

# LifeChanges – October 5, 2018

## 1 John 2:3-17                      Lessons 4 and 5

### *Obedience, Love and Light, Inspire*

#### **Obedience**

We know Jesus if we obey His commands.

It is easier to say the right thing sometimes than to do the right thing.

Following Jesus means loving as action.

God is Love. 1 John 4:8

But Love is not just a noun, but also a verb. "Love Does" Bob Goff

Love is active. It means doing things that obey and honor Jesus.

It means loving as Jesus did. Loving his people, who need love.

Walking as Jesus walked – 1 John 2:6

How did Jesus view others? Treat others? Use his time?

#### **Love**

One great command is to love God, love others. "Agape" love, page 53

This is both old and new.

It is old from the Old Testament –

Leviticus 19:18 *"Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD."*

And new in the New Testament from Jesus –

John 15:13 *"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."*

#### **Light**

"Whoever claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in darkness."

Love your brother or sister and be in the light.

Hate your brother or sister = walking in the darkness.

#### **Inspiration**

John writes in 1 John 2:12-17 to people who already knew Jesus.

They don't need to know Jesus for the first time, but need to be reminded.

They need to be inspired to:

Obey Jesus commands

Love others – it's a choice

Choose to love even those you might disagree with

We can be inspired by John because:

We're forgiven, we know God, we've overcome evil, we are strong, and the word of God lives in us. We need to live "of God," and not "of the world."

***May Jesus inspire us to live/love!***