

BOOK BY BOOK SERIES – VOLUME 1

1 JOHN

The Book of 1John begins the series titled '**BOOK BY BOOK**.' The Word of God is precious, informative, and powerful. It is so much more than a verse or two to recite (not that it is bad to memorize scripture – just the opposite WE SHOULD MEMORIZE scripture). Each verse relies on connecting verses, meaning: we must take scripture in context. Context is text, data, or surrounding conditions to help explain and expound on the meaning and the relation of the words to each other.

As an author, I felt a desire to dive into each book with new 'eyes' and attempt to maintain a focus for the specific book I am studying, all the while knowing, scripture works together and the sum of the 66 books of the bible rely in each other to form God's gift to us – His Holy Word.

Each volume in the entire series is laid out through individual 45 Day Interactive Journals, providing you the opportunity to collaborate with the pages.

By applying the principals found in 1John you will begin a new understanding of the book, as you draw closer to God in word and prayer. Yes, we totally recommend prayer being your study partner. Each day, ask the Holy Spirit to bring to light what HE has for YOU. If you are anything like me, each read will present a brand new nugget and you will memorize scripture just so you can arouse the joy of God's Word in your every moment. And sometimes when those moments get gray and hazy – these verses will light your way to enjoyment of life and the amazing relationship you are building with Christ.

I welcome you to this study and look forward to our time together. Excitement abounds as we bring this interactive study to you and feel sure you will gain new insights and find intently studying the Word of God has a special place in YOUR everyday life.

Using the Journal

Our Journal is set up for a six (6) week study plus three days for personal insight/awareness. See details regarding the daily study on the next page. We have also included a GOAL Page to help you set some goals.

The February study is Pre-Spring and allows completion before the summer sets in and vacations begin. The September study is Pre-Winter and set to allow completion before the winter holidays take over our mental power.

Why Interactive?

We included the word interactive in the description because we deeply desire for you to do just that...*interact with the study*. Talk to it (on paper or aloud – whatever works for YOU); this helps guide you as you grow. Don't we always have room to draw closer to Christ? I say yes...This is one of my life charges. Christ is the answer for all areas of my life. So, please ladies join me and interact!

Following is a page to print and keep handy or highlight and markup to help you stay focused and on point - allowing you the opportunity to begin strong and finish stronger.

45 Day Interactive Journal - Guidelines

Welcome to your 45 day journal experience!

Day 1 Your 6 week journey begins with an Introduction.

We recommend using this day to get acclimated to the journal design. Become familiar with the layout and skip through the pages, scriptures, and pictures. Read your introduction then...pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart now for the weeks ahead... Sit back, Relax and Smile.

**ACTION
EMPOWERMENT**

Day 2 Set some journal goals.

Don't worry; we will help you get a jumpstart in case you are at a slight loss when it comes to setting goals. We are sure you want to **LIVE your journal** instead of simply 'going through the motions'. Your Goal Page is designed to move you into 'Action Empowerment', a process which will enable you to achieve your goals. Begin thinking now because Day 3 will be here before you know it.


Day 3 Begins the 4 week interaction.

All of our Journal Studies are designed using a weekly format; you can personalize your journal page to use the days you study. Using a daily journal, you can mix it up with any number of days during the week to complete the weekly segment. To get the most out of your journal, we recommend no less than 3 divisions within your weekly segment. For example: You want to divide your week into 3 sessions, pick out your days and read/journal the number of days combined so that your 7 day week is completed in 3 segments, be sure to leave day 7 for review. Most studies will have 5 days of topics. This leaves 1 day for reflection and 1 day for Worship Service. By picking out your day and allowing yourself limited flexibility, you are not tempted to shove it all in quickly, thereby decreasing your chances of success. Time is important. Intent studying takes time and concentrated effort. Life is busy, we get it, however we strongly encourage you to stay faithful to your journal. Your Goal Page includes working through setbacks. When designing the Goal Page we realized there can be times when setbacks happen. When they do, refer to your goal page to get back on track.

Day 45 WOW you did it!

