

## Living as Children of God

- **Day One – Read 1 John 2:28; John 15:1-11.** When you think of “abiding in Christ,” or “living in him,” what words come to mind in describing that kind of relationship? What are they? Which of the six words in point #1 of the notes best describes it for you? Obviously, the point is continual relationship. How does this happen? Is this what you experience and seek?

**Pray** and ask God to help you live in him, with a continual and deepening sense of his presence.

- **Day Two – Read 1 John 2:29; Ephesians 2:8-9; James 2:14-17; Galatians 5:22-26.** We know that good deeds cannot produce salvation, but what will a dynamic faith look like in the real world? What “evidence” of faith is mentioned in the James and Galatians texts?

**Pray** and thank God that he gives us the fruit if we will live in him and trust in Christ. What area of your life could show a bit more “kingdom life?” Ask Christ to help you in that area of your life.

- **Day Three – Read 1 John 3:4-10; Romans 6:3-7; James 1:12-16.** Do you feel that you have increasing power over sin? None of us are perfect, but are you growing in your spiritual life and finding more victory than defeat? Would *obedience* and *love* describe your life? Are you growing in these areas? In terms of growth, what is your area of greatest need?

**Pray** and ask God to help you live as his child, with all the blessings that come as a result of this kind of relationship. Ask him to show you where you need to trust and obey more, and help you to do it. Thank him right now that regardless of your shortcomings, you *ARE* his child and he loves you completely and eternally!

New Life Lessons  
January 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Pastor Ron Salsbury

## “Children of God”

Children of God #4

1 John 2:28-3:10

**1 John 2:28 - 3:10** (NIV) <sup>28</sup> And now, dear children, **continue in him**, so that when he appears we may be **confident and unashamed before him at his coming**. <sup>29</sup> If you know that he is righteous, you know that **everyone who does what is right has been born of him**.

<sup>1</sup> **How great is the 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. <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, **we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is**.

<sup>3</sup> **Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.** <sup>4</sup> Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. <sup>6</sup> **No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.**

<sup>7</sup> **Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.** <sup>8</sup> He 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. <sup>9</sup> **No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.**

<sup>10</sup> **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 a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.**

## ***Living as Children of God Means:***

### **1. Continuing to Live in Christ .**

**1 John 2:28** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>28</sup> And now, dear children, **continue in him**, so that when he appears we may be **confident and unashamed** before him at his coming.

*meno – “to abide, continue, remain, or stay”*

**John 15:5, 11** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>5</sup> “**I am the vine**; you are the branches. **If a man remains in me** and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that **my joy may be in you** and that **your joy may be complete**.

***Dependence, Submission, Trust, Alignment,  
Confession, and Surrender***

### **2. Showing Evidence of Spiritual Life .**

**1 John 2:29** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>29</sup> If you know that he is righteous, you know that **everyone who does what is right has been born of him**.

Good deeds cannot produce salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9), but good deeds are a necessary proof that true faith is actually present (James 2:14-17.)

### **3. Understanding We Are Aliens .**

**1 John 3:1-3** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>1</sup> How **great** is the 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.** <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But **we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.** <sup>3</sup> Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. <sup>1</sup> Peter 2:11

**We are “spiritually born” into God’s family** (Romans 8:14-17; Galatians 3:26-27; 4:6-7; Philippians 3:21b; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58).

## **4. Having Increasing Power Over Sin .**

**1 John 3:4-9** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>4</sup> Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. <sup>6</sup> **No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.** <sup>7</sup> Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. <sup>8</sup> He 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. <sup>9</sup> **No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.**

**Romans 6:3-4, 6-7** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>3</sup> **Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?** <sup>4</sup> We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. <sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that **the body of sin might be done away with**, that we should **no longer be slaves to sin--** <sup>7</sup> because anyone who has died has been **freed from sin**.

**James 1:13-16** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but **each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.** <sup>15</sup> Then, after **desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin;** and sin, **when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.** <sup>16</sup> Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers.

## **5. Living in Obedience and Love .**

**1 John 3:10** <sup>(NIV)</sup> <sup>10</sup> **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 a child of God; nor is anyone who **does not love his brother.**  
John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a; Romans 12:9-2