

## **The Essentials of Our Faith – Studies In I John #12**

Assurance That You Are A Child of God

I John 3:4-10

### **I. Lawlessness And Its Remedy VS 4-5**

#### **A. Lawlessness**

- I reject the law – rebellion
- I make the law – arrogance
- Result – destruction of everything
- The story of the history of humanity
- Nothing in us fixes this issue
- A heart issue

#### **B. The only remedy**

- Christ
- His work: Take away lawlessness from the human heart
- His work is the only reason the world is still here
  1. Law and order
  2. Civil authority
  3. Medicine
  4. Education
  5. Etc.

### **II. The Reality About Sinning VS 6**

#### **A. Not individual acts of sin**

#### **B. But continual, an ongoing, habitual practice with no desire to stop**

#### **C. Key idea: abiding**

- You in Christ – conversion - II Corinthians 5:17  
“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new!”
- Christ in you – the Christian life - Colossians 1:27  
“To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
- Christ’s presence keeps us aware of our sin and leads to confession and transformation
- God’s presence frees us from being controlled by sin

#### **D. This is the difference between a believer and a non-believer**

### **III. The Evidence That You Are A Child of God VS 7-10**

#### **A. Child of the devil**

- His nature in a sinner
- This is his work

#### **B. Christ destroys the work of the devil in a believer**

#### **C. Child of God**

- God’s nature is in the believer
- Love
- New birth

#### **D. Evidence is the desire to do what is pleasing to father or not**

- Those who don’t love God’s family

### **IV. Thoughts**

#### **A. John says don’t be deceived about sin**

- I’ve been forgiven
- God will forgive me again
- It doesn’t matter
- Calling it other things

#### **B. God’s Spirit in us causes us to take sin seriously**

- Don’t do it
- Brokenness and confession
- A change of behavior
- An ongoing process in a believer’s life

#### **C. The reality of your life changing into Christ’s life**

- Righteousness is the greatest assurance that you are a child of God!
- The opposite is just as true

#### **D. Again, the issue is abiding in Christ**

- Living your life in His presence
- Doing His will because of love
- By faith not by common sense

#### **E. Christ in you is the greatest potential for living life to the fullest and the greatest assurance that you are a child of God**

- Abide there!