

UNSHAKEABLE

INTIMACY WITH GOD LEADS TO CONFIDENT FAITH

About the Series: In a dark world, God is light. In a cold world, God brings love. In a dying world, God brings life. In this study of John's first letter, you will learn what it means to be in fellowship with God and see that growing more intimately close to Him builds up a confident faith that will allow you to be unshakeable in times of uncertainties.

PART 2

Really Knowing God

1 John 2:3-17 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

Discussion Questions

1. How would you describe someone whom you really know?
2. What does it mean to really know God and what does it look like when "knowing God" is lived out? Read 1 John 2:3-2:17.

Knowing God should result in Christlikeness as demonstrated by our obeying of His commands (v. 3-6). What did John say is the ultimate manifestation of knowing God? What are the usual things people do that are displeasing to God, even if they claim to know Him? Why do you think some Christians are motivated to love God because of fear? How would you recognize Christlikeness in a Christian life?

Knowing God should result in Christlikeness as exemplified by loving others as God so loved us (v. 7-11). What does loving one another really mean? What happens when Christians love one another (John 13:34-35)? Is it possible for a child of God to hate a fellow Christian? What does the way you deal with other Christians reveal about you? Why is it possible for a Christian to see others through the lenses of light and to forgive someone who has hurt him or her deeply?

Knowing God should result in Christlikeness through the process of spiritual maturity for a victorious Christian life (v. 12-14). Who was John referring to when he said "little children," "fathers," and "young men"? How do the believers who are young in faith grow in maturity in their walk with the Lord? Can you say that even until now, you are still learning to know God more fully?

Knowing God should result in Christlikeness which rejects the temporary ungodly allures that the world offers (v. 15-17). Why did John warn the Christians that they should not love the world or the things in the world? Discuss what the three areas of worldly temptations—lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—mean. What makes the things and values of the world so enticing even to Christians? How are you guarding your heart so that you can reject the temporary satisfactions that the world offers?

Reflect & Respond

Are you growing in the Lord by putting in the time, energy, and space to really get to know Him that results in becoming more like Him? Evaluate which result is lacking in your spiritual walk. What specific steps do you need to take in order to be more Christlike?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You that it is possible that my faith in You can be unshakeable in spite of the uncertain things going on around me. It is because You have made it possible for me to know You so well. Thank You that it is possible for me to be Christlike by spending time with Jesus and allowing me to be like Him in my desires, heart, and will. Guide me and give me strength everyday in this pursuit. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.