



Sermon Series: 1 John: Testing the Pulse of Your Faith Part 1

Speaker/ Date: Chris Carpio, October 31, 2021

1 John 1:1-10

Big Idea: Unity With Jesus Is The Lifeblood Of Our Faith

We'll be asking three different diagnostic questions

Diagnostic Question #1: What is your view of God?

1 John 1:5 says: This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Having this foundational view of and with God is THE best medicine there is for the following two aspects of our faith John will bring us to. For those who may find themselves struggling with their faith, here are a few verses to encourage you.

2 Peter 3:9, Genesis 1:1, James 1:17, John 3:16, Matthew 6:26

God is the promise keeper, the creator, the provider, and the sacrificial king. When we remind ourselves of these truths, we lay the foundation to the beginning of our healing, and we can begin to look at our next diagnostic question.

2. What Environment are you walking in?

1 John 1:6,7

During John's time, there were two popular false teachings that were circulating based on the idea that the body was evil and worthless in light of eternity. The first was to deny the body of all bodily desires through rigid discipline. And the other was to give the body to every desire that it had because it was eventually going to come to an end one day anyway.

Maybe that's you. You sit here thinking, "I know the truth, and one day I'm going to be with Jesus, so while I'm here, I'm going to live my best life." Giving yourself over to every desire that your body has. If that's you, then I'm sorry to say, but you are not living in unity with Jesus. You're walking in darkness. Your relationship with Jesus isn't waiting for you at the end of your life; it's waiting for you here and now. Jesus wants you to know what it means to live in unity with him, with us, with your family.

Learn to walk in "love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control... Why? because Against such things, there is no law."

3. How do you see yourself in relation to God? Above or below him?

1 John 1:8-10 "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

There isn't judgement on the other side of confession; there is only forgiveness. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

If we insist on something else, then the reality is that we make God out to be a liar. If you desire for the pulse of your faith to be strong and consistent, then you must understand your position before God. He is the one who loved you so deeply that he sent his only son to die on the cross for your sins. He is the Alpha and Omega. We are his creation, blessed with the opportunity to love him and others through the breath he's given us.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Is your view of God biblically accurate or based on experience and emotion? Has your view of God changed over the years, or has it remained constant? Explain**
- **What guidance would you give to someone who views God as distant and the cause of their life's pains?**
- **Is it possible for someone to be saved but live a life of sin and total rebellion against God? Explain**
- **Why is it vital that we have an accurate view of our position before God?**
- **Reflect on your faith. How is it? Your spiritual health isn't only a factor in eternity but a core aspect of your everyday life.**