**Week 4 Sermon, January 22, 2023**

**1 John 2:3-6 – Abiding in Christ**

**Discussion Questions**

1. In the letter of 1 John, the Apostle’s intention is to encourage the believer and strengthen his/her assurance of salvation *(see 5:13)*. How certain are you in assurance of your own salvation? Do you have a conscious confidence of being justified in Christ? How can you deepen that confidence or help someone else who is struggling?
2. According to our passage, what three responses do believers have when we know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord? To know Him is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him *(vv.3-4)* is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him *(v.5)* is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in His example *(v.6).*
3. To what can I point in my life as evidence of my salvation? What is my response to God’s sanctifying work in me? How can I respond to someone who believes he/she has something to offer in the work of salvation? Review Ephesians 2:8-9, 2 Timothy 1:9, Titus 3:5.
4. Our love for the Lord is not fueled by obligation but by His love for us. Look back at chapter 14 of John’s gospel. According to verse 31, how does Jesus show His love for the Father? Now look at verses 15 and 21: how do we display our love for Him? To be certain, read verses 23-24. Ask the Lord to help you love His word more and obey Him in ALL things.
5. Why do you desire to please God? When you say you know the Lord, is it mere mental assent or is it a deep hunger to be in communion with Him? How can you avoid being like the ones described in Titus 1:16? What does John 3:36 say about believing in the Son?
6. When we remain in obedience to Christ, we will bear much fruit. The fruit bears testimony to what kind of tree it is. What does your fruit say about you? How might I better abide in the true Vine? What do verses 2:6 and 3:24 say about abiding in God?
7. What assurance/comfort can we gather from verses like Philippians 1:6, Galatians 2:20 and 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17? Meditate on these verses and confess any anxiety or doubt you may be harboring.