Celebrate today and know that the key to getting the most out of this interactive experience is not only the weeks you journaled but your reflection and future sight. Today becomes a day of looking back with forward thinking. Spend some time reviewing your thoughts, ideas, and your goals. Remember...it was & is ok to adjust those goals. Self-reflection can reveal needed goal adjustments. Make the adjustment(s) and move forward. Whether you journal with tears or smiles, may your journal move you closer to your walk with Christ.

Goal Page



Zig Ziglar, American author, salesman, and motivational speaker, told a story of not having goals as being like a basketball team trying to win without having a 'goal'. Those of you that know basketball (and some that know little) know that the 'goal' is essential. Players score points by shooting the ball through the goal. Without a goal where would they shoot the ball? The same is true for other sports. A Goal is crucial to winning. Goals, or as others call them...ambitions, objectives, targets, intentions and end points help us to reach a preset destination. Getting Our Achieved Life Success.

Maybe you are not familiar with goals or even setting goals so you are asking, "What are goals and how do we achieve them?"

By definition, a goal is the end to which effort is directed (Merriam Webster). That being said, it is achieving the goal which becomes the focus of our efforts. To determine how we achieve a goal we must first define the goal. Our research provided us with 4 types of Goals:

Choice Goal - A goal to narrow your attention

Effort Goal - A goal that produces

Persistence Goal - Helps you work through set backs

Cognition Goal - Leads individual to develop and change behavior

Answering these few questions can help you set some goals:

HOW, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE...

How can I use this study to develop/change _____? (An attitude, outlook on situation or life happening)

What actions do I need to take in order to achieve this goal?

When do I need to set this action/focus in place?

Where do I need to address this goal? (Personal, family, business, spiritual, physical)

When planning, setting goals, and journaling try to use positive words and constructive language. This not only points to a more productive attitude but provides you with enticing and enlightening ideas.

Feel free to use the following to help set your goals. With time you will soon be very aware of your goal choices. Setting goals will affect the outcome and enhance your journaling experience. Each week as you use your journal ask yourself these questions:

What is the basic/fundamental event or teaching?

What is God telling me about Himself?

What is God telling me about my relationship with HIM?

How does this apply to my life now/in the future?

Day 1**Introduction**

Your Interactive Journal has arrived... We are so very glad you have chosen this study and we welcome you to these exciting times! Spend today glancing over the pages, stop and read scripture, glide through the pages at your personal pace. Jot down thoughts you may have, because tomorrow is 'Goal Setting Time'.



Day 2**Set Goals**

You have had a few moments to review the journal and hopefully have jotted down some thoughts. Setting goals for this interactive experience will help you put your thoughts into action. Living your realized potential can be one of many perks from this experience. You may see a verse that spoke of a better attitude or made you think of a relationship area with someone or maybe one subject topic keeps playing in your mind. Take today and consider these, then decide where you believe God is pointing you. Set that goal and remember goals can be adjusted. However, don't allow that point to give you permission to not strive for your goal! Go ahead now, Make that Goal.





1 JOHN

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Introduction

The **BOOK BY BOOK** series includes individual studies based on each book of the Bible and uses the King James Version throughout the entire series. **1 John** begins the *Interaction Bible Study*, in the series **BOOK BY BOOK**.

Living in any close relationship requires the parties involved to ‘know’ each other. There are casual and intimate relationships. Sometimes we are in a ‘casual’ relationship with Christ, for he knows us, but we don’t really know him in an intimate way. We are practicing the relationship in a superficial, indifferent, and nonchalant manner. We outwardly and occasionally connect or associate with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Sure we have trusted in HIM as Savior, but how close are we? What do we KNOW about him? How often do we listen to him by reading his Word? How often do we talk to him intently – not fly by prayers, but intensely praying in praise and supplication? The answers to these questions reveal your position in your relationship with the Trinity. Positive answers? Great, let’s learn some more. Not so great answers, no worries, join in and move forward into a wonderful intimate relationship.

