

Essential Fellowship: 6 of 10
“Children Of God Or Of The Devil?”
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
March 13, 2022

Big Idea: We can know the joy of life if we walk together in His light.

As A Child Of God, I Will:

1. Live As If Jesus Could Come At Any Moment

“And now, dear children, continue in Him, so that when **He appears** we may be **confident and unashamed** before Him at His coming. If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been **born of him.**” **1 John 2:28-29 (NIV)**

“Now there is in store for me the **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to **all** who have **longed for His appearing.**” **2 Timothy 4:8 (NIV)**

Parable of the talents

"His master replied, '**Well done, good and faithful servant!** You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'" **Matthew 25:23 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

2. Celebrate God's Love For Me

“How great is the love the Father has **lavished** on us, that we should be **called children of God!** And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now **we are children of God**, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is.” **1 John 3:1-2 (NIV)**

“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the **likeness** of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.” **Romans 8:29 (NIV)**

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a **new creature**; the old things passed away; behold, **new things have come.**” **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB)**

“Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.” **Psalms 63:3-5 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

3. Practice Right Living

“Everyone who has this hope in Him **purifies himself**, just as He is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is **lawlessness**. But you know that He appeared **so that He might take away our sins**. And in Him is no sin.” **1 John 3:3-5 (NIV)**

“He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NASB)**

“**No one who lives in him keeps on sinning**. No one who **continues to sin** has either seen Him or known Him. Dear children, do not let anyone **lead you astray**. He who does what is **right** is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who does what is **sinful** is of the **devil**, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to **destroy the devil's work**.” **1 John 3:6-8 (NIV)**

Jesus said, “Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a **murderer** from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the **father of lies**.”

John 8:43-44 (NIV)

“No one who is born of God will **continue to sin**, because **God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning**, because he has been **born of God**.¹⁰ This is how we know who the **children of God** are and who the **children of the devil** are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not **love his brother**.”

1 John 3:6-10 (NIV)

“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I **press on** to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: **Forgetting** what is behind and **straining** toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” **Philippians 3:12-14 (NIV)**

“But if **we walk** in the light, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, **purifies us from all sin**.” **1 John 1:7 (NIV) Remember Verse**

“If we claim to be without sin, **we deceive ourselves** and the truth is not in us. If we **confess our sins**, he is **faithful** and **just** and will **forgive** us our sins and **purify** us from all unrighteousness.” **1 John 1:8-10 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

➤ **Does my character or conduct affirm or deny that I am a child of God?**

As a child of God, I will:

[] Celebrate God's love for me

[] Practice right living

[] Ask Jesus to be my Lord and Savior

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss]

Big Idea: We can know the joy of life if we walk together in His light.

Open in Prayer

Icebreaker: Describe an event that you had to be ready at any given moment. How did you prepare for it?

Read 1 John 2:28-29 - 3:1-10

Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary:

The regenerating work of Christ freely grants believers a right standing *before* Him and enables them to live rightly *for* Him. In light of this truth, John caps off his exhortation to live in light of Christ's return with an outburst of wonder ([3:1](#)), a glorious promise ([3:2](#)), and a fixed hope ([3:3](#)).

The King James Version translates the first word of [chapter 3](#) not with a weak “see” but a more dramatic “behold.” I think that captures the wonder in John's words better than “see” or “look.” John is gushing with excitement at the splendor of salvation, “that we would be called children of God” ([3:1](#)). And just to be perfectly clear that we aren't merely called something we're not, John adds, “and such we are.”

As A Child Of God, I Will:

1. Live As If Jesus Could Come At Any Moment

Read 1 John 2:28-29 & 2 Timothy 4:8

If Jesus came back tonight, would you feel embarrassed and unprepared or would you feel confident and excited to see Him? Why?

2. Celebrate God's Love For Me

Read 1 John 3:1-2

What does it mean to you that God calls you His child?

What are some of the benefits of being a child of God?

How does the idea of progression instead of perfection help you understand your relationship with Jesus?

Read Romans 8:29

How has God been changing you more into the image of His Son?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17

What old things have passed away in your life?

What are some new things that God done in you?

Read Psalm 63:3-5

Describe your joy of knowing God loves you.

3. Practice Right Living

Read 1 John 3:3-5

What is a practical step of right living you can do this week?

Why did Jesus come?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21

What did Jesus do for us?

Read 1 John 3:6-10

Is John being legalistic here? Why or why not?

Read Philippians 3:12-14

How does this passage help you understand your Christian walk?

Review our remember verse:

But if **we walk** in the light, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, **purifies us from all sin. 1 John 1:7 (NIV)**

Read 1 John 1:8-9

Spend time in silent prayer confessing any wrongdoing and giving thanks for God's love for you.

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.
