

What are you prepared to lay down for others?

III. Love that stoops calls to action. Verses 17 –18

“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?”

IF WE ARE GOING TO HELP OUR BROTHERS WE MUST MEET THREE CONDITIONS.

First – We must have **material** possessions enough to meet his need

Second – We must know that our brother's **need** exists

Third – We must **love** enough to share with our brother.

James 2: 15 – 16

“Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, “Go I wish you well; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?”

Key: *The phrase: “has no pity on him” means in Greek, “close up our insides against him.”*

Physical Needs = Means to **sustain** life.

Conclusion:

“Of all forms of caution, caution in love is perhaps the most fatal to human happiness.”

--Bertrand Russel, Philosopher

Would you a person to love one another with a love that stoops and heals and lifts --- in Jesus Name?

First Church of God

Sept. 9, 2012

**Sermon Outline
Pastor, Robert G. White**

“Love That Stoops”

I John 3: 4 – 10

⁴ Everyone who breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness, ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Dear children do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. ⁸ He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's works. ⁹ No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seek remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. ¹⁰ This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; neither is anyone who does not love his brother.

Introduction:

Love is the fruit of the Spirit.

John 13: 34 – 35

“Love one another ... all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

I. Love That Stoops Proves New Life in Christ

I John 3: 11 – 15

¹¹ “This is the message you heard from the beginning; We should love one another. ¹² Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brothers were righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised my brother, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

¹⁵ Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.”

John contrasts love with hatred.

Verse 12 Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brothers were righteous.

Verse 13 ¹³ Do not be surprised my brother, if the world hates you.

Our world resents **righteousness**.

Verse 15

Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

- A. **Hatred** is sin.
Anger, bitterness, and contempt are just as serious in God’s eyes as **murder**.
- B. **Hatred** is murder in embryo form.
“For we wish him to die whom we hate.”
– John Calvin
- C. **Hatred**

Verse 14

“We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. the missions.”

Key: Love is not the cause of our passing over into life; it is the **proof** that we have passed from death to life in Jesus Christ.

Spiritual life does not come from loving our brothers, but love **for** our brothers is evidence of spiritual life.

Key: Love does not persecute **God’s people**.

.A person who truly loves his brother will not do the following:

- Criticize
- Backbite
- Spread rumors
- Down grade
- Attack
- Abuse (spiritually)
- Gossip
- Be envious
- Stand against
- Hurt
- Destroy
- Murder
- Dislike
- Oppose
- Talk about
- Hate

Isaiah said, “Stop doing wrong; learn to do right.”

II. Love the stoops patterns after Jesus.

John defines love. (verse 16) “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.”

God’s love is action, not a feeling.

Key: The Greek for, “we ought to lay down our lives” suggest a present, on-going, continuous laying down of our lives for one **another**.