

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1 JOHN SERIES

These questions are for the **April 23, 2017** sermon, "That Future Appearance." Please read the sermon passage (1 John 2:28-3:3) together out loud.

IN THE "NOW" VERSUS "NOT YET" TENSION, CONSIDER THESE PHRASES . . .

1. **Abide in him.** (28)
 - A. Abide means "to make your home" in Jesus Christ.
 - B. Don't be confused by present troubles. Jesus promised they would come.
 - C. A future day of perfection and perfect peace is coming.
 - D. We are instructed to speak with confidence (now) about the certainty of Jesus' return.
2. **Born of him.** (29)
 - A. Relationship produces resemblance. Do you look more and more like Jesus?
 - B. Those who abide are those who are born of Christ.
 - C. Born once, die twice. Born twice, die once.
3. **Be like him.** (3:1-2)
 - A. The love of God is so great that we don't have a category for it to fit in.
 - B. We will not be God's children only in the future. We are God's children now.
 - C. His children must be becoming like him.
4. **Hope in him.** (3:3)
 - A. Hope is a conviction that God is at work today for good things in the future.
 - B. If you hope in him, you will not give yourself over to sin, but will purify yourselves.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Do you speak with confidence (now) about the certainty of Jesus' return? How do current troubles and stresses challenge this confidence? How can you speak of Jesus' return as a promised joyful blessing, rather than simply a coming judgment?
2. Based on #2, above: Take an inventory of your words, your patience, your grace and your love. Are you looking more like Jesus today than you ever have? Why or why not?
3. Based on #3, above: Wrestle with this question: "What kind of love has the Father given to us?" Consider that you were a rebel, hopeless and owed eternal separation from God. But he gave you sonship through the death and resurrection of his own Son. What kind of love is this?
4. Based on #4, above: Hope is a conviction that God is at work keeping his good promises no matter how hard your life is right now. The appropriate response for those who hope is not to dive into all manner of sin, but instead to purify themselves. Even when there seems to be no earthly reward for doing so. Those who hope in God purify themselves. Would others be able to see your hope in God by the way that you are purifying yourself? Why or why not?