



1 John 3:1-3

¹ See what love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

How we LIVE reveals whom we LOVE.

John 14:15 [NLT]

"If you love me, obey my commandments."

- Jesus

1 John 3:4-9

⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. ⁸ The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. ⁹ No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Obedience is an issue of LOVE

1 John 3:16-18

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need new LIFE in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “FAITH” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

For Further Reflection:

:: *What about our ‘All You Need Is Love’ conversations has impacted you?*

What’s one way you’ve lived differently as a result of this?

:: *How did this weekend’s message encourage and challenge you?*

:: *Reread 1 John 3:1-3.*

:: *What about this passage encourages you the most?*

:: *How does your identity as a child of God shape how you live?*

:: *What do you think John means when he says, “all who have this hope in him purify themselves?”*

:: *Pastor Justin said, “How we live reveals whom we love.” How do you see this truth lived out in your relationships with those you love?*

:: *What about your life today reveals to others your love and surrender to God?*

:: *Re-read 1 John 3:4-9 and John 14:15 and consider the truth that obedience is an issue of love. How do you see these passages directly linking our love for Jesus to our obedience? How does Jesus model this in his love for the Father?*

:: *Re-read 1 John 3:18. What is one practical way you will express your love with ‘actions and in truth’ this week?*

Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

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As part of our journey through the book of 1 John, we invite you to engage in a 25-day bible reading plan that leads you through all of John’s writings. Go to www.bible.com or your YouVersion Bible App and search for “Writings of John”. Invite a few friends from your circle and let’s continue learning together!



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