

Don't "Almost Love"

1 John 3.10-24

Focus: having confidence before God because we love one another in our time of need and don't give in to hate

Resources:

Here is a wonderful article by Francis Schaeffer that you could have your group read:

<http://www.ccel.us/schaeffer.html>



NW's 2018 Priority

Bought: we belong to Christ!

we want to ...

- be captivated by the truth that we belong to Christ, that we are His people and...
- be in awe of this privilege...
- respond in willing obedience...
- invite others to join us!

Discussion:

- read the passage. How does this passage strike you on hearing it read aloud?
- (v. 12) How would you describe the "way of Cain"? How can we be lured down that path in our relationships with other believers?
- (v. 16) Compare and contrast the "way of Cain: with the love of Christ? How is our grasp of Christ's generous love for us related to our love for one another? In light of that, how can we better fuel our love for others?
- In v.17, John challenges us not to close our hearts to a brother (or sister) in need. What tempts you to close your heart? What helps you overcome that?
- How can we be tempted to settle for "Almost loving" instead of truly loving (v. 17)?
- How are our obedience and prayer related (22-23)?
- Pray against the "way of Cain" finding root in your lives and in our broader church family. Pray about specific ways to show love in deed and truth with those in need.

Missional Opps! Challenge your group to love a neighbor well at one of these events!

- Scout a decent couple of movies and take a neighbor to the **Raleigh Road Drive-in** in Henderson! <http://www.raleighroaddrivein.com>