



Pray

How does 1 John 2:1-6 inspire you to pray?
Is there action you need to take?

How can this passage impact the way you pray
for yourself and others?

How does this passage move you to thank and praise God?



Grace-Fueled Obedience | 1 John 2:1-6
Study Guide 3 for sermon on 1/17/2021



Introduction

No one feels welcomed or loved in a group of posers who are trying to impress each other. But there is great acceptance and love in a community where you can truly drop the facade. This is what the Church should be like, because Christ is the propitiation of our sins (2:2). That's a big word that means, "to turn away wrath." That's what Jesus did on the cross: he turned away the wrath of God from you by taking it upon himself. Imagine that! When God sees you, there is no wrath whatsoever, because it's been turned away from you because of Jesus Christ. How else should we respond to the provision of God except through joyful obedience?!

May SSBC continue to grow into a church that is shaped by the grace and loving-kindness of God. May we know that we have been fully loved and fully redeemed by Jesus Christ.



Overview

Context: 1 John is one of the final letters written by an apostle. In this letter, John declares the holiness ("light") of God and emphasizes the fellowship Christians have with one another because of their shared

faith in Jesus Christ. If we walk in the light, that means we're walking side-by-side with each other.

Structure:

- I. The atoning work of Christ (*1 John 2:1-2*)
- II. Our response to the gospel (*1 John 2:3-6*)



Engage

1. John mentions that he's writing "these things to you so you may not sin" (v. 1). How would you summarize the message he delivers in chapter 1?
2. Read 1 John 2:1 in its entirety. What does this reveal about God's standard and about our ability to resist temptation?
3. What does an "advocate" do? What are some contexts where people commonly have an advocate?
4. How often do you think about Christ's present-day ministry in glory as your advocate? How can this encourage us towards faithfulness in the midst of temptation?
5. "Propitiation" is a theological word that means "atoning sacrifice" or "sacrifice that turns away wrath." How does this help explain what happened on the cross?
6. How can you embrace the truth that God's wrath has been fully satisfied without falling into apathy about your ongoing struggle with sin?
7. When the Bible talks about "knowing God," it's obviously more than factual knowledge - what do you think it means?
8. "Faith looks like obedience." Would you agree/disagree with this description of 1 John 2:3-6? Why?
9. How can we be sure that we are true Christians, given the statement in verse 4? Does this teach salvation by works? Why or why not?
10. The saving work of Jesus Christ is front-and-center in this passage, and yet we are told to obey God's commandments. What are some areas in your own life where you need to apply the gospel to experience his grace? What are some areas where you need to repent and obey?