

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

I JOHN 2:7-11

Lesson 5

REVIEW:

How has the study of I John 2:1-6 affected your walk with Christ?

FIRST DAY:

Read and study I John 2:7-11 inductively. See pages 5 and 6.

SECOND DAY: Read I John 2:7,8

1. John uses terms of endearment to address his readers. He began this chapter with the words *little children* or *dear children*. What word(s) does he use to begin this section of Scripture?
 - a. The actual Greek word used here means *beloved ones*. The word *loved* is one used of God's love, so that the meaning John is attempting to express is *Divinely loved ones* or *Ones loved by God*. How are you impacted when you think of yourself as being one of God's loved ones?
2. List what you learn about the *commandment* from verse 7.
3. This was not a *new* commandment. John himself heard Jesus proclaim it many years before he wrote this letter. Many centuries before Christ's birth, God gave a similar commandment. Write this commandment from Leviticus 19:18b.
4. The commandment of love is really both *old* and *new*. It is *old* because we have had this commandment *from the beginning*. Yet, it is *new* because, in the unfolding of our Christian walk, it has developed *new* power and meaning. What did Jesus say about this commandment in John 13:34,35?

- a. In what ways is *love* an indication that we belong to Jesus Christ?

Challenge: Explain how this same law of love is different now that Christ has come.

5. Fill in the blanks from the last part of verse 8. *Because the darkness is _____, and the true light _____.*
 - a. Think of some of your reactions to others before you met Christ. What does it mean to you today that *the darkness is past, and the true light now shines* in your heart?

Personal check up:

*Agape love is profound concern for the well-being of another,
without any desire to control the other, to be thanked by that other, or to enjoy the process.*

.....How are you doing?

THIRD DAY: Read I John 2:9

1. John continues his contrasting *light* and *darkness* in verse 9. Describe the one John is referring to in this verse.
 - a. *Hate* is a strong word. List some synonyms for this word.
2. How is the *old life* described in Titus 3:3?
 - a. What made the difference according to Titus 3:4,5?

FOURTH DAY: Read I John 2:10

1. Describe the one who *abides in the light* from I John 2:10.
 - a. Read I Corinthians 13:4-8 and list the attributes of *love*.

Personal: Which ones do you need to work on the most?

2. All families have conflict, tensions, selfishness, and willfulness to contend with. This is also true of the family of God on earth. In what way does I John 1:10 encourage you to resolve these conflicts?
 - a. Share practical ways of doing this.
3. The word *stumbling* in this verse refers to a trap or snare that causes one to fall into sin or error. The meaning is not that he gives no occasion of stumbling to others, but that there is none in his own way. How would loving others keep a person from stumbling?

*But whoever loves his fellow man is walking in the light
and can see his way without stumbling around in darkness and sin.
- I John 2:10 TLB*

FIFTH DAY: Read I John 2:11

1. John does not recognize a gray area between *love* and *hate*. Just as when a person does not accept Jesus, he is rejecting Him. If we are not loving others, John labels our indifference as *hatred*. How is the one who *hates his brother* described?
2. What is the effect of walking in the darkness of hatred?
 - a. Explain in a practical way how hatred blinds a person.

- b. Who blinds those who walk in hatred? 2 Corinthians 4:4
 - c. How does the blindness of hatred distort a person's perception of the one he/she hates?
3. How would harboring hatred in our heart affect our confidence in our salvation?
4. What does Proverbs 4:19 say about those who walk in *darkness*?
- a. Compare this verse with the last part of I John 2:10. What makes the difference?
 - b. If loving others is so beneficial and hating others is so detrimental, why do you think we often fail to love as God commands us to?

Those who deserve love the least, often need it the most.

SIXTH DAY: Review I John 2:7-11

1. According to I John 2:7-11 how important is it for Christians to *love one another*?
2. Jesus expanded the meaning of love for others in the following Scriptures. Who do they include and why?
- a. Matthew 5:(43) 44,45
 - b. Luke 6:27,28,32,35
 - c. What is your response to this?
3. In what way have you been most challenged by these verses?

*God loved the world.
Go and do likewise!
-E.W. Lutzer*

I John 2:7-11

VERSE

WHAT THE VERSE IS SAYING

- 7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.
- 8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.
- 9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.
- 10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.
- 11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

Who

When:

What:

Where:

Why:

How:

What does this passage mean?

How does it apply to you personally?