

# Know That You KNOW GOD

(A Study Through 1 John)

Desert Breeze  
Community Church

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Ray Davis

## CONDITIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP “Love One Another” (1John 2:7-11)

Some people are easier to love than others. The gospel frees you to love people who hate you without needing love from them in return. All the love you need you have in Christ. It is the love you have been looking for your whole life! (Matt5:43-48)

### TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER IS...

#### Both an Old and New Commandment. vv7-8

- It is OLD because God commanded His people in the Old Testament to love Him and others. v7; Ex20; Matt22:34-40
- It is NEW because Christ Jesus gave us the highest expression of love we'll ever see. V8; Rom5:8; Eph5:25

#### The overflow of joy in God that gladly meets the needs of others. -JP John13:1-20; 1John3:16

- Love is being others directed because you already have your prize. Ps63:3
- Love is concerned about all suffering especially eternal suffering. Luke10:25-37; 2Thess1:8-9
- Love is both the desire and effort to make others everything God intends for them to be. Matt22:39

#### The Distinguishing Mark of a Christian. vv9-11; John 13:34-35

- To say you are a Christian and to hate anyone is to still be in darkness. v9; 2Cor4:4; Eph4:31-32

- To love others is evidence you've made your home in Christ's love. v10; 2Cor4:6
- To make your home in Christ's love gives you every reason to live a life of meaning, hope, and happiness. v10c; v11

Pro4:18-19 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. <sup>19</sup>The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.

### Growing Notes

- 1) Why do you think it is so hard to love some people? Do you believe the Gospel frees us to love people who hate us without needing love from them in return (Matt5:43-48)? Have you ever had a time when you were supernaturally able to love someone who was hard to love? Explain.
- 2) Read 1 John 2:7-11. What is your observation (what does it say) of this text? How is loving one another both an old and new commandment (vv7-8)? Why does God command us to love one another? How is the Gospel the greatest love story of all times (Eph5:25; 1John 3:16)?
- 3) What does it mean that love is the overflow of joy in God that gladly meets the needs of others? Love is others directed and concerned about all suffering especially eternal suffering (Luke 10:25-37; 2 Thess1:8-9). Explain. What are some ways that you can help to make others everything God intends for them to be?
- 4) Why is love the distinguishing mark of a Christian (vv9-11; John 13:34-35)? How is saying you're a Christian and at the same time hating someone a major contradiction? Why is hatred evidence you are still in darkness (2Cor4:4; Eph4:31-32)? What are some steps you can take to abide in Christ so that you can love others more and have no cause for stumbling (vv10c, 11)? Pray that you would be a people who truly love one another.