



Lesson 4: Marks of Discipleship | Scripture Text: 1 John 2:3-11

Message focus: Disciples are students who seek to mimic the life of their teacher. In our text for this week, John gives two qualifying marks of true disciples of Jesus Christ. We will examine the first one in this lesson.

1. We sometimes read a book or article and are left wondering what the writer was trying to convey. This is not the case with John. His words are very pointed and direct. In 1 John 2:3 we find the first of two qualifying marks of true disciples. What is it?

A.

2. The word “keep”, found in 1 John 2:3-5, is critical to our understanding. It is in the present tense, and addresses on-going activity. It addresses the attitude of the heart. That is, true followers of Jesus have an internal desire/drive to obey the Lord. This change occurs as a result of the work God does in our heart when we believe. How is this truth revealed in the following scriptures?

Romans 6:16-19

A.

Galatians 2:20

A.

Ephesians 4:17-24

A.

3. How was this change of heart evident in the life of Paul after he became a Christian?

Acts 9:1-6 (*key is in vs. 6*)

A.

2 Timothy 4:9-13 (*key is vs. 13*)

A.

4. If you are now a Christian, think back to the time when you were saved. How did your beliefs and/or behaviors change? Was your desire to obey God swift and steady or slow and gradual?

A.

5. What word does John use to describe what the Lord's commandments ARE NOT? (1 John 5:3)

A.

How might we respond lovingly to someone who believes they are?

A.

6. Read 1 John 2:3-6. Obedience is not a burden when we fully understand and embrace God's love for us. His love matures us and motivates us. Think over your days/years of walking with Jesus. What are some of the richest blessings you have experienced as a result of obeying/following His commandments?

A.