



Growth Group Discussion Guide

"Growing Upward, Inward, Outward, and Forward"

For the Week of October 25, 2015



1 John 2:18-29 (HCSB)

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18 Children, it is the last hour. And as you have heard, "Antichrist is coming," even now many antichrists have come. We know from this that it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they did not belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us. However, they went out so that it might be made clear that none of them belongs to us.

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you have knowledge. 21 I have not written to you because you don't know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie comes from the truth. 22 Who is the liar, if not the one who denies that Jesus is the Messiah? This one is the antichrist: the one who denies the Father and the Son. 23 No one who denies the Son can have the Father; he who confesses the Son has the Father as well.

24 What you have heard from the beginning must remain in you. If what you have heard from the beginning remains in you, then you will remain in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that He Himself made to us: eternal life. 26 I have written these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you.

27 The anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you don't need anyone to teach you. Instead, His anointing teaches you about all things and is true and is not a lie; just as He has taught you, remain in Him.

28 So now, little children, remain in Him, so that when He appears we may have boldness and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. 29 If you know that He is righteous, you know this as well: Everyone who does what is right has been born of Him.

Sermon Outline

- This week we continued thinking through Satan's influence in our world via antichrists (false believers/false spirits)
- John focused in on the need for the truth in this section.
- John warns believers that since it is the "last hour" and Satan is actively working against God to deceive people, we must be aware and on the defense against being led astray.

WELCOME – Getting to Know Each Other Better

- If money was no object, what would you do with your life?
- If you had a warning label, what would yours say?

WORD - Applying Scripture to Our Lives

1. Where do you think truth would rank in a list of values for today's culture?
2. Do you agree that it's not enough for a follower of Christ to walk in light and to walk in love if they are not walking in truth? Why/why not?
3. Why does John remind the church that it is "the last hour?"
4. What did you learn this week about antichrist(s)?
5. How can we recognize a false believer?
6. What "anointing" has God given us (v. 20) to protect us from being led astray? How can we be sure to use this gift from God?
7. What three words does John use in verses 28-29 to encourage us to live intentionally for God?
8. Why is simply understanding the truth not enough?

WITNESS - Prayer Concerns from my Growth Group:

- Who has God placed in your life who does not know Christ?
- How can we pray for your spiritual growth tonight?
- What other prayer concerns do you have?