

You've Got to Love Both

August 9, 2026

Target Passage → 1 John 4:20-21

1. Why is loving fellow believers such an important test of whether our love for God is genuine?
2. What is the difference between struggling with someone and “hating” them in the sense John describes?
3. Why might it sometimes be easier to say “I love God” than to love the Christian sitting across the room from us?
4. John connects the God we cannot see with the brother or sister we can see. What does that teach us about making our love for God visible?
5. Does loving another believer mean agreeing with them - or even liking them?
6. How does Jesus raise the standard of love in John 13:34-35?
7. How can we love someone while still maintaining appropriate boundaries?
8. What role does the Holy Spirit play when loving someone feels beyond our ability?
9. Think privately about a fellow believer whom you find difficult to love. What would loving that person actually look like?
10. A challenge - If someone observed only the way you treat your brothers and sisters in Christ, what evidence would they see that you love God?