The series **Book by Book** was designed to encourage bible study and help believers **live** the nuggets found as they study **1 John** and the series.... **BOOK BY BOOK**



WEEK 3 – CHAPTER 2

Book by Book Series 1John

Age, Passion, Love, and Concern

We ended last week with verse 9 of chapter 1 giving us the promise that if we “confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Great, right – absolutely! However, before you go jumping up and down celebrating YOUR freedom, there is verse 10 addressing those that believe they have no sin... “If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” I agree we should celebrate our grace and mercy. We should also be aware that it is possible that we slip into an attitude of self-sufficiency and perfection just as the believers in this book.

John, with his concern and love for the believers jumps right in and addresses the believers. One book I have read regarding this book, as I have quoted in previous lessons, I would like to quote again. It sets the stage for the attitude in which John is writing to the believers. **The Daily Study Bible Series – The Letters of John and Jude** William Barclay, published by Westminster Press Philadelphia, speaking to the age of the writer: “So often age gets out of sympathy with youth; so often in age there is an un-understanding severity, even an impatient irritableness with the new ways and the lax ways of the younger generation.” I can attest to this being a true statement. I remember in my younger years the music we listened to was not tolerated by the elder generation. My mom would shake her head and make an ‘under the breath’ noise telling us that the music was just horrible and why do we even like it...we went on and listened, with parents permission. Now I see from the other side of the fence. New music causes me to shake my head and the impatient irritableness jumps into play.

John was aged as he wrote this letter and as Barclay states in his book, this ‘un-understanding’ and impatient irritableness is not the case with John. “...there is nothing but tenderness for those who are his little children in the faith. Again, he is writing to tell them that they must not sin. But he does not scold; there is no cutting edge in his voice; he does not deal in invective and lash them with his tongue. He seeks to love them into goodness.”

We would do well to model ourselves in this attitude. Just a side note here – I had to look up the word ‘invective’ – it means abusive language or using abuse.

Let’s begin our daily time with that thought in mind. Whatever your age maybe be there are younger ones that will have a different viewpoint. Remember younger is not always physical age it is also spiritual and emotional age. This chapter will provide direction to ABIDE in Christ.

DAY 1 OF WEEK 3:

Abide in Him – Verse 1-6

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: ²And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our’s only, but also for the sins of the world world. ³And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. ⁶ He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”



The Advocate is introduced to us in the first verse directly after the tender introduction from John. Take this stance to heart as you examine yourself throughout this study. The point of the letter is that you (we) sin not. John knows that it is impossible to live without sin so he provides the knowledge immediately to them (us)...we have an ADVOCATE WITH the Father – Jesus Christ the righteous. An advocate is more than a human friend. This advocate is Jesus Christ, the one that paid our sin debt. He is righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins.

A few short word descriptions here will help to hone in on the point.

Advocate: someone who support or speaks in FAVOR of – a helper acting on another’s behalf – a legal representative.

Righteous: justifiable/accepted of a standard (for the purposes of the bible writings this is the standard in which God looks upon – His statutes) strictly moral - in biblical terms without sin.

Propitiation: to fulfill the favor of someone – (the purposes of the bible writings this is Jesus Christ paying the blood sacrifice, which God required for sin/transgressions).

This is vital in our relationship with Christ as you move forward as a believer. Understanding the reason Christ died is vital. In short, and please know this goes very deep into understanding however the gospel is very simple yet complex only if you try to over analyze the gift of God. God made man and set forth some laws (rules, if you will) for mans protection from himself. (You will see more a bit later today.) With any law or rule there must be a consequence or what good is the law/rule? Since man sinned in the garden of Eden and that sin fell on the entire future population, God required a blood sacrifice to atone (make up for) the sin or transgression. This blood sacrifice had to be spotless and without blemish – thereby providing to God the perfection he required. Living by the law and bringing the sacrifices each year was a requirement for the Jewish people. Our all-knowing God provided a way for ALL (not just the Jews) to live eternally with Him. He provided the sinless, righteous, propitiation – our Advocate, Jesus Christ! Accepting Jesus is easy – John 3:16 gives us that *“For God so love the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* When you trust in Christ as your savior you are accepting him into your life and thereby receive his mercy and grace.

