

THRIVING TOGETHER

Exploring Scripture – Discovering Truth – Knowing Jesus – Living Connected

Sept 15: Identity and Responsibility of Being the Children of God

Encouragement Nugget: You can approach the Scripture to simply note what is certain or clear in the Scripture. Consider what and how you and I can **begin to practice** what we know or have come to know in our daily life – both personally and with other Christians. Even if some parts of the passage may be hard to grasp, **think** about the clear point(s) that the writer has conveyed as instructional, reminders, warnings, encouragement, and even correction. **Know** that we can **pray and ask God** to strengthen us to obey Him as His children and His church, especially if it's something that may challenge our thinking or what we know. Remember to note the questions you have about the passage and share them with your group facilitator.

=====

Scripture Segment: 1 John 2:28 – 3:10

1. John refers to the recipients as "Dear children" in vs. 28. Together with vs 26 & 27 just before, and in 3:7, what truth was John's wanting the children of God to know and why?
2. In 1 John 3: 1-3, what are we assured of as children of God, and why?
3. John uses words like "continue" and "remain" or "abide"/"lives". How did John use these terms in this passage to identify who the children of God ought to be. According to this passage, what event were the children of God to anticipate and why did living as children of God matter?

4. In 1 John 3:4-6, what was John wanting the children of God to understand regarding sin? Think about the words John used identify the children of God and sin. Does it mean that the children of God do not sin?
 - a. Refer to 1 John 1:8 – 2:2
 - b. Why does he contrast children of God with the children of devil when he reminds them about sinning?
5. How does continuing in Jesus or remaining in Him translate to our responsibility as children of God today?
 - a. Talk about what this means practically to be identified as children of God, and in what way this may be straightforward or not, challenging or not and why you think so.

Practical Application:

Throughout this passage , what truths or facts have you gleaned about being the children of God and how will knowing them matter to you or inform how you live this coming week?

As you go through this coming week, intentionally think about and observe your interactions, thoughts, and attitudes. Consider praying for those in your group during the coming week so we can continue to live as children of God, for strength to overcome sin because of what Jesus has done for us.

Next week, ask one another how their week went living as children of God and what that meant.