



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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### **1 John 3:18-24 Study Hints for Discussion**

#### **[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#)**

are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

#### **1. What did John mean when he distinguished between not loving in word and speech but loving in truth and action.**

He meant that we should not just talk about loving others or preach about loving others, but actually love others by doing what we wisely can to promote their happiness and wellbeing. What we do to show our love for others must be according to the truth of the Bible and the example and teachings of Jesus; otherwise, we might take unwise actions and do harm.

**2. From what you know about the teachings in John's letter so far or other parts of the Bible, what is one way you can love in truth?**

We can love in truth when we share the good news of Jesus Christ with someone who does not trust in or obey Jesus as Lord and Savior. We can love in truth when we follow Jesus, obey Jesus' commands, and live as a godly example before the world as the Bible teaches.

**3. From what you know about the teachings in John's letter so far or other parts of the Bible, what is one way you can love in action?**

We can love in action when we help those who cannot help themselves; such as widows and orphans or those who are slaves of sin.

**4. How can a follower of Jesus know that they are from the truth?**

If our heart (our conscience) condemns us for having sinned and we repent, we know we have not hardened our heart. If our heart (conscience) does not condemn us, we know we can pray to God with boldness and we do. The Spirit of Truth within us will show us that the true God abides in us.

**5. What must you do to receive whatever you want from God?**



4. What are the two parts to the commandment of God?

5. What did John write about those who obey God's commandments? Compare what he wrote with what Paul wrote about the bodies of believers being the temples of God. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 6:19, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?"

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