Take a few moments and consider what these three words mean to you. Write down a short phrase, sentence, or even a few target words to give you strength when needed. These words are your power words.

POWER WORD	MY FOCUS
ADVOCATE	
RIGHTEOUS	
PROPITIATION	



Verse 2 ends with the phrase, “and not for our’s only, but also for the sins of the whole world.” This signals to the people then and now that Jesus did not die just for a select group. He paid the sin debt for ALL. A great point for you to remember as well for a few reasons:

- 1) You can know nothing can hold YOU back from having Christ as YOUR Savior. Nothing you have done can keep you from his grace and mercy – you must believe and accept him to receive his precious salvation.
- 2) Sometimes we can get to a point of thinking more highly of ourselves than we should. This section of verse points up to the reality that we are not the ONLY one Jesus died for on the cross. It is a haughty spirit that can allow pride to overrule our attitude.
- 3) This verse section also shows us others are out there and we should strive to lead them to the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ.

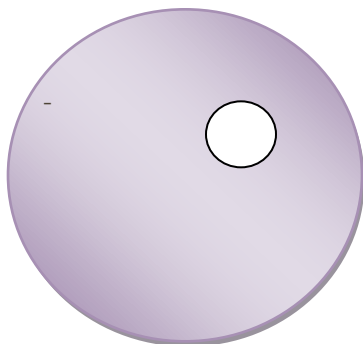
These next few verses can almost seem like a restate of chapter 1 because we get back into the ‘know him’ and ‘liar’ as well as how we are to walk, as a believer. This is another signal of the writers love and tenderness for these believers. He is restating what he sees they need in an attempt to draw them into a deeper fellowship with Christ, so that they can realize the truth is or is not truly or fully in them.

⁴He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

“But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected...”

Look at what happens with we keep the word of God. The LOVE OF GOD is PERFECTED!!! Wow O Wow. To think that just because you keep his word, which by the way builds your happy life, also perfects the love of God. What does that mean?

God’s love to us is open-ended in that, he loves us no matter what. He is LOVE and He LOVES YOU. That is only one side of the equation, for you math people... what is the rest? Do we love him? Saying yes is one thing but living yes is the other side of the equation. Closing the equation is loving him back enough to keep his word and thereby closing the truth of that love. His love is without fault – it is complete and whole when we keep his word. Think of a spot, it can be basically any solid shape you want, now put a hole in it...it is no longer COMPLETE AND WHOLE. What is in your life that puts a hole in God’s COMPLETE love?



What is causing me to put a hole in Gods Love?



We end the day with verse 6 showing us that if we are ‘saying’ we abide in Christ (reside and live at home in peace – no struggle) then we OUGHT to ourselves WALK even as Christ walked.

⁶ He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”

I would like to direct you back to last week, Day 3, YOUR WALK. Get your notes and maybe even take the sheet out and revisit your walk. I know it has only been a few days, but Satan can slip in and trip you up quickly. Need to make any adjustments? Make them below. No adjustments? Great, make a plan to stay on target. Make some POWER words below.

POWER WORD or ADJUSTMENT	MY FOCUS

DAY 2 OF WEEK 3: Light and Darkness – Verse 7-11

A new commandment, you say?

⁷ Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning. ⁸Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

Reading the first two verses seem to be a conflict. “*I write no new commandment...Again, a new commandment I write unto you...*” One thing we can be sure of with the word of God – there are NO conflicts. The old commandment was from the Old Testament times referring probably to the 10 commandments and “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself...” it was a law they knew and if transgressed they paid the sacrifice each year. When Jesus came and lived the unblemished life of love the fact of ‘living love’ was taken to a whole new level. There was a sinless love. It is a love without strings. It is also a love with mercy and grace. Have you ever tried to give love, mercy, and/or grace to someone that transgressed against you? Not an easy task without exercising the



