Student's Name: _____

Sermon Notes for October 18th, 2026
"A Journey through the Book of 1st John"
"Knowing & Relying on the Love God Has for Us"

Sermon Text: **1 John 4:1-21;** Old Testament Text: **Psalm 104:10-19;** New Testament Text: **Romans 8:26-28.** Read the passage below, then answer the questions.

1 John 4:1-21: Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. 4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.
13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1. Read **1 John 4:1.** How do we biblically ***test the spirits?***

2. Read **1 John 4:2-3.** What test accurately assesses if something is truly from the Lord?

3. What test guarantees it is of the spirit of the antichrist?

4. Read **1 John 4:4.** Restate this verse in your own words.

4. Read **1 John 4:5-6.** Describe the differences between the people of the world and the people of God?

5. Which group ***listens to the Spirit of truth?*** Which group ***listens to the spirit of error?***

6. Read **1 John 4:7.** According to this verse, why should we ***love one another?***

7. Read **1 John 4:8.** According to this verse, why is an unloving person unloving?

8. Read **1 John 4:9.** This verse tells us that God sent his only Son into the world, so that ***we might live through him.*** What determines if we do, in fact, ***live through him?***

9. Read **1 John 4:10.** What does the word ***propitiation*** mean?

10. Read **1 John 4:11.** What is the motivating factor for us to love others?

11. Read **1 John 4:12.** How is God's ***love perfected in us?***

12. Read **1 John 4:13.** What is the proof that ***we abide in God and he abides in us?***

13. Read **1 John 4:14.** What is it that believers should be ***testifying to the world?***

14. Read **1 John 4:15.** What confession guarantees ***that God abides in us and we abide in him?***

15. Read **1 John 4:16 (NIV):** ***And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.*** According to this verse, how can we show that ***we rely on the love God has for us?***

16. Read **1 John 4:17.** According to this verse, ***how may we have confidence for the day of judgment?***

17. Read **1 John 4:18.** According to this verse, ***what casts out fear?***

18. Read **1 John 4:19.** Why are we able to love?

19. Read **1 John 4:20-21.** When you read these two verses, what truths are made perfectly clear to you?