

Sermon Notes

Big Idea: What's the difference between knowing about God and knowing God? What changes take place in your life when you have a genuine relationship with God? How can you be assured that your relationship with God is real? Let's discover what it means to abide.

Can you know that you really know God?

Abide: to stay or remain.

Four Keys to Knowing God:

- 1) Embrace the Facts about Jesus.
- 2) Experience Friendship with Jesus.
- 3) Enjoy Fellowship with Christians.
- 4) Evidence of Fruitfulness because of Jesus.

1 John 5:1-21 (ESV)

If following Jesus feels heavy... you're likely not abiding.

If following Jesus feels inviting... you're likely abiding.

Idols promise things that only God can delivery.

Identifying Idols:

- 1) What gets your attention?
- 2) What are you afraid of losing?
- 3) Where do you get your identity?
- 4) Where do you go for satisfaction?
- 5) What do you make sacrifices for?

The Antidote to Idols: Abide in Jesus

Discussion Questions

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- 2) Read 1 John 5:1-3. Have you ever experienced a time where following Jesus felt burdensome? How about refreshing? What was the difference?
- 3) Read 1 John 5:14-15. How do these verses align with your current prayer life? How confident are you when you pray that God hears you, and that you are praying His Will?
- 4) Read 1 John 5:16-17. How often do you pray for struggling friends who want to overcome the grip of sin in their lives? What have the results been?
- 5) Read 1 John 5:21. Why do you think John ended this letter with this warning? What are some idols you've identified in your life? How can you apply the *Idol Antidote* this week?