love of Christ. Yet, they practiced their way of loving their neighbor before Christ. It was the way of the time. Enter Christ, and a new commandment was born. The new commandment brought a selfless love and passion. A care for other that we see John totally adapted within his life. For now he was giving this type of love to the believers as he told them how the commandment THEY were following was in the past and the TRUE light now shines – the light of Jesus Christ. With his tender tone he began addressing another issue. The issue of how they felt regarding their brothers in Christ. Remember the Jews believed the Gentiles were beneath them and were worse than a second class citizen. As they looked upon their fellow believers they did not have the love of Christ. Take a few moments to think about how you, personally look upon others in all areas of differences. ***This includes not only race, religion, and social status, but includes mental, physical, and emotional abilities or lack thereof.*** You must remember that we are not the role model for others – Christ is the true role model.

⁹ He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. ¹⁰He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.



I have heard many a messages on the light and the darkness. The simplest example has been the one showing a dark room and one small speck of light changes the appearance of the once dark and dreary room/atmosphere. In verses 9-11 John goes into the love/hate comparison to parallel light and dark. Note as you read these verses that John is using the same word, 'abideth' (dwell in, reside at home in PEACE) as he is giving this charge. He is pointed in saying that if you say you are IN the light but you HATE your brother – YOU are in the dark even NOW – right this moment – in this very instance – YOU are in DARKNESS. OUCH!! Ok, I hear some of you saying, "Well, I don't really 'hate' anyone" Well, here are a few synonyms for hate: detest, can't stand, can't bear, dislike...ever use those words? While we may not like some – isn't that in itself 'dislike'. God's meaning of love was so intense that he gave his only begotten son to pay the sin debt for us and he expects us to love as Christ loved. I hope you are able to see the relation in this old/new commandment and you can redirect your response to others.

Personal story here: As I get older I realize I am not as 'sure footed' as I once was. There are times my joints (pick one) gives way. It is part of aging, I am told. However, I am making adjustments to lessen the happenings, which is beside the point of not being 'sure-footed'. This can cause me to stumble. Take the simple definition of 'stumble', to review what happens to you should you not love as Christ loves: trip over, walk unsteady, speak or act in a confused way, and the list goes on - consider your walk with Christ. How is it going in this area? Do you stumble when someone speaks or acts in an unfair way to you? What about the highway or city driving even, yes God cares about our entire life... While I am thankful I have not fallen to the ground literally, I think we can all admit to a stumble or more that may have caused us to 'eat dirt' as they say. Stumbling is, at times, exasperating for sure. My dear friends this is how God views our inability to love others – as a stumbling point. Verse 10 John says, "*none occasion of stumbling in him.*" How do you get this no stumbling? The simple answer if given right in front of this infuriating result: "*He that loveth his brother abideth in the light...*" You are not just casually IN the light you are ABIDNG in the light – you are at peace, at home, in your safe place.



I challenge you to think of someone that you feel as if you do not like – they irritate you – they have wronged you, etc. you get the picture. Remember we are to LOVE as Christ loves... As you think of these people (review the suggested types in the blue sentence above) – write them (by name and/or type) in the section below and find a prayer verse to help you love them as Christ loves. Note what you believe the Holy Spirit is telling you.

Name/type/status	What the Holy Spirit is showing me

Verse 11 continues the previous thought and adds a very pointed charge. Read the verse below, catching the key phrases ‘knoweth not’, ‘whither he goeth’, and ‘darkness hath blinded’ all relating to HE THAT HATES...

11But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.”

Throughout this entire section, vs 7-11 John is trying to explain that you must love as Christ loves and there is no grey area. You either love or hate – you are in light or darkness. Verse 11 provides you a picture of that darkness – it is a place that you cannot even tell where you are going BECAUSE the darkness of hate has blinded your eyes.

