

CTK Community Group Sermon Discussion Questions & Announcements
Week of 3/27/22

Sermon Discussion Questions | [1 John 2:28-3:3](#)

John writes about Jesus' second coming. If we were to come into the presence of God, how would we approach him?

- 1) Shrinking Back in Shame 2) Beholding the Father's Love 3) Living as His Children

Shrinking Back In Shame

Daniel began his sermon by referencing a NYT interview with novelist Amy Tan. In one of her books she tells the story of an anxious American woman and her overbearing mother. During the interview Tan describes her own experience growing up as a child with a mother who expected a lot from her. She said, "I had a very demanding mother. I thought I disappointed her in every single way. She wanted me to be a concert pianist, and that would be on weekends. My day job would be a brain surgeon."

1. Have you ever struggled to live up to someone else's unrealistic expectations? If so, what was that experience like for you?
2. How has the shame of your failures (real or perceived) in those human relationships affected how you view and approach your relationship w/ God?

Beholding the Father's Love & Living as His Children

1 John 3:1 begins with the glorious command for followers of Jesus to... "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are!"

Daniel emphasized John's instruction for us to "See!" Other translations say "Behold!" John means for us to intensely fix our eyes, our focus and our attention upon God's love and meditate deeply upon the truth that he calls us his beloved children.

3. What different sources in your life do you "behold" or "look at" to draw your sense of identity and self-worth - apart from your identity as God's child.
4. According to J. I. Packer, the richest answer to the question, "What is a Christian?" is "one who has God for his Father." What are some implications in this understanding of God's relationship to us? What are the positive results when we embrace this truth? Why do we find it so difficult to live in light of this truth?

Announcements:

- Registration Reminder: Starting April 3, masks will be optional during the service. Anyone who would prefer to wear one is welcome to do so. Communion servers will continue to be masked and gloved. Children's Ministry policies remain unchanged.