

Flag Branch Missionary Baptist Church  
Baptist Training Union

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> John**  
How Should A Christian Live

**Study 3: Knowing God – 1 John 2:3 - 2:14**

3. Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.
4. He who says, I know Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
5. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.
6. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.
7. Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.
8. Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.
9. He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.
10. He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.
11. But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
12. I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.
13. I write to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, because you have known the Father.
14. I have written to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one.

## Discussion

- A. What does it mean to “know” someone? In what manner or way is John using the words “know Him” in this verse? What can we “know” about God? v. 3
- B. How does John say we can receive knowledge of God? Why do you think this is required in order to “know” God? v. 3
- C. In what way does a person who says he or she knows God but does not keep His commandments not only wrong about knowing Him, but is also a liar? v. 4.
- D. What are two things keeping God’s commandments reveal about someone? Explain what these two things mean about a person’s relationship with God. v. 5.
- E. How did Jesus “walk” or live? To what extent must or ought we and can we “walk” as Jesus walked? What does it mean if we don’t? v. 6.
- F. What is the old commandment John’s readers already have or have heard? How far reaching do you believe this commandment to be? v. 7
- G. John says the old commandment is a new commandment. What is this new commandment and in what manner is it different from the old? What is the “darkness” and “light” John is referring to? v. 8
- H. How does or can a person claim in be in the “light”? What does John say is a sure sign a person is not in the “light”? v. 9.
- I. How would you define or describe “hate”? How does “hate” manifest or reveal itself in people? Is there really a place between “love” and “hate”? If so, what is it? v. 9
- J. Who is the “brother” John is referring to? What does John mean by “no cause or occasion of stumbling”? What are the effects of “hating one’s brother”? v. 10
- K. John again gives reasons why he is writing this letter. Describe some of the reasons John gives for writing this letter. John identifies several groups of people. Which group do you think you mostly likely fit into? v. 12-14.