Accept this knowledge and turn your eyes to Christ – love as he loves – abide in the peace, grace, and mercy of Jesus. Pray that you will love others and live in the light seeing where to go, what to say, how to respond, having the right attitude – continue this segment with your own charge to yourself:

My personal charge: _____



DAY 3 OF WEEK 3:

The World passes away/the Will of God Abideth For Ever – verses 12-17

"¹²I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake. ¹³I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father. ¹⁴ I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

I write unto you and I have written unto you? Confused??? Why the change in tense? Isn't he basically saying the same thing? This is the question several writers have addressed. Some will say this is the same thing and he is simply reinforcing his statement while others believe he purposefully set the first verses (12 & 13) in the present tense to direct the writing to his exact now writing and what he is saying at that time, and then in verse 14 he was separating what he had previously stated and reiterated to them in a sense of 'remember when I previously wrote to you and he address the fathers and the young men but not the little children (in the Lord) because he could not have written to the little children – because those little children would now be young men and/or fathers so, here are a few changes:

1. In the first three 'I write unto you' he addresses the little children
 - a. To say your sins are forgiven for his name sake
 - b. To say you have known the Father
 - c. once they had accepted Jesus they now have known the Father and their sins are forgiven
2. In the second set of verses 'I have written unto you' (past tense) he addresses the fathers and the young men.
 - a. To say fathers (showing age probably spiritual) you have known from the beginning
 - i. You were the ones that believed early in the ministry of Christ and may have had firsthand knowledge.
 - b. To say to the young men, ye are strong and the word of God abides in you
 - i. You have overcome the wicked one.
 1. As a new believer you stuck it out and fought through the vices of Satan.

What can YOU say regarding yourself? Are you in the new group of little children? Are you in the category of the young men – if yes, the question looms: Have you been strong enough to overcome the wicked one so that you are abiding in God? Remember abiding is to dwell, reside, and to live at home peacefully.



Strong ☐ Yes ☐ No



Being strong does not stop with age, spiritual, physical, or emotional. In fact to grow in maturity you must be strong...STRONG IN THE LORD. There is a very different strength when you give your strength over to God. He will provide you with the strength you need for any situation. Psalm is a wonderful place to search for verses regarding strength. Here are a few to note:

Psalm 18:2

The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Psalm 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 28:7

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

You will need all the strength you can muster from God to face the whiles of Satan. You will learn how to fight the fight against the evil forces with the strength of God. John reminds us in verses 15 – 17 that the world will vie for our heart. Just because we have accepted Christ as savior we will not be tempted of evil. The world is evil and is of Satan. Don't shut me out here, I realize a lot of people do not want to hear that the world is evil, however, God tells us we are not to be conformed to this world and that the world is darkness.

Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Ephesians 6:12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Read verses 15-16:

¹⁵Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

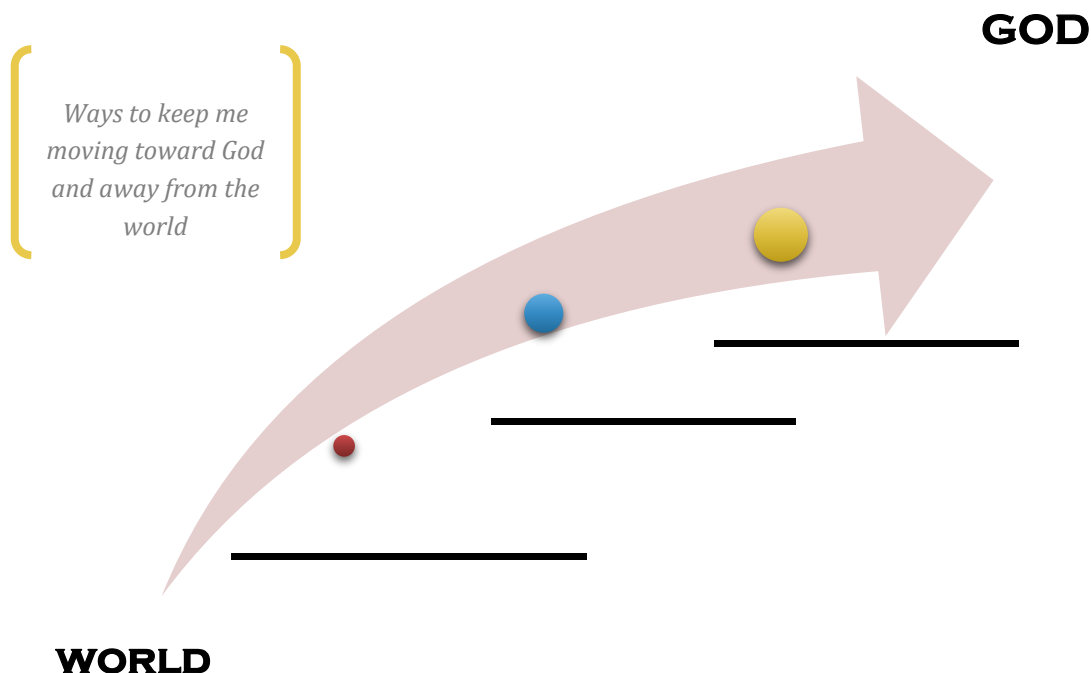
John very straightforwardly tells us to not love the world and also do not love the things that are in the world. He goes on to give us an idea of the type of things he is talking about; lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. What does he mean by the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes? For that matter, what is lust? Is lust simply sexual? In it's basic meaning yes it is sexual but it goes so much deeper. It is a desire or eagerness, even an enthusiasm for 'something'. And in this context that is something of the world not of God and God's principals. A longing and ache for things the world has to offer. If you are not sure what is of God and what is of the world, I



