**Day 19 – Saying vs. Doing**

3:13-23

John has been laying out the truth that a child of God practices righteousness and loves our brothers and sisters in Christ. These two actions are proof you have been born again. John has been pleading with his spiritual children not to be deceived by those who would tell you otherwise.

1. In verse 2:13, how does John address those he is writing to? What does he command them not to do?

2. According to verse 14, what do we know, if we love the brethren?

Note: Life, in verse 14, is eternal life; the life of Christ in you, and that you abide in.

3. According to verse 15, the one who hates his brother is what? And what do we learn about the murderer?

4. How does verse 15 reflect Jesus’ teaching in Matt. 5:21-24?

5. What understanding are we to glean from verse 16?

6. What understanding are we to glean from verse 17? Hint: if we are abiding in Jesus, the love of God should what?

Hint: Heart is the key word in v 17.

7. In verse 18. John exhorts his “little children” concerning love. What is the contrast? (This is the central verse to what John is getting at in this chapter.)

8. Read verse 19-21. What should bring assurance to our hearts?

9. Read verse 22. What does this verse mean, keeping it in context with verses 19-21. How and why can we have confidence in prayer?

Note: When we are practicing righteousness and loving the brethren in deed and truth, we know we are keeping His commandments and are pleasing in His sight. We live out His expectations for our life and our heart will not condemn us in any way. When we are in that place, we can go to God in prayer and ask with the expectation to receive from Him.

10. In verse 23 John gives us a 2-part commandment that Jesus gave us. What is it?

11. What does it mean to believe on the name of Jesus?

12. Is the love of the brethren an option for the Christian? What does Jesus tell us in John 15:12?

**Application**: Take some time to think on all it means to love our brothers and sisters in Christ according to our verses for today.

Do I love the brethren?

Do I love sacrificially when the opportunity arises?

Do I love in deed in truth… or just in word or tongue?

Do I have confidence toward God… so that I can pray expecting to receive?

Does verse 23 describe you?

If verse 23 describes you, praise God and thank Him that you are His child and tell Him how you want to please Him with your life! If you fall short in some manner, take it to God in prayer. Maybe it’s a faith… or trust issue. We are saved by faith, but we must also walk by faith. Share your heart with God in prayer. He loves to hear from you!!!!