



12/23/2012

Youth E.D.G.E. Sunday School

Back to the Basics: A Study of 1 John - Part V

Stages on the Journey

1 John 2:12-14

- I. Because you must progress on your spiritual journey, you must identify with the stage of the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12, 13c).

As we consider the spiritual children that John addresses, we must be sure that we **Identify** with them!

- A. Spiritual children are marked by the joy of their \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12).

God gladly forgives all who come to Him through Christ. Spiritual children can't hardly comprehend, let alone get over that joy. Do you remember a time like that?

- B. Spiritual children are marked by the recognition of their Father (v. 13c).

These children who are ignorant and in need of guidance know the Father. They are consumed with this new found relationship with their God and Savior.

- II. Because you must progress on your spiritual journey, you must toil through the stage of the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13b, 14b).

This stage brings about God-ordained conflict. But conflict is not bad!

- A. Spiritual young men are marked by their \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13b, 14b).

Notice the perfect tense. These young men *have overcome* Satan through Christ. As we mature, we learn to fight the enemy, even though the victory is sure!

- B. Spiritual young men are marked by their \_\_\_\_\_ strength (v. 14b).

The young men stage takes the emphasis from biblical relationship to revelation. They have grasped the revelation, and receive strength to live pure by it.

- III. Because you must progress on your spiritual journey, you must aspire to the stage of the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13a, 14a).

These are the spiritually "adult" in the body of Christ.

- A. Spiritual fathers are marked by their \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (v. 13a, 14a).

The fathers have meditated on the depths of Christ's character, and they gain a deep knowledge of Him in order to worship Him fervently.

- B. Spiritual fathers are marked by the confidence in Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13a, 14a).

Time hurries by, but all who achieve spiritual maturity find their refuge in Him who is everlastingly God.