



NEW TESTAMENT • GENERAL LETTERS

1 John

Truth and love belong together.

AUTHORSHIP · Traditionally John; closely connected with the Johannine writings.

DATE & CONTEXT · Often dated AD 80–100.

The big picture

First John helps a troubled community recognize life in fellowship with God. The reality of Jesus Christ, honest confession of sin, obedience, and practical love provide recurring tests. Assurance rests in God's faithfulness rather than a claim to moral perfection. Love is not vague sentiment: it meets a brother's or sister's need. God's prior love makes truthful and generous living possible.

Words to carry

"We love him, because he first loved us."

1 John 4:19 · KJV

Live it

01 Confess a real failure without excusing it or surrendering to shame.

02 Turn affection into practical help for someone in need.

03 Read a difficult conversation through the paired commitments of truth and love.

Pause & reflect

Where can I respond to God's love with love that costs something?

Original SELAH37 introduction. Read the text in context; historical dates and attributions are approximate.

Scripture: King James Version. Public domain in the United States; Crown rights apply in the United Kingdom.

Continue online: <https://selah37.com/books/1-john>