

SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE

1 John 2:27–28

27 As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.

28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

1 John 3:1–10

See what great 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. 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,[a] we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. 5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. 6 No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 8 The one 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. 9 No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have 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 God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.

1. Who I am: a child of God

2. What I will be: I will be with Christ and like Him.

3. How I'm called to live: as a confident child, who follows the Spirit's leading.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Take a moment and read the passages of Scripture together as a group.

- How have both positive and negative experiences in your prominent relationships (i.e. as a child, as a spouse, etc.) shaped your sense of self-worth and confidence? What does God say about you?
- How has being God's child changed you with true, lasting life change? Give examples.
- Describe some of your recent experiences of Jesus in your walk with Him—whether that be in prayer, through Scripture, or in fellowship with others. Who has He been to you? How does your experience of Jesus Christ make you long for purity?
- Do you have security and certainty in your life right now? If yes, praise God by sharing details about how God provides for His children. If no, what does your permanent security as God's child mean to you right now?
- How have you seen being God's child defeat the work of the devil? Share examples, whether personal or in the lives of those you know.
- Reflection for the week: Will you set aside some time this week to take in the wonder of being God's child (1 John 3:1)? Check in with your group during the week to share further reflections and pieces of encouragement you have concerning your identity as God's child.