



prepare for next week...

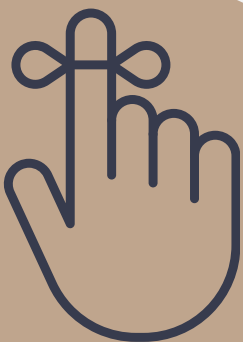
1 John 3:11-24

Women of Peace,

As we engaged with listening prayer this past week and began and ended our time with the first part of 1 John 3, I was struck by the author's emphasis on our identity as children of God. It's as if he knew we might at some point either become desensitized to this great truth or be unable to fully believe it. "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! *And that is what we are!*" We are children of God because God calls us such, names us as such, loves and beckons us into that identity. We are children of God now, but as if that weren't enough, we are being transformed into even more—the likeness of Jesus Christ himself. "We know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is," without our sin-tinted glasses that often obscure the truth of both who he is and who we are.

Incredibly, we are able to help each other see Jesus now as he really is in our love for one another. While this is often relatively easy for us to do, it is not always so. It's easy for me to love people who are like-minded and likeable, but I find it difficult to love fellow believers with whom I disagree politically, particularly those who advocate policies I consider antithetical to Jesus' teachings. And yet, God calls them children of God just as he does me, and commands us to love one another—even to lay down our lives for each other. It is humbling, astonishing, challenging, and befuddling. I haven't figured it out, but I know that our time spent together in God's word, in listening prayer, in examen, and in praying for and loving one another is grounding me more in my identity as a child of the loving Father, and helping transform me into the likeness of his beloved Son through the power of the Holy Spirit. I pray that each of you find this to be true as well.

Peace,
Elisa Johnson



Don't Forget!

Make some time to write out your passage in preparation for our study next week! The study guide at the back of each lesson is a helpful tool in diving deeper into the scripture.

SHARING THE TABLE

Tuesday Evening

Allergies: gluten & nuts

Dinner Sign Up

Oct 28th - Debbie & OPEN

Nov 4th - Anne-Marie & OPEN

Nov 11th - OPEN & OPEN



Thursday Morning

Allergies: cranberries and nuts

Brunch Sign Up

Oct 30th - Hanna & Jodi (Kids)

Nov 6th - Jo Anne & Julia & Emily (Kids)

Nov 13th - Audra & Rachel (Kids)



PLEASE REGISTER

OCTOBER 31ST

All Hallow's Fall Festival
& Chili Cook Off

NOVEMBER 8TH

Women's Day Retreat



ORDINATION OFFERTORY

There are baskets in the foyer to collect cards and gifts for our newly ordained deacons; Sam Thiessen and Matt DuPont. These will be available until Nov 2nd, so please take this opportunity to bless these men and their families!

