

**STUDYING THE BOOK OF 1 JOHN**  
**IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

**Lesson 3 - Walking in the Light (continued) - [1 John 2:1-14](#)**

Read the following verses in the New Living Translation or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

**2** My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. 2 He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

3 And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. 4 If someone claims, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. 5 But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. 6 Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

7 Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment for you; rather it is an old one you have had from the very beginning. This old commandment—to love one another—is the same message you heard before. 8 Yet it is also new. Jesus lived the truth of this commandment, and you also are living it. For the darkness is disappearing, and the true light is already shining.

9 If anyone claims, "I am living in the light," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is still living in darkness. 10 Anyone who loves another brother or sister is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. 11 But anyone who hates another brother or sister is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.

12 I am writing to you who are God's children because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus.

13 I am writing to you who are mature in the faith because you know Christ, who existed from the beginning. I am writing to you who are young in the faith because you have won your battle with the evil one.

14 I have written to you who are God's children because you know the Father. I have written to you who are mature in the faith because you know Christ, who existed from the beginning. I have written to you who are young in the faith because you are strong. God's word lives in your hearts, and you have won your battle with the evil one.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Lesson 3 - Walking in the Light (continued) - [1 John 2:1-14](#)

17. Why did John write this letter? ([2:1](#))
18. For whom is Jesus an atoning sacrifice? ([2:2](#))
19. What test did John describe for knowing whether or not a person truly knows God? ([2:3-6](#))
20. What did John say he was giving to his readers? ([2:7-8](#))
21. How are claiming to be a Christian and loving one's fellow Christians related? ([2:9-11](#))
22. Why did John write to "the dear children"? ([2:12-13](#))
23. Why did John write to "the fathers"? ([2:13-14](#))
24. Why did John write to "the young men"? ([2:13-14](#))
25. What do you think the terms "light" and "darkness" represent?
26. How can we "walk in the light"?

### Lesson 4 - Do Not Love the World - [1 John 2:15-17](#)

<sup>15</sup> Stop loving this evil world and all that it offers you, for when you love the world, you show that you do not have the love of the Father in you. <sup>16</sup> For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions. These are not from the Father. They are from this evil world. <sup>17</sup> And this world is fading away, along with everything it craves. But if you do the will of God, you will live forever.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Lesson 4 - Do Not Love the World - [1 John 2:15-17](#)

27. What restrictions should we place on our affections? ([2:15](#))
28. What should believers not love? Why? ([2:15](#))
29. What is the result of loving the world? ([2:15](#))

30. Why did John tell us not to love the world? ([2:15-17](#))
31. What are the things of the world? ([2:16](#))
32. How did John categorize the things in the world? ([2:16](#))
33. From where do the things in the world come? ([2:16](#))
34. From where do the things in the world not come? ([2:16](#))
35. What passes away? ([2:17](#))
36. Who lives forever? ([2:17](#))
37. What would you categorize as "the cravings of sinful man"?
38. Why are the things and values of the world so enticing to us?
39. What does it mean to do the will of God?

### **Lesson 5 - Warning Against Antichrists - [1 John 2:18-29](#)**

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the end of the world has come. <sup>19</sup> These people left our churches because they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left us, it proved that they do not belong with us. <sup>20</sup> But you are not like that, for the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and all of you know the truth. <sup>21</sup> So I am writing to you not because you don't know the truth but because you know the difference between truth and falsehood. <sup>22</sup> And who is the great liar? The one who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Such people are antichrists, for they have denied the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father either. But anyone who confesses the Son has the Father also.

<sup>24</sup> So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will continue to live in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. <sup>25</sup> And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us.

<sup>26</sup> I have written these things to you because you need to be aware of those who want to lead you astray. <sup>27</sup> But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you all things, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So continue in what he has taught you, and continue to live in Christ.

<sup>28</sup> And now, dear children, continue to live in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame. <sup>29</sup> Since we

know that God is always right, we also know that all who do what is right are his children.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Lesson 5 - Warning Against Antichrists - [1 John 2:18-29](#)

40. What time did John say it is? ([2:18](#))
41. Who was coming and who had come at the time John wrote this? ([2:18](#))
42. What did John say about those who had left? ([2:19](#))
43. What did the readers of 1 John have? ([2:20](#))
44. What did the readers of 1 John know? ([2:21](#))
45. How is the antichrist identified? ([2:22](#))
46. In what way is denying (or acknowledging) the Son related to having the Father? ([2:23](#))
47. What did John encourage his readers to do? ([2:24](#))
48. What did the Father promise? ([2:25](#))
49. Why did the author write these things? ([2:26](#))
50. What was the relationship between the anointing these believers received and their need to be taught? ([2:27](#))
51. Why did John encourage his readers to continue in Christ? ([2:28](#))
52. What is true about everyone who does what is right? ([2:29](#))