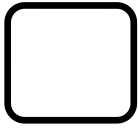


GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small

1. Begin your time together sharing one or two of the ways God has been answering your prayers over the course of the past week.
2. Read 1 John 2:28-3:3 as a group. What are your key takeaways from these verses?
3. What types of characteristics or fruits of the Spirit help us in our efforts to implement godly change in our lives?
4. Read Romans 8:1-17. What do these verses teach us about the kind of change that God desires in us?
5. When considering putting energy into godly change, how can the words of Hebrews 11:6 guide us?
6. Who in your small group, support network, or friend circle can be an accountability partner for you in your desire to continue growing deeper in your relationship with Christ?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

Going Deeper—God, Open My Eyes!

I John 2:28-3:3 (Bible page 1229)

Introduction: God's Word makes a big deal of purity.

I. To see my purity in Christ

- A. (2:28) "Dear children"—not a description of them s_____ but a term of e_____
- B. (2:28) "Continue in him" – Grow deeper in your r_____ to Christ.
- C. How do you grow closer to Jesus?
- Be in God's Word.
 - Remember your baptism.
 - Eat and drink Jesus' body and blood in Holy Communion.
- D. (2:29) Our v_____ deeds give evidence of our i_____ connection to Christ.
- E. (2:29) Don't confuse doing r_____ things with r_____.
- F. (3:1a) "See"—be a_____ at and s_____ intently; "Just take a look at that love!"
- G. Why is God's love unique?
- It's the c_____ of our salvation.
 - It's what e_____ us to believe and to continue in Christ.

II. To live my life in hope

- A. (3:1b) Those of the world don't have a c_____ about God's love for them.
- B. (3:2) John fills us with hope regarding what h_____ holds in store for us.
- C. (3:3) John also tells us what we are like n_____.
- We are people of h_____.
 - We are people who have been p_____ by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion: "Blessed are the saints of God" (CW 394).

My Next Steps

Commit to Memory I John 3:1 – See what great love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Read I John 2:9-11, 3:16-18, and 4:7-21 in preparation for next week's message: *Go Deeper—Deep Love.*

Identify someone in your area of influence who does not know Jesus. Pray for them and look for ways to share Jesus with them.