

1 John 2:3-11

Our belief needs to be displayed by our actions.

"By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked." 1 John 2:3-6

- Jesus calls His disciples to obey his Word. By obeying, they will be known to be disciples "So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, 'If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine" John 8:31
- To abide in Christ is to walk the way that He walked, to live like He lived

Seek to fulfill the command to love one another.

"Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard. On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining." 1 John 2:7-8

• In Christ, the call to be a community of love is renewed by putting Christ as our example.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35

In gratitude for our salvation, live out the life of Christ in character and behavior.

"The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes."

1 John 2:9-11

- Paul also writes that we are "created in Christ Jesus for good works".

 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." Ephesians 2:8-10
- Our good works are the fruit of our salvation, which is a free gift of God.

Response: Are we a community known for its love and dedication to living out the life of Christ?

LifeGroup Discussion:

- 1. In what ways have you separated your actions from your beliefs? Have you done this with your Christian beliefs about who God is and what type of life we are called to through Jesus Christ?
- 2. What are ways that we as a community can begin to display the life and love of Christ?
- 3. Beyond our daily lives how can we display the life and love of Christ when our community gathers together on Sundays?
- 4. Do you think this makes our modern culture uncomfortable, to be responsible for their actions? Are you comfortable saying that the way you live and act matters? Not as the root of salvation but the fruit of your salvation.

Next Steps:

- 1. Consider coming on the Calvary to Turkey Trip to visit and learn about the region of the world where the epistles of John were written. Want to learn more about this trip of a lifetime before you commit to going? Join us for an informational meeting on Sunday, July 19 in the Warehouse (C Building) at 10:15 am and 12:15 pm. Hear from the pastors who are leading the trip and get all of your questions answered. Learn more online at calvarylife.org/turkey
- 2. Connect in a LifeGroup for support and encouragement to grow in your faith with others. LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. There are many LifeGroups available on Calvary's campus and in homes across Orange County. Learn more at calvarylife.org/lifegroups

