

That You May Know

Knowing That We Know — 1 John 2:3-6
February 3, 2019

And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. - **1 John 2:3**

I. HOW DO WE REALLY KNOW?

- John gives us three tests to help us determine our standing with God. A moral test (vs.3), a relational test (2:7-11), and a doctrinal test (2:18-27).
- We fight against sin and self-doubt when we obey God (John 8:31-32; 13:35).
- How do we obey God? We keep his commandments (vs. 3), we keep his word (vs. 5), and we abide in him (vs. 6).
- The proof is in the fruit, not in the words (vs. 4; Matt. 3:8-10; 7:15-19; John 15:7-9, 16).
- “To know” is a very important phrase for John. He uses two verbs to express the phrase, and does so 40 times in five chapters.
- To say “I know him” and then to consistently disobey him makes us liars (vs. 4; Matt. 7:15-20; 7:21-23, 24).
- When we keep God’s word (read “obey”) the love of God is made complete in us (vs. 5).
- We know love only as a by-product of the love that has been shown to us (John 15:9; 1 John 4:7-11).
- We know we are Christ-followers when we abide in (remain with) Jesus and follow in his footsteps (vs. 6; John 15:1-17).

II. NOW WE KNOW...NOW WHAT?

- When we have confidence, we can act (Gal. 5:16-25).

KNOW: We know Jesus by the grace of God through faith, but we demonstrate that we know him by our actions. To say “I know Christ” but to refuse to obey him as Lord is to be a liar.

DO: Obey Christ as Lord of your life.

Suggested Reading:

Loving God by Chuck Colson (LifePoint Library #248.4 COL)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read **1 John 2:3-6**

1. What is John’s main point in this passage?
2. Why do you think so many struggle with an assurance of their faith in God?
3. What would your counsel be for a person who claims to know Jesus but clearly does not follow him who asks you “what should I do?” Does it matter how long they have claimed to know Jesus?
4. Why does John keep telling us that people who do not back up their words by their actions are “liars”?
5. How do we love God?
6. Do you know God in Christ? How do you know?