



# GROWTH GROUP SERMON CURRICULUM

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Assured | January 12th 2020 | 1 John 3:11-18

“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”  
—1 John 3:18

## FROM THE TEXT

- Read 1 John 3:11-18. John refers back to the story of Cain and Abel. Read Genesis 4: 1-16. What connections should be made between our text and Genesis 4:1-16? Why do you think John has this story in mind as he pens God’s words to the first century church?
- How does 1 John 3:16 fly in the face of Cain’s response toward his brother? How does 1 John 3:16 fly in the face of the world’s response to adversity and rivalry with others? (examples for leaders: the world’s response will manifest as jealousy, pay back, revenge, taking things into our own hands, etc.)

## FROM THE SERMON

- Pastor Chris drew out 3 requirements from the text that are needed in order to love our fellow Christians. Which of these 3 hit home and convicted you the most? Explain.
1. Vision (the eyes to see the needs that others have.)
  2. Action (actually taking steps to meet the needs of others.)
  3. Sacrifice (placing the needs of others above my own wants and needs.)

## FOR YOUR LIFE | APPLICATION | ACCOUNTABILITY

- What are examples in your own life when your speech (word or talk) imply love and concern but are void of any action (deed and truth)? Think about your relationships: marriage, kids, friends, co-workers, neighbors, elderly parents, strangers, etc.)
- The apostle John and Pastor Chris both clearly point us back to the gospel as our motivation for loving others. What is the danger that can so easily occur when we loose sight of the gospel ([that] He first loved us...1 John 4:19) as our motivation for loving others? (examples for leaders: legalism, boasting, burnout, others?)

## PRAYER FOCUS

- Be reminded of the gospel in prayer.
- Ask God to forgive us for not loving others in deed and truth.
- Pray that God would bring to mind others that have needs that we have overlooked, and that he would give us the vision, action, and sacrifice that we have seen in our savior.

