

We Know; 1 John 2:1-6

- I. Lifestyle Change
 - a. We all have certain lifestyles that we like to live
 - b. Changing them can be difficult
 - c. Some experts say that it takes a serious life event to be a catalyst to make a lifestyle change
 - d. We, as Christians, are required to change our lifestyles – we become a ‘new person,’ we ‘put on Christ’
 - e. These necessarily mean that we are no longer our ‘old self’ which has been ‘done away with’
 - f. John gives us some key changes that we must make in order to be a child of God
 - g. These are how we know that we are a child of God
- II. Do Not Sin
 - a. 1 John 2:1–2 (ESV); ¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
 - b. 1 Juan 2.1–2 (NVI); ¹ Mis queridos hijos, les escribo estas cosas para que no pequen. Pero si alguno peca, tenemos ante el Padre a un intercesor, a Jesucristo, el Justo. ² Él es el sacrificio por el perdón de nuestros pecados, y no sólo por los nuestros sino por los de todo el mundo.
 - c. There is only one way we know and understand what sin is – through the word of God
 - i. There are many lists of sinful behavior – Romans :24-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21 (“things like these”), and Revelation 21:8 are some
 - ii. 1 John 1:7–9 (ESV); ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 - iii. 1 Juan 1.7–9 (NVI); ⁷ Pero si vivimos en la luz, así como él está en la luz, tenemos comunión unos con otros, y la sangre de su Hijo Jesucristo nos limpia de todo pecado. ⁸ Si afirmamos que no tenemos pecado, nos engañamos a nosotros mismos y no tenemos la verdad. ⁹ Si confesamos nuestros pecados, Dios, que es fiel y justo, nos los perdonará y nos limpiará de toda maldad.
 - iv. “Confess” – to share a common view or be of common mind about a matter, *agree*, to concede that something is factual or true, *grant*, *admit*, *confess* ¹
 - v. If God says it is sin, then it is sin and we cannot say anything else about it

¹ William Arndt et al., [*A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*](#) (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 708.

- vi. We sometimes try to rationalize our sinful behavior, “God wants me to be happy,” “I can’t help who I fall in love with,” – God wants you to be holy, not happy; love is not an emotion but an action and we choose to love everyday
- d. John admonishes us, “I am writing these things to you in order that you may not sin” (LEB)
 - i. Our lifestyle change includes putting away sinful behaviors
 - ii. In the lists of sinful behavior each author writes that those who live a settled, practiced lifestyle of sin will not be part of the Kingdom of God
 - iii. No wonder John does not want us to live a lifestyle of sinful behavior
- e. We (Christians) must be a people who walk in the light, who say “no” to sinful behavior
- f. God even has a plan for those of us who fall flat on our faces when we are striving to live for Him – Jesus Christ the righteous, the atoning sacrifice for all people, for all time, for all sin

III. If

- a. 1 John 2:3–5 (ESV); ³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:
- b. 1 Juan 2.3–5 (NVI); ³ ¿Cómo sabemos si hemos llegado a conocer a Dios? Si obedecemos sus mandamientos. ⁴ El que afirma: «Lo conozco», pero no obedece sus mandamientos, es un mentiroso y no tiene la verdad. ⁵ En cambio, el amor de Dios se manifiesta plenamente en la vida del que obedece su palabra. De este modo sabemos que estamos unidos a él:
- c. This is in stark contrast with the commandments of the old testament (613 of them)
 - i. Galatians 5:22–24 (ESV); ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
 - ii. Gálatas 5.22–24 (NVI); ²² En cambio, el fruto del Espíritu es amor, alegría, paz, paciencia, amabilidad, bondad, fidelidad, ²³ humildad y dominio propio. No hay ley que condene estas cosas. ²⁴ Los que son de Cristo Jesús han crucificado la naturaleza pecaminosa, con sus pasiones y deseos.
 - iii. 2 Peter 1:3-11
 - iv. Philippians 4:8–9 (ESV); ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.
 - v. Filipenses 4.8–9 (NVI); ⁸ Por último, hermanos, consideren bien todo lo verdadero, todo lo respetable, todo lo justo, todo lo puro, todo lo amable, todo lo digno de admiración, en fin, todo lo que sea excelente o merezca

elogio. ⁹ Pongan en práctica lo que de mí han aprendido, recibido y oído, y lo que han visto en mí, y el Dios de paz estará con ustedes.

- vi. Zealous for good works (Titus 2:14), ready for every good work (Titus 3:1)
- vii. Titus 3:8 (ESV); The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.
- viii. Tito 3.8 (NVI); Este mensaje es digno de confianza, y quiero que lo recalques, para que los que han creído en Dios se empeñen en hacer buenas obras. Esto es excelente y provechoso para todos.
- ix. Three times in 9 versus we are admonished and encouraged to be a people who look for, seek out (zealous) ways we can help those around us
- d. We are a people who obey the commandments God has placed in front of us out of love for Him and His Son, Jesus Christ the Righteous
- e. 1 John 5:2–3 (ESV); ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.
- f. 1 Juan 5.2–3 (NVI); ² Así, cuando amamos a Dios y cumplimos sus mandamientos, sabemos que amamos a los hijos de Dios. ³ En esto consiste el amor a Dios: en que obedezcamos sus mandamientos. Y éstos no son difíciles de cumplir,

IV. Ought

- a. 1 John 2:6 (ESV); whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.
- b. 1 Juan 2.6 (NVI); el que afirma que permanece en él, debe vivir como él vivió.
- c. We have an English understand of the word 'ought' – we use 'should' and 'ought' interchangeably
- d. When we use this word, we think there is a choice before us – “you ought to go get some ice cream”
- e. “Ought” -- to be under obligation to meet certain social or moral expectations, *owe* ²
- f. We are indebted to God and that indebtedness requires certain behaviors and actions from us
- g. Our 'choice' is to obey His commandments

V. We Know

- a. 1 John 5:13 (ESV); I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.
- b. 1 Juan 5.13 (NVI); Les escribo estas cosas a ustedes que creen en el nombre del Hijo de Dios, para que sepan que tienen vida eterna.
- c. Christianity is a complete change of our lifestyle – a settled, practiced lifestyle of living for God, of obeying His commandments, and of good works
- d. God demands that we put off the old self, that the old man be crucified in our baptism

² Ibid, 743.

- e. God demands that we put on the new self, that we become a new creature, that we clothe ourselves in Christ