

This is how we know we are in him:
Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

KEY: It is by his love that man knows whether or not he **knows** God.

III. The Evidence of Loving God is to **follow** Him.

Verse 5 – 6 “But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.”

KEY: **“Must”** means debt, constraint, obligation.

KEY: The person who professes Christ, who claims that he knows God, is **obligated** to walk as Jesus walked.

KEY: The evidence that we are “in Him” is the fact that we are **following** Him.

KEY: A life given over to **Christ-likeness** is the evidence of our love for God.

KEY: A person reveals the genuineness of his/her relationship with God by his/her relationship with **others.**

Do you Claim to Know God?

Titus 1:16 “They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

I John 3:18 “Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.”

Quotes on Obedience

If you tell God no because He won't explain the reason He wants you to do something, you are actually hindering His blessing. But when you say yes to Him, all of heaven opens to pour out His goodness and reward your obedience. What matters more than material blessings are the things He is teaching us in our spirit. -- Charles Stanley

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Obedience is an act of faith; disobedience is the result of unbelief. -- Edwin Louis Cole

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 Rest in this - it is His business to lead, command, impel, send, call or whatever you want to call it. It is your business to obey, follow, move, respond, or what have you. -- [Jim Elliot](#)

First Church of God

June 30, 2013

Sermon Outline

Pastor, Robert G. White

“Obedience to God”

I John 2: 3 – 11

³ We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. ⁴ The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶ Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

⁷ Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. ⁸ Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

⁹ Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. ¹⁰ Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness had blinded him.

Introduction:

John wrote his sermon, I John, to emphasize that we can know that we KNOW God.

What evidence of knowing God do we look for?

I. The evidence of Knowing God is to **obey** Him.

Verses 3 – 4: ³“We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. ⁴The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

We know the New Testament Greek tense suggests, “We have come to KNOW God and we STILL Know Him!”

KEY: It is a **stubble** Relationship with God, continually knowing God.

John says that knowledge of and about God is learned by **obedience**.

KEY: A Christian should **do** what Christ tells him to do, and **live** as Christ wants him to live.

What does Christ tell us to do?

I John 3:23 “Believe on the name of his son Jesus Christ, and **love one another.**”

Jesus Gave Love A New Meaning.

Jesus Christ ...

– Loved not only friends, but **enemies;**

– Loved not only good people, **but bad**

people;

– Loved not only the righteous, but **the**

sinner;

– Loved not only the acceptable, but **the**

rejected;

– Loved not only the clean, but **the dirty.**

KEY: The person who **obeys** God’s Word has God’s love made complete in his life.

II. The evidence of Obeying God is to **love** Him.

Verse 5 “But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him:”

Complete _____ = Perfected

= Reached Maturity

= Carry through to the End

= Bring to a successful conclusion.

John 14:21 “Jesus said to his disciples “Whoever had my commands and **obeys** them, he is the one who **loves me.**”

KEY: **Love** and obedience cannot be separated.

KEY: True Christian faith results in **loving** Behavior.

Verses 7 – 8 “Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command, but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.”

“New” in Quality = **Message of Love.**

Question: How is the message of love new in Quality?

A. It has a new **emphasis.**

B. It has a new **example.**

C. It has a new **experience.**

D. It has a new **extent.**

John 13: 34 – 35