



## **Before You Resolve (1 John 4:6-10)**

**Resolve:** to decide firmly on a course of action

**Resolution:** a firm decision to do or not to do something

Much of what I say today, for those who grew up in the church, or who have heard hundreds of sermons, will sound cliché. My prayer is that we may each hear with fresh ears today. That we would hear and know, taste and see, the truth.

**Cliché:** “A phrase that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought.” The Word of God is far from cliché. If you hear the Word of God and think, “Oh i’ve heard that before” you’re missing it.

### **Four Points Today**

1. Remember
2. Repent
3. Reconcile
4. Rejoice

## 1. Remember

- Who God is and what He has done

**God is Love!...** 1 John 4:6-10 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. Beloved, let us love one another for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love, does not know God, **for God is love.** In this the love of God was manifested toward us; that God has sent his only begotten son into the world that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, that that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8... Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not [b]puffed up; **5** does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, [c]thinks no evil; **6** does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; **7** bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**8** Love never fails

**God brought you out...** Deuteronomy 6:12 take care lest you forget the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

**God is light...** 1 John 1:5 God is light, in Him there is no darkness at all

So much of the world we live in is dark, ever changing, uncertain....we have hope in God who is light, pure, never changing, free of all darkness

So much of conversation around the new year is about "What are YOU going to do?" before we consider what we will do, first remember what He has already done!

- Who you are

You are accepted. Ephesians 1:6

You are a child of God. John 1:12

You are Jesus' friend. John 15:14

You are a joint heir with Jesus, sharing His inheritance with Him.  
Romans 8:17

You are united with God and one spirit with Him. 1 Corinthians 6:17

You are a temple of God. His Spirit and his life lives in you. 1 Corinthians 6:19

You are a member of Christ's body. 1 Corinthians 12:27

You are a Saint. Ephesians 1:1

You are redeemed and forgiven. Colossians 1:14

You are complete in Jesus Christ. Colossians 2:10

You are free from condemnation. Romans 8:1

You are a new creation because I am in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:17

You are chosen of God, holy and dearly loved. Colossians 3:12

You are established, anointed, and sealed by God. 2 Corinthians 1:21

You do not have a spirit of fear, but of love, power, and a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

You are God's co-worker. 2 Corinthians 6:1

You are seated in heavenly places with Christ. Eph 2:6

You have direct access to God Ephesians. 2:18

You are chosen to bear fruit John. 15:16

You are loved. 1 John 3:3

## 2. Repent

In Matthew, the first mention of Jesus preaching is “Repent”  
Matthew 4.

Repentance: Greek translation Metanoia (met-ah-noy-ah) “Change your mind.”

2 Corinthians 7:8-10

8For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. 9Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. 10For godly sorrow produces repentance *leading* to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

### 3. **Reconcile - to exchange, as in money**

God's two primary commands: **love God, love people.**

Colossians 3:13

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive, as the Lord forgave you.

How much are we supposed to forgive?

One of the best and worst parts of becoming a dad is that now God speaks to me through my own voice.

"David you don't have anything to be afraid of, Daddy isn't going to let anything happen to you."

Hebrews 12:14

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone, and be holy, without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Luke 17:3

So watch yourselves. If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them, if they repent, forgive them.

#### 4. Rejoice

Philippians 4

Rejoice always and again. Be anxious never

List off the things you are thankful for.

#### **Before you resolve...**

REMEMBER: who God is and who you are!

REPENT: change your mind about sinning!

RECONCILE: make every effort to make peace with everyone!

REJOICE: always and again REJOICE!!