

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

I JOHN 2:12-14

Lesson 6

REVIEW:

In what ways did God speak to you through last week's lesson on love?

FIRST DAY:

Read and study I John 2:12-14 inductively. See pages 5 and 6.

SECOND DAY: Read I John 2:12-14

1. In this section, John suddenly moves from writing about various ways of testing true Christianity. John's purpose in writing is to not only expose the counterfeits, but to assure the true believers. There is a sense here that he stops for a moment to clarify to his readers that he is not accusing them of walking in darkness or that he doubts the reality of their faith. What was your first impression after reading I John 2:12-14?
2. John points to the believers' spiritual growth as an encouragement to fortify their (and our) faith. John indicates three stages of spiritual growth and development identified by his terms of endearment used in these verses. What are they?
 - a. I John 2:12, 13c
 - b. I John 2:13a, 14a
 - c. I John 2:13b, 14b
3. Record the assurance-building words by completing the phrases in the following verses:
 - a. I John 2:12 *I write unto you , little children, because* _____
_____.
 - b. I John 2:13a *I write unto you, fathers, because* _____
_____.
 - c. I John 2:13b *I write unto you, young men, because* _____
_____.
 - d. I John 2:13c *I write unto you, little children, because* _____
_____.

e. I John 2:14a *I write unto you, fathers, because* _____
_____.

f. I John 2:14b *I write unto you, young men, because* _____

_____.

3. I John 2:12-14 contains a message applicable for all Christians regardless of their stage of spiritual development. Whether you are new, young or mature in the Lord, you can be fed and nurtured through this lesson. Write a prayer asking the Lord to open your heart and mind to the rich treasures in His Word that you might grow in your knowledge of Him and become spiritually stronger and stronger as His Word abides in you.

Progress toward spiritual maturity is grounds for assurance.

THIRD DAY: Read I John 2:12

1. In I John 2:12 John writes to *little children*. What are all believers called in the following Scriptures:
 - a. Gospel of John 1:12
 - b. Gospel of John 13:33a
 - c. Romans 8:15, 16
 - 1.) What are some of your favorite names that God calls you?
2. According to I John 2:12, what should all believers know for certain, regardless of their spiritual age?
 - a. The forgiveness of sins is a glorious blessing which should cause every believer to rejoice. What do these verses say about being forgiven?
 - 1.) Psalm 103:(10), 12
 - 2.) Isaiah 43:25
 - 3.) Micah 7:(18), 19
 - 4.) Ephesians 1:7
3. The Psalmist declared in Psalm 32:1a, *Blessed (Oh, how happy) is he whose sin is forgiven...* What does knowing your sins are forgiven mean to you?

- a. What was it like when you did not know your sins were forgiven?

If God were not willing to forgive sin, heaven would be empty!

FOURTH DAY: Read I John 2:13, 14

1. John moves on to speak to the *fathers*. *Fathers* are those who have been in the faith a long time. Write what you learned about them from I John 2:13 and 14.
 - a. Read I John 1:1, 2 and identify the One Whom they *have known from the beginning*.
2. The word *known* here is *gnosko*, to know by experience. Since our spiritual maturing depends on knowing God, what are some of the ways we learn to know Him?
 - a. The pursuit of every Christian should be to *grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ* (2 Peter 3:18). Describe Paul's pursuit from Philippians 3:8-10.
 - b. What characteristics indicate spiritual maturity to you?
3. According to Titus 2:3-5, what are the responsibilities of the spiritually mature women of the church?
 - a. How do these verses challenge you to encourage and minister to those who are younger in the Lord than you are?

FIFTH DAY: Read I John 2:13, 14

1. The next group of believers John addresses is the *young men*. These are believers who were not new in the faith, but had progressed in their walk with the Lord. Record the commendations given to the *young men*.
 - a. I John 2:13b, 14d
 - b. I John 2:14b
 - c. I John 2:14c

2. The secret of the *young men's strength* is found in I John 2:14c. Print it in bold letters.
 - a. *The Word of God abides in you* is the necessary key to spiritual growth and victory. How do the following verses support this?
 - 1.) Psalm 119:9
 - 2.) Psalm 119:11
 - 3.) Psalm 119:24
 - b. How has the Word of God made you *strong*?
3. *Strength to overcome* Satan is part of the salvation given to every believer. What incredible deliverance takes place when a believer commits his life to Jesus Christ?

*I will delight in the law of the Lord. I will meditate day and night.
Then like a tree firmly planted I'll be grounded in His Word.
.....Satisfied. Oh, so satisfied!
-W. Harrah & J. Schreiner*

SIXTH DAY: Review I John 2:12-14

1. What does it mean to you to be a *child* of God?
2. John commended the *fathers* for *knowing Him that is from the beginning*. What is the difference between knowing about God and *gnosko* knowing Him?
3. The Word of God is meant not only to be understood, but it is also intended to be incorporated into our very lives. Describe the difference it makes when the Word of God *abides* in a believer.
4. Summarize the message of this portion of I John and share how it has spoken to you.

*I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven....I John 2:12a
Praise the Lord, little children. Praise the Lord!*

I John 2:1-6

VERSE

WHAT THE VERSE IS SAYING

- 1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous:
- 2 And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.
- 3 And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.
- 4 He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
- 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him.
- 6 He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.

Who:

When:

What:

Where:

Why:

How:

What does this passage mean?

How does it apply to you personally?