

## Small Group Curriculum • 1 John • Hello, Life.

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### COUNTERFEIT GUIDES • WEEK 4 • 1 John 2:18-3:10

As we continue in our study of John's first letter, we will hear his warnings to Christians about the deception of false teaching and his encouragement to remain in Christ. As children of God, we have the assurance of the Word and Spirit, helping us remain and grow in righteousness.

### REMINDERS

- Looking for a place to serve? Consider joining The Space Team that prepares our kids and adult spaces every weekend so that the church can gather for connection and transformation. You can find out more about this once-a-month volunteer opportunity by emailing [layth@awakeningchurch.com](mailto:layth@awakeningchurch.com).
- Giving is a powerful spiritual discipline and act of worship that also resources God's unique mission at Awakening. To join our giving community go to [awakeningchurch.com/give](http://awakeningchurch.com/give).

### ICEBREAKER

Are you a gullible person? When has someone convinced you of something that turned out to be a trick or prank? (For example: At 18 years old, I went to the Mystery Spot in Santa Cruz for the first time and was 100% convinced of it.)

### INTRODUCTION

In this section of John's letter, he describes challenges Christians face from false teachers who deny that Jesus is the Christ.

**QUESTION:** Where do we experience challenges from worldviews and cultural messages that deny or distort Jesus today? Where do you see these distortions shaping or influencing your own views about life and faith?

**Transition:** Following John's warnings of false teaching, he encourages followers of Jesus to abide in the truth. Let's look at Scripture for how we are to stay rooted in God's grace and grow to maturity in Christ.

### DISCUSSION

READ: 1 John 2:18-3:10

### QUESTIONS

1. Looking at verses 2:24-29 in John's letter, what will protect followers of Jesus from being deceived by false teaching?
2. In his gospel, John records Jesus' teaching on abiding. Read John 8:31-32 and John 15:4. What do you notice about Jesus' teaching on abiding?

# A W A K E N I N G

3. What comes to mind when you hear “children of God” in verses 3:1-3? Who holds this identity? See John 1:12-13.
4. What promises are given to the children of God? Knowing our identity as God’s children, what is to be our response? See verses 3:4-10 and 2 Corinthians 7:1.
5. In verse 9, what allows righteousness to grow in children of God?

## **RESPONSE**

1. Where have you seen the evidence of “growing in righteousness” in your life? How is abiding connected with growing in righteousness?
2. In what area(s) of your life do you need John’s reminder to abide in Jesus (a reminder of the gospel)?

**Transition:** God’s Spirit empowers us to remain in Him and grow in righteousness, so let’s go to God in prayer and ask for His help to continue shaping us into people like Jesus.

## **PRAYER**

As people who are entirely dependent on God, take time now to thank and praise God for His grace that allows us to know Him and His truth. Ask God to empower us by His Spirit to remain in Christ and grow in righteousness, for His glory. (\*If time allows, open up the prayer time to take personal requests and pray for them as a group).