

Knowing We Know God- The Second Test

1 John 2:7-14

1) Here's the Test (vv.7-8)

- A) What is the commandment?
 - To _____ one another; the _____ commandment
- B) An old commandment
 - was and is part of the _____ gospel message.
- C) A new commandment
 - Is true in _____
 - Is true in _____

2) Taking the Test (vv.9-11)

- A) Those who love...
 - _____ in the light
 - Will not _____
- B) Those who hate...
 - Are in the _____
 - _____ in the darkness
 - Are _____ by the darkness

3) A Teacher's Encouragement (vv.12-14)

A True Christian's Standing

- 1) Their _____ have been and will remain to be forgiven in Christ (v.12)
- 2) They have come to know God as their _____. (v.13c)
- 3) They have come to know _____, who is from the beginning (vv.13a,14a)
- 4) They are strong because of the _____ (v.14b)
- 5) They have overcome and continue to overcome the _____ (vv.13b,14b)

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Small Group Questions

1. In what way is the command to love one another Old? New?
2. In what sense does John use the word 'stumble'? How is it in contrast to those who are in the darkness?
3. Given the symmetry of the passage, how do John's statements for each of the 3 groupings of people in verses 12-14 relate to each other? (For example – how are the two statements made about the dear children, ie 'your sins have been forgiven on account of His name' and 'you have known the Father' connected?)
4. In what way is 'knowing the One who is from the beginning' connected to 'knowing the Father'?
5. Is assurance important? Why? Is it possible? How?
6. How does this passage answer those who claim that it is possible to know God without Christ?
7. What resources has God given to us in our fight against the evil one?
8. How would you use this passage in a conversation with
 - a. A nominal-Christian?
 - b. A Christian struggling with some besetting sin?
 - c. A Christian who doubts their relationship with God?
9. What are some areas that you struggle to implement this "Love Test" in your own lives?
10. What are some areas the church as a body struggles to implement the Love Test?

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