

A Journey Through 1 John (Part 6)

1 John 2:12-14

Introduction:

- 2 Peter 3:14-16
- The difficulty of understanding Scripture.
- 1 John 2:12-14 is a very difficult passage to understand
- Common View #1: John is referring to s_____ of maturity.
- Common View #2: John is referring to a_____ age groups.

Different Viewpoints on What it Means to be a Christian:

1.) The Viewpoint of a Child.

- From a child's perspective, one of the most precious things about being a Christian is that our s_____ are forgiven.
- The fact that our sins have been forgiven is one of the most b_____ and f_____ truths in the Christian life.
- Luke 10:17-20
 - In other words, Jesus said to these men, "I know that you are happy about the ministry experiences you just had, but let me tell you a c_____ for greater joy – your names are written and r_____ in heaven."
- Question to consider: Is this a truth that you think about and thank the Lord for on a regular basis?

"Whatever happens to us, let us always assure ourselves that we have good cause to praise our God, and that even if we are poor and miserable in this world, the happiness of heaven is enough to appease us, to sweeten all our afflictions and sorrows, and to give us such contentment that we may nevertheless have our mouths open to bless God for showing Himself so kind-hearted to us as even to adopt us as His children, and to show us that the heritage which has been purchased for us by the blood of His only Son is ready for us, and that we cannot miss it.."

– John Calvin –

2.) The Viewpoint of a Father.

- Here we see the more intimate aspect to the Christian life which involves a d_____ and thorough k_____ of the Lord..

- The Christian life is _____ more than just being saved.
- It also involves a lifetime of growing _____ closer to the Lord as we walk with Him.
- Question to consider: Is your number one drive in life to know God better and to know Him more intimately?
- The Example of Moses _____ (Exodus 33)
- The Example of Paul _____ (Philippians 3)

3.) The Viewpoint of a Young Man.

- If you have been a Christian for any length of time, then you know that the Christian life is often a battle _____.
- Question #1: What does our battle _____ with Satan and demons look like?
 - One of the main strategies of Satan and demons is to _____ the Word of God.
- Question #2: How can we have victory _____ over Satan and demons?
 - What does abiding in God's truth look like on a very practical level?
 - A.) Taking it in on a regular basis with a pursuit toward growing _____.
 - B.) Memorizing it on a regular _____ basis.

Conclusion:

- Are you taking God's truth in on a regular basis?
- If not, then make a commitment today to start doing so.