

“LOOK BEFORE YOU LOVE”

1 John 2:12-17

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Sunday, October 15, 2017

Those who truly love and follow Jesus Christ must not fall in love with the things of this world, but rather with the Father who gives them everything they need.

I. KNOW WHAT YOU ARE IN CHRIST AND CANNOT LOSE.

1 John 2:12-14 (An Aside About the Church)

Wherever you are at in your Christian walk, God wants you to be encouraged by His grace so that you will grow more.

- A. The Foundation: Know your sins are forgiven and to know the Father. You are forgiven!
- B. The Goal: Know Him who has been from the beginning. You know the Father!
- C. The Means: Overcome the “evil one” through God’s Word. You are victors in the faith!

QUESTIONS – 1 John 2:12-14

- Why is it important to reflect on what we are in Christ and what we have in Christ, as John does in this section?
- Why is motivation so important in Christian growth? How can we maintain it?
- Why is knowing that you are forgiven so basic to the Christian life (see also 2 Peter 1:9)? Is there a danger of abusing this truth?
- How can a person who did not have a loving earthly father grow to appreciate God as his/her heavenly Father?
- What has God used most to encourage you in your walk with Him? How can you be an encouragement to others?