encourage you to spend time in the word of God. Search the laws of God and his statutes. Below is a good start in Galatians 5:16-26.

¹⁶ This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.¹⁷ For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.¹⁸ But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.²⁴ And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.²⁶ Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

We end the day with verse 17 of chapter 2: *¹⁷And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*” What an encouraging verse to end the day. In a sense we could be sad thinking our world will pass away. Consider the big picture of eternal life with the God that loved so deeply he gave his son to pay for our sin and a Savior that loved so intently that he gave his life freely for us – for you for me – for ALL. Living in and of the world is a life with no living future – it is a futile choice, a fatal choice. What choices do you find yourself making when it comes to a decision of World or God? Don’t fool yourself in thinking the world is easy to forego. Evil forces are abounding but God’s love is abounding more and more. Trust HIM. Move toward him.



DAY 4 OF WEEK 3:
YOU have UNCTION – verses 18-26

"¹⁸Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.¹⁹They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

John goes directly to time here. He has been telling them the reason for his writing and how important it is to live for Christ and now he is giving them the end reason; the big picture reason. In his tender way he is saying little children (even including the aged with the little children) he is talking as a pastor to his flock. Time is here, time is now and this is it. You have heard and I have told you, the antichrist shall come. He is saying, but ya know what? There are many antichrists with us now and that is how you can know this is the last time.

In verse 19 he says they were with us and went out from us, but they were not OF us; because if they had been OF us they would have CONTINUED WITH us. But they did NOT – they went out and made it clear that they were not OF us.

The **focus** for this section of verses: knowing there are antichrists. An antichrist in an uncomplicated meaning is opposed to/challenging Christ. Name something you have seen in your recent life that has the characteristic of antichrist and how you have halted the attack. Maybe you did not halt the attack – what is the Holy Spirit showing you in regard to how you can identify those antichrist?



Identifying the many negative vices in our Christian life is imperative. In verse 20 we are reminded that we have UNCTION from THE HOLY ONE. Unction is defined as an anointing or a consecration, sanctification, or a special blessing. The key here is that this blessing is from THE HOLY ONE and they (we) know all things. 'Know' meaning they (we) possess this blessing!

²⁰But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. ²¹I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. ²²Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. ²³Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father; [but] he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

We see again the tenderness and the un-scolding attitude of John as he begins to state his case in verse 21. He tells them he is not writing because they don't know the truth, but because they do know the truth and you know that the truth has no lie. We go again to the liar issue. Again, the frankness of John amazes me. He and Paul are in your face with the truth and the issues of Christian living. Granted John is much tenderer in his verbiage but the truth is best told straight up. So who is a liar? A liar is one that is purporting to be a Christian but denies Jesus Christ. He further defines a liar as anyone that denies the Son, therefore denies the Father.

