

Listening Guide, Pastor Frank R. Johnson
First John: Authentic Faith for Jesus' People
#3: The Word of Life in the Christian Life
1 John 2:1-6

1 John 2:1-6: FJV: (1) My little children, I am writing these things to you^P in order that you^P may not sin. But if anyone should sin, we have an Intercessor with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. (2) And He Himself is a propitiation¹ concerning our sins, and not concerning our sins only, but also concerning the entire world. (3) And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we are keeping His commands. (4) The one who claims, "I know Him," and is not keeping His commands is a liar, and the truth is not in this person; (5) but whoever is keeping His word, truly in this person the love of God has been perfected; in this way we know that we are in Him. (6) The one who claims to remain in Him ought, just as That One walked, also himself likewise to keep walking.

Take a closer look at *the Word of Life in the Christian life*.

I. The Word of Life, our Lord Jesus Christ, deals effectively with human _____.

1. He _____ us away from sin. V. 1a. See Matthew 5:13 in The Lord's Prayer.
2. He _____ for us regarding sin. V. 1b.
3. He satisfies true _____ regarding sin. V. 2

II. So, what should be our response to the work of the Word of Life?

1. We should _____ His commands. Vv. 3-5
 - a. Assurance is reinforced through _____.
 - b. This is the first evidence of true faith: we fulfill the _____ test: we keep His commands.
 - c. The love of God is perfected in the obedient life (or, we fulfill the _____ test: we love one another).
2. We _____ / _____ as Jesus did. V. 6

Take it home (final applications)

¹ Explore this further in Leon Morris in *The New Bible Dictionary*, 3rd Edition, ad loc. (and extended discussions referenced there), and the discussion in *The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology (NIDNTT)*, Volume 3, pp. 151ff.