

# The Life of Fellowship

## Studies on 1 John

### 7. Faith (2)



#### Introduction

In the previous study we began to look at the importance of our faith. We have seen John's warning against false teaching and false teachers. In this final study of 1<sup>st</sup> John we will learn what true teaching is.

#### TRUE TEACHING

- \* How can we know the truth according to 1 John 2:20 and 1 John 4:6? Also see John 16:13-15, John 8:31
- \* Why do we need not live in fear of being led astray from the truth? 1 John 2:27, 4:3-4, 5:4
- \* What truths will a person believe if he really is a child of God? 1 John 2:23, 4:2, 14-15
- \* How else can we be sure that we are 'born of God'? 1 John 2:29, 3:10, 4:6
- \* In the previous two studies we have seen that if we love and obey God we will abide in him. What else is essential if we are to know that abiding relationship with him? 1 John 2:24, 4:12-13
- \* What certainty do we have if we abide in the truth? 1 John 2:25, 5:11-12



#### **Discuss**

There are many people who have grown up in families and communities that are Christian, but they only know these truths intellectually. What is the difference between knowing these truths intellectually and being born again? Discuss.



#### **Discuss**

How can we share with a person like this, so they come to a heart knowledge of Jesus Christ and are born again? Discuss.

- \* What wonderful things can we know with a certainty if we are God's children? 1 John 3:2, 5, 14, 4:13, 16, 5:19



#### **Discuss**

Discuss these comments:

- a. 'It doesn't matter what you believe as long as you are sincere.'
- b. 'I'm not interested in being theoretical. My Christianity is practical.'

#### Conclusion

The Apostle John begins his letter by saying that he wants to share with us what he has seen and heard, so we too can have fellowship with God the Father, and with one another. What had he seen and heard? He had seen Jesus, and how he was crucified and died, and how he rose again on the third day. John shows us that it is only by believing these truths and abiding in God's Word that we can know the Father and have fellowship with him. Not only that, we can have fellowship with one another, as we belong to the same family – the family of God.