



# *I John 2:7-11*

## Scripture Memory

### I John 1:3

*That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

## Sunday School Lesson Notes

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### Key Thoughts

*The contrast between “saying” and “doing” is one we have met before (I John 1:6, 8, 10; 2:4, 6). It is easy to practice a Christianity of “words”—singing the right songs, using the right vocabulary, praying the right prayers—and, through it all, deceiving ourselves into thinking we are spiritual. This mistake also ties into something Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:33-37). What we say should be the true expression of our character...So, if we say we are in the light, we will prove it by loving the brethren. Many Christians urgently need to be accepted, loved, and encouraged.*

Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary: New Testament, Volume II* (Colorado Springs, David C. Cook Publishers, 1989), p. 489.

## Questions to Consider

*As you answer the questions and prepare for Sunday school, carefully read the following passages: I John 2:7-11, 3:10-24 and 4:7-21. Throughout those passages, notice John's use of the words "life," "love," and "light."*

1. In this lesson we will explore how John focuses on a commandment that is both "old" and "new." According to Deuteronomy 6:5, Leviticus 19:18, and Mark 12:28-24, what is this commandment?
  
2. In I John 2:8, John explains that the command to love one another was "true" in Christ, and that believers must follow Christ's example of love (i.e., must be "true" in us as well). What reason does John give (and expands upon in the following verses) for believers following Christ's example of loving one another?
  
3. According to I John 2:9-11, "light" goes with "love" as "darkness" goes with \_\_\_\_\_?
  
4. I John 2:9-11 presents three individuals. Based on John's description, what are the results and/or realities of these three individuals?
  - The individual whose claim of walking in the light contradicts his or her conduct (verse 9):
  - The individual who loves his or her brother; notice this individual's one positive reality and one negative reality (verse 10):
  - The individual whose hatred is his or her outstanding characteristic; note the reality of his or her condition and result (verse 11):

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## Truth to Ponder

*It is important that we understand the meaning of Christian love. It is not a shallow sentimental emotion that Christians try to "work up" so they can get along with each other. It is a matter of the will rather than an emotion—an affection for and attraction to certain persons. It is a matter of determining—of making up your mind—that you will allow God's love to reach others through you, and then of acting toward them in loving ways. You are not to act "as if you loved them," but because you love them. This is not hypocrisy—it is obedience to God.*

Warren Wiersbe, p. 487.