

## Week 5 Study Guide - 1st John 2:18-27

### Scripture

18 Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the last hour has come.

19 These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us.

20 But you are not like that, for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth. 21 So I am writing to you not because you don't know the truth but because you know the difference between truth and lies. 22 And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. 23 Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

24 So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. 25 And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us.

26 I am writing these things to warn you about those who want to lead you astray. 27 But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.

### Questions

How do you do at putting furniture together? Do you get frustrated?

What is an antichrist according to this text? (Answer 1 at the bottom)

Reread verse 18 and 19. What does your relationship with the Church say about your walk with Jesus?

What is the difference between false teaching and a difference in opinion? What are some areas that are considered false teaching? What are some areas where there is a difference in opinion?

What do you think it means in verse 20 when it says anointed by the Holy One? (Answer 2 at the bottom) How does being anointed by the Holy One help you determine what is false teaching? What else can help you determine what is false teaching?

Pastor Steve talked about abiding in Jesus. What do you think it means to abide in Jesus? How do you personally abide in Jesus? What is the promise we get from abiding in Jesus according to verse 25?

## **Devotion**

When I was younger I use to eat whatever I wanted. As my football coach use to say, I was on the sea food diet. I see food, then I eat it. One day I went into the doctor. She told me that if I kept eating that way I was going to die at a young age. A couple days later I listened to a podcast on gluttony. It talked about gluttony being a life where you constantly lived in excess. I realized almost instantly that was me. I was always living in excess when it came to food. That next day I started making big changes to my diet. I had tried making changes before, but it never stuck. This time it did though! While gluttony is still my biggest struggle, it is one I have been fighting and making progress on over the past three years. After the conversation with my doctor and listening to the podcast on gluttony something changed inside of me that gave me the ability to change.

When we come to Jesus, He gives us a new heart. He changes us, just like my heart was changed on the topic of gluttony. He gives us the ability to follow after Him. According to the text, God's anointing abides in you. God's anointing is the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit we get this new heart. This means that this new heart changes our desires and makes us more like Jesus. So as we abide in God, God actually abides in us. God is the one that makes it even possible for us to abide in Him. If you are truly a follower of Jesus, He is in the process of changing your heart. As you walk with Him, He is walking with you. You are not by yourself and your change does not happen because of what you have done or do. God is abiding in you, as you abide in Him.

## **Action Steps**

Think - What would it look like if you had to abide in Jesus for eternal life, without Him first abiding in you?

Prayer - Without Jesus first abiding in you, you would not be able to abide in Him. Take time to thank Him for abiding in you. Then confess an area where you were not abiding in Him this past week.

Act - Pastor Steve said abiding is loving people and actively pursuing the Lord. Think of 2 ways you can abide this week and do it!

## **Answers**

1. Someone who denies the work of Jesus, especially after claiming to know Jesus.
2. Many believe that being anointed by the Holy One means receiving the Holy Spirit. The Spirit gives you a new heart which helps you follow Jesus.