

WSU Christian Challenge Study Guide
1 John 3:11-24
10/14/2021

If you were to give a definition of love as it is understood in our secular American culture today, what would it be? What are some of the important components of this love? What are some of the central objects of this love (i.e. what things do people love)?

The Revelation of Love (v. 16)

- How does John define and illustrate true love in this passage?
- How is this love similar or different than the common, secular definition of love?
- What does it mean to know God's love in Christ not simply as an example but as Divine revelation?

The Response of Love (v. 11-18, 23-24)

- John warns us not to be surprised if living out the response of love for God and others draws hatred from the world. What might that look like in the world today?
- Why is it important to love "in deed and in truth"? What are some ways you could love one another in deed? In truth? What might make that difficult?
- How does understanding God's love for you in Christ empower you to "lay your life" in love for one another?

The Reassurance of Love (v. 19-22)

- When you fall short, what are some of the lies you are tempted to believe in your heart?
- What does John mean when he says, "whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything"? How is this to be an encouragement for us?
- What promise or truth has God given us that combats the lies you are tempted to believe when you fail?
- What might it look like for you to "talk back to your heart" and to the enemy using this promise?

- What do you need to do this week to live in the cycle of revelation → response → reassurance?