

1st John
Getting Started With God

Two questions that separate those who've actually started the journey from those who've never left base camp

1 John 1:1-2:2

JOHN'S HANDY DANDY
SPIRITUAL LIE DETECTOR BOOKLET

1 John 1:3 2:1 2:26 5:13

Purpose:

10 Spiritual Tests:

THE PASSAGE:

1 John 1:1-2:2

IF WE WANT A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, THERE'S ONE THING WE MUST NEVER FORGET

1 John 1:5 Genesis 3:1-5 Hebrews 11:6

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TWO QUESTIONS THAT SEPARATE SPIRITUAL POSERS FROM GENUINE CHRISTIANS

1) The *Basic Morality* question:

Am I _____?

1 John 1:6-7 Galatians 5:19-21 Matthew 5:14-16

John 3:19-21 & Ephesians 5:8-16 2 Peter 1:3-11

Darkness =

Light =

2) The *Spiritual Humility* question:

Do I see myself as a _____?

1 John 1:8 – 2:2 Romans 3:23 & 6:23 Romans 7:14-25

Galatians 2:21 Romans 5:6-10

Sinner ≠

Sinner =

1. If you had to travel 500 miles, which mode of transportation, terrain and person on the journey would you choose and why?

Transportation

Limousine – Convertible - Dirt Bike - Road Bike
NASCAR - Dune Buggy - 4X4 - Bicycle
Other

TERRAIN

Mountain Road – Freeway - Desert
Coastline Road - Back Wood Dirt Trail
Raceway - Other

PERSON

Mother Theresa - Famous Entertainer (Who)
Oprah Winfrey - George W. Bush
BONO - A Famous Athlete (Who)
Other

2. How do you think the average person on the street would respond to the idea that God is ALL good?

3. From this weekend's message, which one statement, point or insight was most helpful, challenging or even confusing to you personally?

4. As we saw, John's big picture purposes for writing 1 John were to widen the circle of people who shared fellowship with him and with the Lord (see 1 John 1:3-4) and to make it easier to tell the difference between a spiritual poser and a genuine Christian (see 1 John 5:13).

It's important to note that he equates fellowship with other Christians as a key by-product of genuine fellowship with God. Read what the writer of the book of Hebrews says about combating tendencies toward isolation.

Hebrews 3:12-14

Hebrews 10:24-26

What is the best way for someone to encourage you spiritually and the best way for you to personally stay connected to others?

5. This week we saw the importance of both *Basic Morality* and *Spiritual Humility*. Admitting that we've sinned and need forgiveness is an absolute essential step for anyone wanting to get started with Jesus. It also greatly impacts how we treat others. Read **Matthew 5:3-11**. Here Jesus gives a list of attitudes and actions that lead to His blessings. How do you think a strong sense of Spiritual Humility would impact the way a person lives out these attitudes and actions? Be as specific as possible.