

Truth Matters…

So Live in the Truth!

Lesson 6 • 2 John 4-6

Big Idea	The Message of 2 John: Truth Matters in a World of Lies! **LONG** for the Truth and Make it a **PRIORITY in ALL of LIFE**!			
Sections	Truth Matters to God's Elect Leaders & Churches **1-6**		Truth Matters in a World of Lies & Liars **7-13**	
Truth & Abiding	Walk in the Commandments ***Prove the Truth Abides in You by Loving and Obeying!***		Watch for the Counterfeits ***Prove You Abide in the Truth by Being Inhospitable to Error!***	
Truth & Loving	Truth Promotes Love for One Another		Love Protects Truth with One Another	
Lesson	**LOVE** by the Truth! **1-3**	**LIVE** in the Truth! **4-6**	**LOOK** for the Truth! **7-11**	**LEARN** the Truth! **12-13**
Focus	**Truth's PROVISION**	**Truth's PURPOSE**	**Truth's PROTECTION**	**Truth's PURSUIT**

Focus #1 True Christian Leaders PURSUE the Purpose of Truth with a Passion!

What Is the Purpose of the Truth?

To **LIVE IN THE TRUTH** on a daily basis!

Focus #2 True Christian Leaders EQUIP God's Elect People to Live in the Truth on a Daily Basis!

Become Authentic Christians Who…

***WALK** in the Truth!* • ***LOVE** One Another in the Truth!* • ***OBEY** the Truth!* • ***ABIDE** in the Truth!*

Three Ways TRUE Christian Leaders Equip God's Elect People to LIVE IN TRUTH on a Daily Basis

1. They EXPRESS their great joy when God's elect people walk in the Truth.

"I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment to do from the Father." (v. 4)

Three Observations About the Elder's Expression of Great Joy

➤ Truth's ***purpose*** is clear: **WALK** in it! *1John 1:6; 2:17, 29; 3:7-10; 5:2*

➤ True leaders have no greater **JOY** in life than seeing and hearing how their "children" are walking in the Truth. *3John 2-4*

➤ Walking in the truth is not an **OPTION** for God's children—it is a **COMMANDMENT** that comes straight from the Father through His incarnate Son and His indwelling Spirit as revealed in the inerrant Scriptures (SEE v. 2)!

Because Putting Truth into Practice Is a Command from God…

1) It cannot be overlooked or ignored or set aside for the purpose of loving others – it is a commandment from God!

2) It cannot be set aside because the gospel is about grace and mercy versus truth and obedience!

3) It cannot be set aside because cultural changes, personal circumstances, or new concepts!

2. They ENCOURAGE God's elect church to love one another in the Truth.

"Now I ask you, lady, not as though I were writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another." (v. 5)

Three Observations About the Elder's Encouragement to Love One Another

➤ Truth's ***purpose*** is clear: **LOVE** one another on a daily basis.

➤ Lead God's people to obey the command to love versus **ORDERING** them to obey it.

➤ Help God's people see that the command to love one another is **NOT NEW** but is rooted in the gospel from the very beginning.
"*not as though I were writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning"*

1) ***Not*** new in terms of the **TIMING** of the command. *Leviticus 19:18, 34; Deuteronomy 6:5; 19:9; Joshua 22:5; Matthew 22:34-40*

2) ***But*** it is new in terms of the **KIND** of command. *John 13:1, 34; 17:20-26*

New in terms of the ***standard*** –

New in terms of the ***source*** –

New in terms of the ***scope*** – *1John 3:11, 23; 4:7-12, 19-21; 5:1-3*

3. They EXPLAIN to God's elect church that love is never separated from obeying the Truth revealed in God's commands.

"And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it." (v. 6)

Three Explanations to Equip God's Elect People

➤ Truth's ***purpose*** is clear: **OBEY** the truth of God's commandments on a daily basis. *1John 3:10; 5:2*

➤ Love is **WALKING** according to all of God's commandments as revealed in the Bible. *John 14:15, 21-24, 31; 15:9; 1John 2:5*

➤ God's command is that love is never to be **SEPARATED** from obeying the Truth revealed in God's commands.

What Is God's Commandment in These Three Verses?

In ***verse 4*** the commandment is to **WALK** in truth ***as you received it from the Father.***
In ***verse 5*** the commandment is to **LOVE** one another ***as you have been responsible for from the beginning.***
In ***verse 6*** the commandment is to **OBEY** all of God's commandments ***as was revealed to you from the beginning.***

What is Our Lifestyle to Be in These Three Verses?

*Be Authentic Christians Who Live in the Truth by **WALKING**, **LOVING, OBEYING,** and **ABIDING** in the Truth!*

Are We Living in the Truth?

Are we separating walking in truth from loving one another and obeying all of God's commands?
Are we loving one another as a local church as we are equipped by true leaders to live in Truth?
Are we showing our love by living according to all of God's commands?