

Two tests to increase assurance (I John 2:3-14)

Introduction

- How many tests does John give us in his letter?
- What sorts of situations do John's words address?
- How many times are "knowing" words used in I John?

i The test of obedience (v3-6)

- Why can it be hard to preach I John?
- Which passage from I John has already said much the same as v3-6?
- What are the two contrasting ways to live given in these verses?
 - i)
 - ii)
- What is the best evidence that someone is a Christian?
- Do we need to be 100% obedient to assure ourselves that we are Christians?
- Where does the test of obedience leave you?
- What is an alternative way to translate v5?
- How do people today tend to think about love and obedience?
- What does John say about love and obedience, though?

- Which verses spoken by Jesus say the same thing?
- What, then, will love for the Lord cause us to do?

ii The test of love (v7-11)

- Which verse spoken by Jesus outlines John's old-and-new commandment?
- What are the two contrasting ways to live given in these verses?
 - i)
 - ii)
- What is true of a person who claims to be a Christian but who hates other people?
- What does hatred do to people?
- What can only be true of people who love?
- Where does the test of love leave you?

Conclusion (v12-14)

- What do these verses show about how John thinks of his readers?
- What are some of the things which are true of those who are Christians?
- What verse do you need to put into action if you have failed John's tests?