

Prayer List:

My challenge for this week:

More Resources for personal and group use:

<https://www.precept.org/know-gods-word/>

A little about Westwood Church...

We believe that God changes lives!

That motivates us to...

Bring Jesus into Life

By...

...becoming an increasingly healthy, vibrant and effective witness for Jesus in Prince George and around the world!

We do this by engaging in three things:



GATHER

Sunday mornings to celebrate and learn about God



GROUPS

Weekly meetings that go deeper in relationships with each other and God



GO

Serving in the church and community to present Jesus to the world



Date: March 31, 2019
Scripture: 1 John 3:1-24
Series: Living in the Light

1 John Overview:

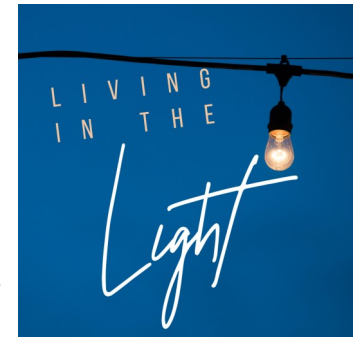
Author and Date: John the Apostle, one of the original 12 disciples and known as the "Apostle of Love."

Written between 60-90 A.D.

First readers and their location: Christians in Ephesus and Asia Minor (modern day Turkey).

Ephesus the city: Ephesus had a population of around 300,00, was a leading trade centre in the Roman Empire, and was the centre of worship for the pagan goddess Diana.

Why was it written?: 1 John was written primarily to combat false teaching that had shown up in the church. False teachers were denying that Jesus had a real physical body and was fully human. They were also denying that Jesus was the Messiah. These teachings lead to believers minimizing the seriousness of sin. John wrote to correct these lies.



Open-up

Who do you follow? A boss? A hero? Who would a close friend or family member say you follow? How might their answer influence what you want to learn from 1 John?



Into the Bible—Ask “What does it Say?”

Read: 1 John 3:1-10

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)

What does this section reveal about being a child of God?

Keep in mind that John was writing to a church that was being encouraged by false teachers to be OK with their sin and even embrace it. The false teacher's encouragement in this direction was bringing harm on others. How does this, together with 1 John 1:9 help your understanding of what John is saying here?

Read: 1 John 3:11-24

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)

What does this passage reveal about what love for others looks like?

How does this passage speak to some of the problems in the church in Ephesus? (Also see 1 John 3:10)



Into my life—Ask “What does this look like in my personal life?”

Does the return of Christ fill you with hope? Why or why not?

Is a person who is content with glaring sin in their life really saved? How would you talk with them in grace and truth?

Has there ever been a time in your life where you had a deep bitterness, anger, or rage toward someone else? How did being a follower of Jesus help you through it? (If you are in it still spend time praying for each other in this)

How do you understand the tension between your human limitations while at the same time not putting up with sin or spiritual immaturity?

Other Application Questions:

Is there something to worship or thank God for?

Is there a promise to claim or a truth to believe?

Is there something I am convicted about that I need to work on?

Is there something or someone I need to pray for this week? (Be specific)

Is there any relationship I need to work on?



Into the World—Ask “what does this look like in my world?”

If we gave to everyone as they had need, what would that look like practically? In your life? In your group? In the church?