

Lover. . . or Liar?*Series – A Study of I John**– I John 4:17-21 –***1. Perfected Love Brings Confidence** (*vss. 17-18*)*Following John's train of thought. . . four points:**(a)**(b)**(c)**(d)***2. Perfected Love Empowers Obedience** (*vss. 19-21*)*The three LIES John confronts:**(a) Moral**(b) Doctrinal**(c) Relational***Application Questions. . .**

1. What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
2. When it comes to our life in the family of God, which comes easier for you: Understanding how my Father loves me, *or* Loving those my Father has adopted? Why?
3. How is obedience out of fear of punishment and obedience out of a love for God very different motivations?
4. Look at vs. 19 again. What does it mean that God first loved us and why does it matter? How does love that *responds* to God's love differ from love that tries to *initiate* God's love?
5. Carefully read through Ps. 86. How might David's perspective and response to God in this psalm help balance a healthy fear of God with the confidence to come before Him without fear?
6. Looking back at this passage, is there anything that comes to mind about God that you need to fear less? . . . fear more?

