What sorts of things do you think God would want us doing in such visits?
   8. What are some ways we might keep ***ourselves unstained from the world?***

III. Read **1 John 3:11-24,** utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:

1. Read **1 John 3:11.** When John says, ***"from the beginning,"*** to what is he referring?
2. Read **1 John 3:12.** Cain's deeds were evil even before he murdered Abel. What was it about ***Cain's deeds*** that made them evil while ***Abel's deeds were considered righteous?*** (Hint: See **Hebrews 11:4.)**
3. Read **1 John 3:13.** Why does the ***world hate followers of Jesus Christ?*** (Hint: See **John 15:18-19.)**
4. Read **1 John 3:14.** Is John saying in this verse that Christians will never die?
5. What is he saying?
6. Read **1 John 3:15.** Why does John equate hatred with murder? (Hint: See **Matthew 5:21,22.)**
7. John said, ***"You know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him."*** To what does the ***eternal life abiding in him*** refer?
8. Read **1 John 3:16.** What does John say allowed us ***to know love?***
9. What lesson does John say we ought to learn from the example of Christ?
10. Read **1 John 3:17.** What does John say we should do if we have the resources to do so?
11. How well do you keep this command? What might help you to keep it better?
12. Read **1 John 3:18.** What do you think would happen if Christians started to take this command seriously?
13. Read **1 John 3:19-20.** What does John say will reveal to us ***that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him***?
14. Why might ***our hearts condemn us*** even when God doesn't?
15. Read **1 John 3:21-22.** What does John say we will have and receive ***if our hearts do not condemn us?***
16. Read **1 John 3:23.** What does John tells us God expects from us as believers in Christ?
17. Read **1 John 3:24.** What should give us absolute confidence that ***we abide in God and He abides in us?***