



Water, Blood and Spirit - A Study of 1 John

Discussion Guide: Week 2 - 1 John 2:1-14

Summary of this week's teaching: This week we examined Jesus' ongoing role as our heavenly Advocate and the propitiation for our sins. John then goes on to explain that if we truly love our incredible Savior that we will not only know His commandments, but that we will keep them (live them out). John brutally points out that true followers of Jesus (as opposed to liars and hypocrites) live lives like His. This includes loving other people, even our enemies.

Connect: Relational questions to get conversations started.

1. Our God is so good! Take some time to share how you experienced His goodness this week.

Seed: The Bible, God's inspired Word, is very much like a seed- it contains everything we need to experience Life. Please read the following passages of scripture as a group: (perhaps in two different translations) 1 John 2:1-14, Romans 3:21-26.

1. What do we learn about Jesus in these passages?
2. What do we learn about ourselves in these passages?

Roots: Like subterranean tree roots which extend in all directions searching out water, each believer needs to grow and develop spiritual roots that allow us to make personal connections with our God.

1. A fundamental element of keeping God's commandments/Word is knowing them. How have you engaged with God's Word this week? What did you learn?
2. John refers to His audience as "little children" and "beloved." What words do you think God uses to describe His affection for you, and why?

Trunk: Without trunks, plants may be large, useful, and beautiful but they are not trees. So it is with us - without faith we are not saved and cannot please God. These questions will help us grow our faith in Him.

1. Faith is not merely knowing the right answers. As John makes painfully clear, faith is equally about acting in obedience to the teachings of the written and living Word. In which of these areas does your faith need to grow?

Crown: Crowns are the glory of a tree; the culmination of the roots and trunk working in harmony and can be seen for miles around. The crown of a tree well represents the visible portion of our faithlife. These questions will encourage us to apply these principles into our everyday lives.

1. Knowing God's commands and His Word is imperative - but no more so than acting upon them. What are one or two things that you can do this week to walk more fully in obedience to Christ, walking in the way in which He walked?

