



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 1st October 2017

Series- Marked By Love Prt 4

Living as a child of God

10 This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister. 1 John 3:10.

1. Children of God practice obedience to Christ. (1 John 3:4-10)

2. Children of God love one another. (1 John 3:11-18)

3. Children of God have confident assurance (1 John 3:19-24)

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read 1 John 3:4-10. According to this section of John's letter, what defines a child of God and what defines a child of the devil? And how is the work of Christ defined in verse 8?
2. Read 1 John 3:11-18. In this section of scripture John encourages love by using the contrast of Cain and Christ. What does he say about Cain and Christ and how is that contrast used by John to encourage the practice of love?
3. Read 1 John 3:19-24. What does John say about having confidence before God in this section of scripture? What do you think John means by- "God is greater than our hearts?"

B. Meditation & application

4. John seems to think that obedience is important to our Christian discipleship. How do you think that you can grow in obedience to Christ? Is there anything in your life currently that you need to grow in obedience in? What would it look like for you to obey Christ in this area?
5. John believes that love is fundamental to Christian discipleship. Can you see any opportunities to demonstrate the love of God toward others within the church at the moment? In the coming week- maybe you could do one or two practical things for no other reason than to demonstrate the love of God to someone else in the church family. Perhaps you could do the same for one other person you know who does not know Christ or have fellowship with him.
6. What does it mean to you personally right now that God is greater than your heart? How is your level of assurance or confidence before God currently- how would you measure such a thing and what does your knowledge of God the Father, the Son and the Spirit say to you about personal assurance?
7. The Devil is mentioned on a few occasions throughout this section of scripture. What does John say about him and how does the work of Christ respond to him? How do we appropriate the victory of God in Christ against the enemy in our Christian life?

"Dear Heavenly Father; We thank you for sending you son Jesus Christ. We thank you that in him you conquered sin and Satan and his works and effects. We recognize our sin and spiritual frailty but we also acknowledge our confidence in the work of Christ on our behalf. Please protect us from the evil one. Help us to obey, love and grow in boldness and assurance before God. In Jesus Name- Amen.