

<sup>15</sup> Everyone who hates another believer is a murderer, and you know that a murderer doesn't have eternal life.

17) How do we know that we have passed from death to life?

18) What is the result of not loving other believers?

**1 John 3:16 (GW)** <sup>16</sup> We understand what love is when we realize that Christ gave his life for us. That means we must give our lives for other believers.

19) How did Jesus show his love for us according to this verse?

20) How are we to love others according to this verse?

**1 John 3:17-18 (GW)** <sup>17</sup> Now, suppose a person has enough to live on and notices another believer in need. How can God's love be in that person if he doesn't bother to help the other believer? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, we must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words.

21) How are we to love others according to these verses?

22) Why is love the answer to God's purpose for our lives?

## God's General Purpose

**Ezekiel 33:11 (GW)** <sup>11</sup> "Tell them, 'As I live, declares the Almighty Lord, I don't want wicked people to die. Rather, I want them to turn from their ways and live. Change the way you think and act! Turn from your wicked ways! Do you want to die, people of Israel?'"

1) What does God want for all people? Why?

**John 6:35-40 (ESV)** <sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. <sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

2) What is God the Father's will for Jesus?

3) What is God the Father's will for us?

4) How does this look in our lives?

**1 Timothy 2:1-4 (GW)** <sup>1</sup> First of all, I encourage you to make petitions, prayers, intercessions, and prayers of thanks for all people, <sup>2</sup> for rulers, and for everyone who has authority over us. Pray for these people so that we can have a quiet and peaceful life always lived in a godly and reverent way. <sup>3</sup> This is good and pleases God our Savior. <sup>4</sup> He wants all people to be saved and to learn the truth.

5) What does God want for all people?

6) What is our first responsibility in bringing this about?

**Matthew 22:37-39 (GW)** <sup>37</sup> Jesus answered him, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and most important commandment. <sup>39</sup> The second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”

7) How does praying for people to come to faith in Jesus reflect loving our neighbor as ourselves?

**John 14:15 (GW)** <sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will obey my commandments.

8) What is a result of our loving Jesus? Why?

“Many have rightly said that it is impossible for a man who loves God to say, “No, Lord,” because if Christ is truly our Lord, we cannot refuse him. “ - Henry Blackaby

9) Would agree or disagree with Henry Blackaby? Why?

**John 14:21 (GW)** <sup>21</sup> Whoever knows and obeys my commandments is the person who loves me. Those who love me will have my Father’s love, and I, too, will love them and show myself to them.”

10) How does someone get to know Jesus?

11) What is the result of knowing Jesus?

12) What is the promise of loving Jesus?

**John 15:12-14 (GW)** <sup>12</sup> Love each other as I have loved you. This is what I’m commanding you to do. <sup>13</sup> The greatest love you can show is to give your life for your friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you obey my commandments.

13) How does Jesus want us to love others?

14) How does Jesus love us?

**1 John 3:1 (GW)** <sup>1</sup> Consider this: The Father has given us his love. He loves us so much that we are actually called God’s dear children. And that’s what we are. For this reason the world doesn’t recognize us, and it didn’t recognize him either.

15) How much does God love you?

16) Why doesn’t the world recognize you?

**1 John 3:14-15 (GW)** <sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love other believers. The person who doesn’t grow in love remains in death.