

## **God's Love Perfected In Us (1John 2:3-6)**

**Introduction:** *Having God's love perfected in us greatly expands our hearts.*

### **Exposition**

#### **1. What does it mean to have fellowship with God?**

(a) *"We know Him" (2:3, 4)*

"This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3).

(b) *"Truly the love of God is perfected in him" (2:5a)*

"If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. ... [And] We love Him because He first loved us" (1John 4:12, 19).

(c) *"We are in Him" (2:5b)*

"I am the vine, you are the branches" (John 15:5).

(d) *"He abides in Him" (2:6)*

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me" (John 15:4).

#### **2. How can we know we have fellowship with God?**

(a) *"If we keep his commandments" (2:3, 4)*

It's our God's commanding. There are not mere words. It's our God speaking.

(b) *"[If we keep] his word" (v. 5)*

Loyalty is the proof of love (Deut 10:12-13, Rom 5, Eph 2, James 2, Matt 7:16, Hosea 4:1-2).

(c) *"[If we] walk just as he walked" (v. 6)*

"I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart" (Ps 40:8, see John 15:12-13, John 13:13-14).

### **Application**

#### **1. Do you even know God's commandments?**

"For this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.... Be even more diligent to make your call and election sure" (2Pe 1:5-10).

#### **2. You may have to fight for assurance.**

We are to "know that we know him," and that may require special diligence.

#### **3. You have to come to God before you can obey.**

Jesus says, "Without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

"Such an efficacious governing knowledge of him, therefore, as, by the power of the love which it produces, subdues our souls to the obedience of him, is a certain proof to us of our union with him (1Jo 5:20) and relation to him" (*Matthew Poole on 1Jn 2:5*).