

## **1 John 2:3–11**

## **Loving One's Brother in the Faith**

*Mahatma Gandhi is quoted as saying “I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ.” At one point he wrote, “It is a first class human tragedy that people of the earth who claim to believe in the message of Jesus, whom they describe as the Prince of Peace, show little of that belief in actual practice.”*

***The entire point in being a follower of Jesus, a disciple of Jesus, an apprentice to Jesus is to reflect the life of Jesus! We often fall short merely due to a lost focus on what it means to love like Jesus.***

### ***Read Passage***

#### ***A. Words and Actions (1 John 2:3–11)***

##### **1. Our words and actions matter. Period. (2:3–6)**

- A. Knowing God means we live like God
- B. Living like God means living according to God's teaching

##### **2. These words are not “brand new” or “novel” but part of creation itself (2:7–8)**

- A. Darkness is the absence of light
- B. God is Light itself and bring Light to His Creation

##### **3. Hate and Love are antithetical (2:9–11)**

- A. Hate is the absence of Love
- B. Love is a sign of Light, specifically God's presence
- C. A child of God cannot hate his brother

#### ***B. How, then, does a person love?***

**1. Follow the Message heard from the beginning (3:11–12)**

- A. Lay down your life for others (3:16)
- B. Be generous with your world possessions (3:17)

**2. Live a life seeking other's reconciliation with God (4:9–11)**

- A. Love seeks reconciliation
- B. Reminder: Love comes through actions, not merely words (3:18)

**3. Inhabit God's Love (4:15–21)**

- A. Live your life in the full reality of Jesus' Identity (4:15)
- B. Fully step into God's love for you (4:16)
- C. Fully step away from thoughts of God punishing his child (4:17)
- D. Love because you are loved (4:19–20)

***C. What does it mean to love like this? (5:16)***

**1. Pray for those in your faith community who are living in God's love**

***The entire point in being a follower of Jesus, a disciple of Jesus, an apprentice to Jesus is to reflect the life of Jesus!***

**Three Things we Know 5:18–20a**

- 1) God keeps those to whom He has given Life**
- 2) We are of God (when we love others)**
- 3) We know Jesus is the Son of God**
- 4) Only in the Life God offers through His Son will I be able to Love others in Truth**