

Abiding in Light, Love, and Life

Personal Application

Abiding and Spiritual Rebirth

1 JOHN 5:1-12

Overview

The Christian life is the changed life because God brings about a spiritual rebirth in us. This means we are renewed—a new creation. While this is an internal change, it also expresses itself in renewed ways of faith, love, obedience, victory, and a deepening relationship with God.

Notes

The Fruit of Spiritual Rebirth:

1. Sound Faith (vv. 1, 5)
2. Love for God and people (vv. 1-2)
3. Obedience fueled by love for God (vv. 2-3)
4. Victory over this world (vv. 4-5)
5. Embrace of Christ and his Gospel (vv. 6-12)

Reflection Questions

1. When you hear the term “born again,” what comes to mind? Why? How does John 3:1-8 help your understanding?
2. How does the fact that a Christian has been born of God impact daily experience?
3. What is the relationship between regeneration (being spiritually born again) and sanctification (daily spiritual growth)?
4. Where in your life can you celebrate the fruit of spiritual rebirth (faith, love, obedience, victory, and relationship)? Where in your life are you struggling with one or more of these?
5. John puts a lot of weight on the testimony and truth of who Jesus is as the Christ and the Son of God. How can we practically work to pursue and protect a right understanding of who Jesus is?
6. What change in how you think and/or live could you pursue in the weeks ahead as a result of this study and conversation?