

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1 JOHN SERIES

These questions are for the **April 30, 2017** sermon, "Intentionality." Please read the sermon passage (1 John 3:4-10) together out loud.

JESUS CHRIST CAME . . .

1. **To take away sins.** (4-6)
 - A. When we make a practice of sinning, we are giving ourselves to . . .
 - i. "a habit which produces hardness."
 - ii. Lawlessness: "I don't care what God says, I make my own rules."
 - B. But in Christ Jesus, we have the power to keep God's moral law.
 - i. Christ appeared to take away sin.
 1. **PAST:** Believers have been delivered from the penalty of sin (justification). Believers have been declared righteous.
 2. **PRESENT:** Believers are being delivered from the power of sin (sanctification). Believers are becoming more like Jesus.
 3. **FUTURE:** Believers will ultimately be delivered from the presence of sin (glorification). Believers will one day be completely free from sin.
 - ii. Don't confuse the "already" with the "not yet."
2. **To destroy the works of the devil.** (7-10)
 - A. The main work of the devil is deception. He deceives us.
 - i. He wants to convince us that we can remain in our sin and still be "Christians."
 - ii. He wants you to think that you can live however you want and still have Jesus.
 - B. A profession of faith that does not result in a changed life is empty and dead.
 - C. The believer is called to abide in Christ. Stay right with him. Make your home in Jesus.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: What habits in your life have begun to produce hardness? Is there a behavior present today that was not present a year ago? A growing bad attitude? A secret website? A secret desire that you let yourself think about too much? Would you say that you are becoming hardened in a habit?
2. Based on #1, above: The essence of lawlessness is living how you want, without caring at all about what God says about your life. Most lawless people who live in the church think, "God will forgive me." Do you have a lawless streak?
3. Based on #1, above: Discuss the impact that Christ has on sin--past, present and future.
4. Based on #2, above: Discuss this: If we say that we are abiding in Jesus Christ, but remain in our sin, we are not truly believers.
5. How can we pray together?