



## World Christian Fellowship

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### Test yourself- Are you a Christian?

Apostle Paul write to the Church in Corinth 4 letters, but we have got 2 of them with us.

In his final remarks he asks them to test themselves.

**2 Corinthians 13:5**, *Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.*

Every time we see a great wave of awakening happens and after some time, we see many people walk away from their faith and commitment to God.

Someone who was touched by the Holy Spirit and enjoy the benefit but then they done get saved.

How can we confirm that whether the Holy Spirit has convicted the person of sin and that person has completely committed his life to God?

By their life filled with holiness

Holy living!

We have preached so much about sanctification and ongoing sanctification on a believer's life.

True salvation always produces an abiding change of nature in a true convert. Therefore, whenever holiness of life does not accompany a confession of conversion, it must be understood that this individual is not a Christian.

But there is a popular belief in our modern day 2020 that if you feel the Holy Spirit or may be manifestation of the Holy Spirit is the evidence of salvation. Sad to see this in our days. This was the case in the past years and in centuries.

Lord Jesus concerned about this that is why He repeatedly preached on this.

Apostle John wrote his first letter on the same subject.

**1 John 5:13**, *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

John in this letter gives us a series of tests to determine whether you possess eternal life. If you don't pass these tests, you will know where you stand and what you need to do.

If you do then you will have reason to enjoy your eternal salvation with great assurance.

## **1. Fellowship with God and Christ**

Have You Enjoyed Fellowship with Christ and the Father?

**1 John 1:1-4**, *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—<sup>2</sup> the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—<sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.*

John knew and had acquaintance with Lord Jesus Christ while He was on earth. That fellowship enabled John too knew about the Father God.

We should not think that John has got some wonderful experience its only available for him since he knew the Lord in flesh.

**1 John 5:1**, *Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.*

*Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. (NLT)*

It is not a surprise for anyone is a believer who loves God and Christ. This is the basic of our Salvation.

It is characteristic of any believer to love God and Christ.

It is a sign of the holy affection.

**1 Corinthians 1:9**, *God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Paul described what that fellowship meant to him.

**Galatians 2:20**, *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

We as believers have divine life living in us!

Also, an experience to be enjoyed in knowing God intimately.

**John 10: 10**, *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

If Jesus had just said, "I came that you may have life," we could conclude He was talking only about His gracious provision of eternal life.

By adding that life could be abundant, Jesus was moving into the dimension of experience. The Christian life is a rich life.

We, as Christians, are meant to experience joy, peace, love, and purpose.

When someone shares their testimony before their baptism, they are not just announcing that they know God, but their experience involves the feeling, the overwhelming sense of forgiveness and purpose in his or her life.

A taste of the abundant life Scripture describes in terms of our fellowship with the Lord.

The God of all comfort

**2 Corinthians 1:3**, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,*

The God of all grace

**1 Peter 5:10**, *But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.*

The God who supplies all our needs according to His riches in Christ

**Philippians 4:19**, *And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

The God who leads us

**Ephesians 5:19**, *speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,*

The God to whom we cry "Abba! Father!"

**Romans 8:15**, *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."*

The God whom we can draw when we are in trouble.

**Hebrews 4:16**, *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

God Himself so greatly enriches us. Our fellowship with Him is the abundant life we experience.

Have you experienced communion with God and Christ?

Have you felt the presence of God?

Do you love God?

Love of God does that draws you to His presence?

Have you experienced the sweet communion of prayer?

Have experienced the joy of talking to the living God?

Have you experienced the grace that comes upon you when you discover a new truth in His Word?

If you have, then you have experienced the fellowship of salvation.

## **2. Sensitive to Sin**

Are You Sensitive to Sin?

**1 John 1:5**, *This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.*

John was saying that the message the Lord sent to us is about Himself, specifically that He is absolutely sinless.

**1 John 1:6**, *If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.*

Light and darkness do not coexist!

Light drives the darkness away but darkness can't drive light away.

John went on to develop that theme further.

**1 John 1:7-10**, *But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

Some people make some amazing claims that they have fellowship with God—to be Christians (v. 6), to have no sin (v. 8), and even to have never sinned (v. 10).

They think they are walking in the light when they are walking in darkness.

It is characteristic of unbelievers to be oblivious to the sins in their lives. The individuals mentioned in verse 8 are not dealing with their sins because they think they have reached a state where they have no sin.

But they are deceiving themselves.

Those mentioned in verse 10 have never even confessed or acknowledged sin. With that attitude they are in fact denigrating God.

**Romans 3:23**, *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

Since unbelievers are so insensitive to the reality of their condition, human sinfulness is the right starting point in sharing the gospel.

Believers, "walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light" (v. 7). We walk a virtuous walk, "we confess our sins" (v. 9).

True believers have a right sense of sin. They know if they are going to commune with God, they must be holy. When sin occurs in their lives, they know it must be confessed.

John takes this teaching a step further in the next chapter.

**1 John 2:1**, *My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

True believers realize they don't have to sin.

But when they do, they know whom to go to Jesus Christ, the believer's advocate. The intercessory work of Christ is one of the great trinitarian securers of our salvation.

An encouraging reality to hang onto when confronted with personal sin.

The person who is truly saved is sensitive to the sinful realities in his or her life.

Apostle Paul gives us insight about his life heightened awareness of sin's work in his own life (Romans 7:14-25).

Consider how that applies to you.

Are you very much aware of the spiritual battle intense within you?

Do you realize that to have true communion with God, you must live a holy life that you can't walk in darkness and claim to have fellowship with Him?

Are you willing to confess and forsake any sin in your life as you become aware of it?

Do you realize you can choose not to sin and that you are not fighting a battle you are obliged to lose?

But when you do fail, do you go to your divine advocate?

Do you sometimes cry out with Paul, "Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?" (Romans 7:24)

You are so weary of the burden of sin in your flesh?

If so, you are obviously a Christian.

Since salvation is secure, you might as well enjoy it and be fully assured.