

Connect

Have you ever been in a social situation or environment where you felt completely "out of place" and felt you didn't belong there? What did you end up doing? How long did you resist leaving?

Verses - 1 John 2:29-3:10 (CSB)

READ ALOUD:

29 If you know that he is righteous, you know this as well: Everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

3:1 See what great love the Father has given us that we should be called God's children—and we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it didn't know him. 2 Dear friends, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he appears, we will be like him because we will see him as he is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself just as he is pure. 4 Everyone who commits sin practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he was revealed so that he might take away sins, and there is no sin in him. 6 Everyone who remains in him does not sin; everyone who sins has not seen him or known him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 8 The one who commits sin is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the devil's works. 9 Everyone who has been born of God does not sin, because his seed remains in him; he is not able to sin, because he has been born of God. 10 This is how God's children and the devil's children become obvious. Whoever does not do what is right is not of God, especially the one who does not love his brother or sister.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. What is the specific status John points to in v.1? Who are the ones who are not able to tell the difference between us and themselves? Why? (see Romans 3:23)

2. According to v.3 what is necessary to purify oneself? Since there is no sin in Him (v.5), how does one not remain in sin according to v.6?

3. What does a righteous person do? Is it possible for a believer to sin? (1 John 1:8) What is impossible for the sinner to do? Why? (vv.7-8, Romans 8:7-8)

4. What phrase is used to describe the relationship between a believer and God (but not a non-believer and the devil, v.8-9)? What was done to the believer?

5. How does John define our fellowship as in v.10? Why would John use words for a typical family to describe the two types of people?

Share

How does knowing you are a Child of God change the way you approach sin, compared to someone who is just trying to be a 'good person'? How do you know you already have the victory?

What is it called when we turn back from sin? How should the church approach members who repent vs those who don't? (Matthew 18:15-17, Galatians 6:1)

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.