



SPIRITUAL GROWTH AT THE PEAK

SERIES: LESSONS ON THE LOVE OF CHRIST IN US

Lesson #3: “Love is Made Complete in Us”

1 John 2:1-6

Announcements and opening prayer.



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** What usually happens when people make bad choices? How easy is it to put a really bad choice behind you?

The Bottom Line: Love obeys God and is transformed because of it.

LESSON PLAN




Denotes “Apply”

Today we are going to look at the love of God and how our failures to not need to destroy that relationship, but rather seize the experience to grow in that relationship. Today's lesson gives us help in our weakness and assurance in our hope.


Read 1 John 2:1-2

1. John begins with the address, “My dear children, or My little children.” Why do you think John used this phrase?

John is their spiritual father. He loves and cares about them deeply, as if they were his own physical children. At this point, John is getting old. He's probably known many of these servants for some time. The three letters were probably written from Ephesus where he likely was the Pastor until his death around A.D. 98.

-  What lesson can we learn from this simple address?

2. In his own words, why is John writing this letter?

-  What would you say to the person who says, “I need Jesus, but I don't need the church. I can have a right relationship without all the mess of the church?”

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3. Here comes the real encouragement. We will all fall into sin at various times. So, what happens if we do?

The word used is PARAKLETĒTOS, which means an advocate or intercessor. It was used of someone who pleads someone's cause before a judge. When I fail, Jesus does not walk away from me or turn His back on me. Rather, He goes to my defense! Jesus understands the temptations of this world first hand and He understands when we are fighting to walk in faith and stumble. Note that it only matters because the One who is pleading for us is the Righteous One who overcame sin and the world.

- ④ How does the reality of that promise strengthen your faith and make you better able NOT to continue in sin?

4. According to John, for whose sins did Jesus atone?

Everyone has an opportunity because of His sacrifice to atone or make payment for our sins. We have to use our free will to make the choice to accept that offer on His terms

The Atoning Sacrifice was also translated as The Propitiation. The word HILASMOS meant something that appeases anger and brings reconciliation with someone who has reason to be angry with you. Jesus is our Propitiation. For the wages of sin is death, but because Jesus because the sacrifice, the propitiation for us, the debt was paid to settle with God.



Interactive Teaching Ideas: ideas for learner-focused teaching. Ask the class to discuss at each table the following assignment and then share the results from each table: **Take the** idea of the propitiation and design a story that will simplify that truth so you could tell it in a way that even a child could understand.

Read 1 John 2:3-6



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5. To know means to have intimacy with, a relationship that is genuine. How do we know if we have a true relationship with Jesus?
- 🕒 What are some ways you work on the sins that creep into your life?
6. Who does John call a liar?
- 🕒 If you know a Christian is following John's description of a liar, what do you think you could do to help them understand their situation?
7. How does our walk validate our claims?
- 🕒 What do you think God wants you to do after working through this lesson?



Going Deeper/Homework:

Memory Verse: “Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it” (Luke 11:28).