



THE LETTERS OF JOHN

Biblical marks of the true fellowship P2

Session Number: 5 | Week: 1 | Day: 5

Bible Passage

1 John 3: 11-24

Introduction

In chapter 1, John 3: 11-24, we continue to focus on understanding the principles of fatherhood and sonship in a fellowship. We also look at the qualities of abiding in a fellowship with the Father and the other siblings. In this session, we will consider the last two marks of true fellowship: maintaining brotherly love and a confident connection with the Father.

Session Objectives

By the end of this session, the learner will have:

- Understood the principles of fatherhood and sonship by listing the truth in 1 John 3: 1-3.
- Described the last two marks or characteristics of abiding in the Holy Communion, fellowship by listing points from the verses. (Purity, right living, brotherly love and confident connection with the father -source.)

Session Outline

- Principles of fatherhood and sonship
- How to abide in a true fellowship
- Marks of holy communion, fellowship

Connecting

- Study together in a group of two or more people.
- Begin with a prayer, asking God to bless your understanding.
- Read the passage at least twice using different Bible versions, then retell the story among your group members.
- Share the challenges and blessings from the previous day.

Comprehending

- Read 1 John 3: 10b-18. What did John reveal about the third characteristic of Holy Communion/fellowship, brotherly love? Give a wrong example and the right example of brotherly love.
- Read 1 John 3: 19-24. What did John reveal about the fourth mark of Holy fellowship or Communion called being confident before the father, not condemned before him?
- What will you do with the lessons learnt

Committing

- Engage with the Bible—read, study, memorize, meditate, pray, listen, and live it out.
- List three lessons you learnt as an agent of change that you would practice and teach others about
- Take time and worship Jesus with the attributes revealed about Christ now.
- Engage SPACEPETS model, to do something after the session. Look for:
 - **Sin** to confess
 - **Promise** to claim
 - **Attitude** to change
 - **Command** to keep
 - **Error** to change
 - **Prayer** to make
 - **Example** to copy
 - **Truth** to obey and
 - **Something** praiseworthy

Communicating

- Identify one person and share the lessons you learnt in this session?
- Visit or call a new believer and Pray with them over the issues they are struggling with. Issue of attending the church.
- Form another group and repeat this study.

Audio Summary

1 John 3:11-24

- **Context:**
 - John defends biblical fellowship against heresies denying Jesus’ incarnation, which fueled immorality, using Luke 15 brothers to reflect Jews/Gentiles in a tainted church.
 - Four pillars stabilize fellowship—purity and righteousness covered; now brotherly love and connection to God.
- **Pillar of Brotherly Love (1 John 3:11-18):**
 - Love one another, as taught from the start (v. 11); unlike Cain’s murderous hate, driven by jealousy (v. 12), Jesus’ sacrificial death models true love (v. 16).
 - Hate equals murder, lacking eternal life; love acts with compassion, not mere words (v. 14-18).
 - Mercy glues fellowship—love counters heresy’s division.
- **Pillar of Connection to God (1 John 3:19-24):**
 - Truth assures hearts before God, despite condemnation (v. 19-20); obedience to His commands—believe in Jesus, love others—yields confidence and answered prayers (v. 21-23).
 - God’s Spirit confirms mutual abiding with Him (v. 24).
 - Mercy anchors believers to God’s presence, sustaining fellowship.
- **Application:**
 - Uphold fellowship by loving brothers sacrificially and staying connected to God through His Spirit and commands—mercy overcomes heresy, preserving unity and mission.