

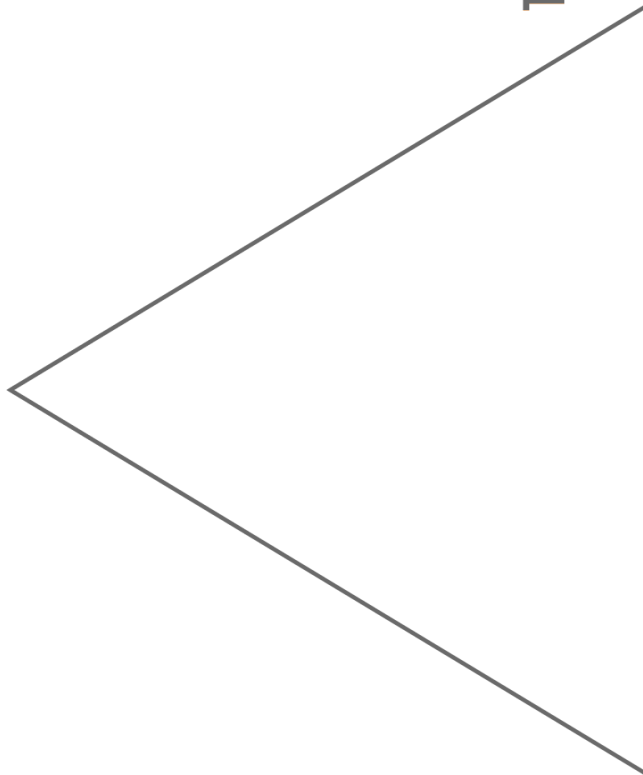


1 John

Sunday, May 15, 2016

How can I KNOW we have eternal life? How can I KNOW we have a genuine faith? How can I KNOW if I am really a Christian? First John was written so that we might KNOW. The apostle John says there are 3 tests to KNOW if you are really a Christian and have eternal life . . .

DO I _____ JESUS IS
THE _____ OF GOD?



DO I _____
THE _____
OF GOD?

DO I _____
THE _____
OF GOD?

1. The _____ Test: Do I _____ Jesus is the _____ of God?

Who Jesus _____ and what Jesus _____ are bound together.

The Gospel depends on a Savior who is _____ and _____.

2. The _____ Test: Do I _____ the _____ of God?

keep His _____ vs. keep on _____

walking in _____ vs. walking in the _____

loving _____ vs. loving the _____

3. The _____ Test: Do I _____ the _____ of God?

Real love involves _____.

Real love meets _____.

Real love involves loving people who are _____ than you.



1 John

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Connecting Together

Take some time this week to share and care for one another. Share joys and struggles.

Studying God's Word Together

1. Read the book of 1 John. As you do, look for the 3 "tests" John gives us so that we might KNOW we have a genuine faith and eternal life: the doctrinal test, the moral test and the love test. Where did you notice them?
2. We are living in a day of doctrinal squishiness, where many are questioning and denying essential Biblical doctrines. John says that belief in Jesus as the Son of God is essential to Christian faith. If someone doesn't believe this, they aren't a Christian and don't have eternal life. Why are the full humanity and full deity of Jesus essential for our understanding of the Gospel?
3. Are keeping God's commands and loving God's children things we do to earn our salvation? How do we know, based on 1 John 2:2 and 4:7-10? If not a way to earn our salvation, why are obeying God's commands and loving God's children "tests" and what do they "test"?

4. Many today say they love God and trust the Gospel and yet they have no involvement with God's children or a local church. What would John say to that?
5. What should we do if we fail one of these "tests"? Is the answer to try harder and focus on obedience and loving? Or is the answer to go back to the Gospel? Do you notice some of the many places where John takes us back to the Gospel?
6. Which of the 3 tests was most challenging for you personally?

Household/Family Focus: for discussion in your household

Explain the John "triangle" together as a way to understand the book. Share how obeying and loving both flow from understanding who Jesus is and what Jesus has done. Talk about how we can know we have eternal life.

Prayer Together

As you pray for one another's needs, pray for your own and our church's commitment to the doctrine of Christ, obedience to God's Word and our love for one another.