

1 John 3:11-5:4

Don't be surprised when the world hates you, 3:11-24

Why should Christians not be surprised at hatred from the world, v11-15?

Sometimes hatred from the world creates such tension that it spills over into disputes with other believers, but what sorts of attitudes and behaviour are to mark our lives together in the church family, 3:16-18?

As we battle to love one another, and face the challenge of our condemning hearts, what can we take confidence from v19-24?

Don't believe everything you hear in church, 4:1-6

How can we spot false teaching, according to these verses?

False teachers can use the Bible and speak about Jesus, so what will help us to be discerning in this, v5-6?

Let's love one another instead 4:7-5:4

How does John describe God's love in this section? How does this make you feel?

How does this enable us to love one another?

What confidence does this section give you?

Thinking it through and living it out

What practical steps can you take this week:

- a) To be wise about false teachers

- b) To love others in the church family?