



House Church Study Questions Based on the SAC Sermon on October 3, 2021

Sermon Text: 1 John 2:1-11

Gathering Guidelines

-No video this week

Take some time to worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SW8EA7DEQ2M> All To Jesus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM07zyBP39M> I Desire Jesus

Read

1 John 2:1-11

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker Question: If you had an opportunity to do one of these things what would you choose?

1. Sit by a pool for a week.
2. Go hiking in the mountains for a week.
3. Work in your garden for a week.
4. Listen to Pastor Brian's sermons for a week.

(I know it's a very hard choice but you know what all you truly spiritual people should pick. . . 😊)

Question #1: When John writes 1 John 2:1-11 he is pretty advanced in age and he simply desires for people to experience a deepening and close relationship with Jesus.

When you hear him teaching the importance of dealing with sin, do you feel that this something that genuinely helps you in coming to a closer place with Jesus? What are your thoughts?

Question #2: Jesus is called our 'propitiation' for our sins (In my NASB Bible). My NIV calls Jesus our 'atonement' for sin. This means that Jesus had to actually sacrifice himself to address the devastating nature of sin that keeps people from relationship with God.

Think about how important it was to Jesus that people could have this relationship, and that He thought it was worth it to sacrifice Himself to make that possible. Now think about your sin. . .what thoughts arise in you?

Question #3: Read verse 3 again.

Verse 3 talks about 'knowing' God. The Greek word for this is *Ginosko* and it means *experiential knowledge*. The point here is that to really know God deeply then we must experience Him in day to day life.

It also says that if we really know God in our experience then we will do what He commands us to do.

We know that we often fail to obey His commands, and so we think this must mean that we don't really know God. If I don't know Him, then that must mean that I am not saved!

But if you read verse 9 it talks about someone who hates his *brother*. This is talking about a believer, someone who is saved, and is hating his fellow believer, a brother.

So verse 3 is not talking about salvation, it is talking about the *depth of experiential knowledge of Jesus*. When we sin, the depth of our experience of Jesus is greatly affected.

Does this make sense to you? Talk about how this affects you. . .does it inspire you? Encourage you? Raise questions in you?

Question #4: Read verse 11. It says that if a believer hates his fellow believer then the 'hater' is walking in darkness and does not know where he is going.

'Hating' means *not showing love*. Experiencing the love of Jesus means showing/expressing love like Jesus does.

Talk about what kind of impact showing love to each other would have on your relationship with Jesus?

Question #5: Sin is a great hindrance on the depth of experience that we have of Jesus. Thankfully, We are given a road map of how to deal with sin and find increasing freedom!

If you want to walk in increasing freedom in your walk with Jesus, and feel that you have not loved your brothers and sisters in the faith, then you are invited to do the following:

- 1. Confess yours sins: James 5:16**
- 2. Receive assurance of forgiveness: 1 John 1:9**
- 3. Do what God says to do: James 1:22**
- 4. What do we do?: Mark 12:30-31**
- 5. How do I express this?: Matthew 7:7-8**

Invitation and Mission for this week

Given the topic of discussion this week, what thoughts might your group come up with to move forward in deepening your relationship with Jesus?

Pray for each other