

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

A STUDY IN FIRST JOHN

Week 11

CONFIDENCE

1 John 3:19-24

Review:

- The Apostle John wrote 1 John when he was in his 70s or 80s.
- He was the last living apostle at the time of this writing.
- He wrote from Ephesus to the surrounding churches.

The WHY? The reasons John wrote this letter:

1. To encourage true Christian belonging (1 John 1:3)
2. To help believers experience true joy (1 John 1:4)
3. To help believers avoid falling into patterns of sin (1 John 2:1)
4. To guard believers from false teaching (1 John 2:26)
5. To allow believers to know with certainty that they are children of God... forever! (1 John 5:13)

1 John 3:19-24

Summary

Demonstrating our love for others by actively helping in times of need gives us confidence that we are a child of God and reassures our relationship with Him. But when believers feel that they have fallen short, God's great love and the testimony of the Holy Spirit give us needed confidence and assurance. Our relationship with God is based on what He did for us, not what we do for Him.

Observations

- Helping another Christian in need is tangible evidence that we are a child of God (1 John 3:19).

- Conviction is remedied by _____ (1 John 1:9) and _____ in God's great love (1 John 3:20-21).

- God's great love allows us to approach Him with confidence and boldness (1 John 3:22).

- Believers live by a "compressed creed": We believe in the "name" of God's Son Jesus Christ ("name" refers to all Jesus is, said, and did) and we demonstrate our love for God by loving one another (1 John 3:23).

- Even when we fail to obey and love others in "deed and in truth" the Holy Spirit - who lives within us - reminds us that we are a child of God (1 John 3:24; see Romans 8:14-16).