

Living as Children of God - 1 John 2:28-29 and 3:1-10

Reflection Questions

A. In what way(s) are you like your mother or father?

B. What was one of the benefits of being the child of your parents as you were growing up?

C. How do you define the term "sin"?

Scripture (1 John 2:28-29 and 3:1-10 NKJV)

^{2:28} And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. ²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

^{3:1} Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ^{3:2} Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ^{3:3} And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

⁴ Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ⁵ And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. ⁶ Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. ⁷ Little children, let

no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. ⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

⁹ Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. ¹⁰ In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother.

Key Terms: Abide(s), Ashamed, Children of God, Children of the Devil, Jesus Christ, Love, Manifest, Practice, Purify, Righteous(ness), Sin, World

Lesson Outline

- I. The Children of God (1 John 2:28-29 and 3:1-3 NKJV)
 - A. The Benefits
 - B. The Blessings
 - C. The Burdens
- II. The Children of the Devil (1 John 3:4-8)
 - A. The Depraved
 - B. The Deceivers
 - C. The Disgraced
- III. The Children Compared and Contrasted (1 John 3:9-10)
 - A. Both Revealed
 - B. One Redeemed
 - C. One Doomed

Exploring the Text

1. Why did John encourage his readers to continue in Christ? (2:28)

2. What is true about everyone who does what is right? (2:29)

3. How has the Father lavished love upon believers? (3:1)

4. Why doesn't the world know Christians? (3:1)

5. What will happen to the children of God when they see Christ?
(3:2)

6. What kind of person purifies himself or herself? (3:3)

7. What is sin? (3:4)

8. Why did Christ appear? (3:5)

9. How is a person who lives in Christ unusual? (3:6)

10. What does it mean to do what is right? (3:7)

11. What did John say about the person who does what is sinful? (3:8)

12. Why did the Son of God appear? (3:8)

13. Why can't the person who is born of God continue to sin? (3:9)

14. How are children of God and children of the devil identified?
(3:10)

Understanding It Questions

15. What does it mean to continue in Christ?

16. How are you preparing yourself for Christ's return?

17. What is so great about being a child of God?

18. When have you felt that your non-Christian friends did not really know or understand you?

19. How do you reconcile the fact that Christians do sin with the statements that they cannot sin or keep on sinning?

20. How do you need to change your daily routine so that you may be confident and unashamed before Christ at His Second Coming?

Life Application Questions

21. What step will you take today to purify yourself?

22. What area of weakness will you ask God to strengthen this week?

THINK ABOUT IT!

- **Are you a child of God?**
- **How do you know you are a child of God?**