

2 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. **2** He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Love and Hatred for Fellow Believers

3 We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. **4** Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. **5** But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: **6** Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

7 Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. **8** Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. **10** Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. **11** But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

Reasons for Writing

12 I am writing to you, dear children,
because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.

13 I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.

14 I write to you, dear children,
because you know the Father.
I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God lives in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

Step 1: Pray

Step 3: Read the Scripture aloud together.

- Also, if in personal study, read aloud to yourself too.
- Make notes on the passage by hand
 - Underline, circle, draw arrows...etc.

Step 4: Read the passage again silently making observations on the passage

- Share the Observations with the group (if in a group setting)

Step 6: Read the passage again silently while making interpretive notes

- Share those with your group

Step 7: Read the passage again silently while looking for areas of conviction and application

- Share some with the group

Step 8: Close in pray together