²⁴Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father. ²⁵And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

Now that the liar is exposed, the final charge is to let what they (we) have heard and that which they (we) know ABIDE in them – Abide in who? (us – YOU – me). The 'what they have heard,' is what was heard in the beginning of their (our) salvation and what will remain in them (us – YOU – me). Continue in what? The Son and the Father... How do we know this will continue? We know because it is the promise of God – the promise of eternal life!

● ● ●

With ETERNAL life as the top of
the pyramid, name 3 Power
Words that enable YOU to live
for Christ in the midst of the
battle for your mind

● ● ●

Eternal Life



DAY 5 OF WEEK 3:

ABIDE IN HIM – verses 26-29

Seduce – Abide – Righteous

“²⁶These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you. ²⁷But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Verse 26 is so very important because it is and will be a realistic force target until we live with Christ eternally. John tells them the seducing forces (antichrist) vie for the battle of the mind! This battle of the mind is best shown in Ephesians 6:10-12

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

To end this week's study I would like to look at a couple of words to help build on the FOCUS of chapter 2. I will be honest with you I had to read these verses several times to 'get' the meaning/message in my brain. I have rewritten 2 verses in my own Peggynese, if you will – no intent to change the word of God here – to add to or take away, and if you totally understood the verses without my rendition – YAY and true congrates – so please stop reading here...and pick up in the next paragraph. Verses 26-27 in my simple verbiage: the reason I wrote this to you is so that you can realize there are forces that will temp to seduce you. But ya know what? You have received anointing from the Holy One, which lives in you. Therefore you do not need any man to teach you (you know the ones that are trying to seduce you with false words)...this same anointing will teach you – and those teachings are truth, not the lies as the seducers are teaching – note that this anointing has taught you and it lives within you – it is not a passing by anointing.

Here you will see that YOU have the HOLY ONE and HE is the teacher you need to learn the truth. Study helps are great (hey I am writing one, right). The final checkpoints would be the actual Word of God and what the Holy Spirit shows you within. Listen to His voice. If you do not believe you are hearing his voice go back to the Word of God. If you do not have a concordance, use the www.biblegateway.com website to put in key words. John is pleading for these believers to not listen to the seducers (which sometimes includes our own self). Listen to the one that lives in you because you can be sure if you have received his anointing the Holy One lives in you.

John ends this chapter with verse 28 and 29 securing the fact that Jesus will return and when he does you can be confident and not ashamed before him, because you have listened to the truth of the Holy One and not believed the lies of the seducers. Knowing that Jesus is righteous and the fact that if you are abiding in HIM – you too are righteous - What an amazing blessing to end this week

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. ²⁹ If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.



Let's look at the four words that create the FOCUS for this week.

Seduce – Transitive Verb – (requires a direct object)

¹to persuade to disobedience or disloyalty ²to lead astray usually by persuasion or false promises

Synonyms: allure, beguile, betray, entice, tempt

Anoint – Transitive Verb – (requires a direct object)

^{2b}to choose by or as if by divine election //anoint him as his successor

Synonyms: daub (to coat or cover with adhesive material), smear (a sticky substance)

Abide - Transitive Verb – (requires a direct object)

^{1a}to bear patiently ^{1b}to endure without yielding ²to wait

Synonyms: dwell, hang-around, stay, tarry

Righteous – Adjective – (describes a noun)

¹acting in accord with divine or moral law: free from guilt or shame ^{2a}morally right or justifiable

Synonyms: decent, ethical, good, honest, honorable, right-minded, upright, virtuous

I have chosen to use Merriam Webster to define and link words for the closing. You can find the detail on the web at www.merriam-webster.com

In the space below apply each word to YOUR PERSONAL life as relating to the scriptures in today's study. Write **how** and **why** they actually apply or **how** and **why** they do not apply to YOU PERSONALLY, remembering this study is to bring you closer in your relationship with the Savior.

FOCUS WORD	Yes/No Applies	How and Why?
Seduce		
Anoint		
Abide		
Righteous		



Day 17-23

Week 3

Journal your thoughts

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