

1 JOHN

Chapter 2 Bible Study

Day 2 (Week 5)

¹ My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. ² He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments.

⁴ If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. ⁵ But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

A New Commandment

⁷ Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment for you; rather it is an old one you have had from the very beginning. This old commandment—to love one another—is the same message you heard before. ⁸ Yet it is also new. Jesus lived the truth of this commandment, and you also are living it. For the darkness is disappearing, and the true light is already shining.

⁹ If anyone claims, “I am living in the light,” but hates a fellow believer, that person is still living in darkness. ¹⁰ Anyone who loves a fellow believer is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. ¹¹ But anyone who hates a fellow believer is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.

¹² I am writing to you who are God’s children because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus. ¹³ I am writing to you who are mature in the faith because you know Christ, who existed from the beginning. I am writing to you who are young in the faith because you have won your battle with the evil one.

¹⁴ I have written to you who are God’s children because you know the Father. I have written to you who are mature in the faith because you know Christ, who existed from the beginning. I have written to you who are young in the faith because you are strong. God’s word lives in your hearts, and you have won your battle with the evil one.

Do Not Love This World

¹⁵ Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a craving

for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. ¹⁷ And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

Warning about Antichrists

¹⁸ Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the last hour has come. ¹⁹ These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us.

²⁰ But you are not like that, for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth. ²¹ So I am writing to you not because you don't know the truth but because you know the difference between truth and lies. ²² And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. ²³ Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

²⁴ So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. ²⁵ And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us.

²⁶ I am writing these things to warn you about those who want to lead you astray. ²⁷ But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.

Living as Children of God

²⁸ And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame.

²⁹ Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God's children.

Study Guide Questions

1. Who will be our advocate and plead our case to God the Father, when we sin? (V1) _____

2. Whose sins did Jesus atone for (make amends for) when He died on the cross as a sacrifice? (V2) _____

3. How can you tell if someone knows Jesus? (V3) _____
4. What is a person called when they say they know God, and yet they don't obey God's commandments? (V4) _____
5. If God lives in you, how should you live? (V6) _____
6. What is the new commandment that was given to us by Jesus, and also demonstrated by Jesus, when He suffered and died for the sins of everyone? (V7) _____
7. How do you know if someone that claims to be living in the light of Jesus, is still really living in darkness? (V9) _____
8. What do you "not" have inside you, when you love the things that the "world" offers you? (V15) _____
9. John the apostle broke "the world" down into three categories. What were they? (V16) _____

Note: When the bible refers to the "world", it means "the morally corrupt system in place in this world that is opposed to God, and ruled by Satan". The world was put in three categories by John the Apostle (through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit) ...

1) The lust (strong desire) for physical pleasure. This refers mostly to the lust for sex apart from marriage, but also refers to any sort of selfish or greedy cravings simply to satisfy one's physical desires. **2) The lust for things we see.** The NLT Study Bible calls this "bowing to the god of materialism". This area of the world has to do with the sins of "craving and accumulating" possessions. **3) Pride in our achievements and possessions.** This refers to the inward (meaning in the heart) and the outward boasting based upon one's status or the possessions they own.

10. There is a way to live contrary to "living for the selfish desires of the world", and it is to "do what please God". What will the result be if you live to please God? (V17b) _____
11. What did John warn the Church about in verse 18 and 19? (V18,19) _____

Note: Verse 18 and 19 talk about how the Antichrist will be coming, and that many such antichrists have appeared. What they are referring to are the False Teachers that come into the Church and deny 1) That Jesus is the Christ ... 2) That Jesus is God's Son ... and ... 3) That Jesus is God incarnate in human form. During "The Last Hour" (meaning the time between when Jesus arose, until the time He returns), many such false teachers (or antichrists) will show up in the Church (cults).

12. Instead of being misled by false teachers, John tells us what we should listen to instead of being led astray? (V26,27) _____

13. What can we do to remain full of courage, instead of being full of shame - when Christ returns? (V28) _____

Reflection/Application: What is the one thing that really stood out to you, and how can you apply it to your life? _____

Prayer Guide: Based upon the second part of the Lord's Prayer (*May Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven*), Pray for God's will (His plan and His ways) to be done in your life, and in the life of those around you.

Answer Key

1. Jesus Christ, the One who is truly righteous, is our advocate.
2. Our sins and for the sins of everyone (all people).
3. If they obey His commands.
4. They are called "a liar".
5. Like Jesus did.
6. Love one another (other believers).
7. If they hate a fellow believer.
8. You don't have the love of the Father inside you.
9. A craving for pleasure, a craving for possessions (things), and pride in our achievements and possessions.
10. You will live forever.
11. The antichrists that are already in the world.
12. We should listen to the Holy Spirit that lives within us, and He will teach us what is true.
13. We can remain in fellowship with Christ now.