**Brentwood Baptist Church
Jesus Looks Like...the Gospel 6/26/2022**JOHN 3:16; • 1 JOHN 3:11-24 • JUNE 26

**MAIN POINT**
Love is defined for us through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Only an inauthentic faith is
characterized by hatred.

**I. Ice Breaker Questions:**-What is love? What is love not?
-Do you think that we, even as Christians, sometimes confuse what love is and love
isn’t? Why or why not?
-Why do you think love is such a defining mark of the true disciple of Jesus? What
does the presence or absence of love communicate about our faith?

Love is perhaps the most defining characteristic of the true disciple of Jesus. When we love, as God defines love, we show that we have truly experienced the love of God in Christ. Conversely, hate is a mark of inauthenticity. John acknowledged the existence of hatred, but also claimed that the expression of true love is evidence of an authentic salvation in Christ.

**II. READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE:**

1 JOHN 3:11-15
Cain and Abel recognized the need to worship God, and each brought an offering to Him. Each man gave according to his own profession. God approved of Abel’s worship. In contrast, the Lord did not give approval to Cain or to his offering. According to John, Cain hated Abel because Abel was righteous, and he was evil.

Genesis 4:1-16. Hebrews 11:4

**III. READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE:**

1 JOHN 3:16-18

Because love is defined by Jesus, we know that true love is both sacrificial and substantive; it is costly and demonstrated. When we love another, we are willing to sacrifice our comfort, desires, and preferences for their sake. And because we are, this kind of love is more than just an expression; it is a solid demonstration of an inner condition

**Questions to Guide Your Group’s Discussion**What does this passage say?
What did this passage mean to its original audience?
What does this passage tell us about God?
What does this passage tell us about man?
What does this passage demand of me?
How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (How can you
use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?)
How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?