



Taking Life's Most Important Test!

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?

1 John 1:1-4 (NIV)

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete.

1 John 5:13 (NIV)

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

I. Have you made a clear confession?

(1 John 2:23; Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9; 1 John 5:1; Ephesians 2:8-10)

- Saving faith is trusting Christ and Christ alone for your salvation.
- Faith is putting your trust where God put your sin.
- Grace is God's hand reaching down from heaven, and faith is our hand reaching up to heaven.

2. Are you growing in obedience?

1 John 2:1-6 (NIV)

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. ³ We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. ⁴ Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵ But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶ Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

1 John 3:3-6 (NIV)

All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

- Change of heart always leads to a change of life.
- Good works are not a condition of salvation but a consequence of salvation.

3. Are you growing in your love for others?

(1 John 2:9; 1 John 4:19-21; 1 John 3:14-15; Galatians 3:28)

- The cross not only unites us to God, but it unites us together for the mission of God.
- Our chief identifier is not the hue of our skin, but whose Spirit dwells within us.

4. Are you aware of the Spirit alive in you?

1 John 3:24 (NIV)

The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

1 John 4:13 (NIV)

This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.