

Recognizing Children of God

I John 3:10-18

John's Summary of the Christian Life (Chapters 1-2)

- **Jesus Described:** the "Word of Life," "Eternal Life," as God's Son committed to true "Fellowship" with God and those who are children of God (1:1-3)
- **Our Calling as Christians:** to be "Light" in the World (1:5-10) and to manage our "Sin Nature" with the help of Jesus (1:7-2:2)
- **Our Priorities:** "His Commands and Being Like Him" (2:3-6); "The New Commandment" (2:7-11); "Love of the Father" (2:15-17); "Living consistently with the "Anointing of the Holy Spirit" we have received that establishes our rebirth as children of God (2:20, 27)

**What would people see in our life
if we were fully surrendered to Jesus?**

Recognizing God's Children (I John 3: 10-18)

1. The Apostle John embraced the teaching of Jesus that life is lived to distinguish whose children we will be: His or the Devil's. (John 8:32-38)

- Abiding in Jesus means learning the truth about life and God's will for us so that we can live with freedom from the lies people believe in this life. (John 8:31-32)
- When we live a life doing things dishonoring to God, it is evidence of our slavery to principles that will ultimately separate us from God into eternity. (John 8:33-37)
- Our life will be defined by a choice to live life informed by Jesus rather than the Devil; the father of lies. (John 8:38-47)

Our lives are influenced by unseen spiritual beings. Though we cannot see them, we see their influence in the things we believe. We need Jesus to help us discern the difference between lies and truth.

2. Children of God are easily identified by their commitment to practicing righteousness and loving the family of God.

(I John 3:10-18)

- 1) **Practicing Righteousness** (I John 3:10)
Romans 3:21-26
Matthew 1:19
Matthew 5:6, 10
Matthew 25:37-40
Luke 23:50-52
- 2) **Loving the Brethren** (I John 3:10-18)
John 13:34-35
John 15:10-17

Am I Growing as a Child of God?

- **Do I value the life of all people as much as God does?**
- **Am I committed to always doing what is right for others regardless of cost to myself or what others think?**
- **Am I learning to sacrificially display concern for and love of all people without partiality?**
- **Am I devoted to regularly serving the family of God utilizing my abilities and spiritual gifts to help it grow?**

What are some things I can practice that display my commitment to being righteous in the lives of others and loving my Christian brethren?