Abide in Him

Read: 1 John 2:18-27

Main Idea: Abiding in Christ and His truth equips believers to navigate and withstand the challenges presented by falsehood and misinformation.

Key Verses: "Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father." **(1 John 2:24)**

Key Principles

- Because we live in the last hour, we should measure every teacher, book, and voice by what it says about Jesus rather than by how persuasive or popular it sounds.
- Walking away from Christ and His people over time can reveal a heart that never truly belonged, so perseverance is a mark of genuine faith worth examining in ourselves.
- Every believer has received the Spirit, so ordinary Christians can open the Scriptures with confidence rather than depending on a spiritual elite for "deeper" truth.
- What we believe about Jesus determines whether we truly know the Father, so honoring Him as merely a good teacher is not saving faith at all.
- We guard against error not by chasing something new but by returning daily to the gospel we first believed and letting it shape how we think and live.
- The Spirit never leads us beyond or against the Word, so any impression, teaching, or experience that contradicts Scripture must be set aside.

Discussion

1. Where do you see the spirit of antichrist today, redefining Jesus as good but not God or teacher but not Savior, and how can we spot it? (2:18)
2. How does 2:19 both warn and comfort us when people we love walk away from the faith? What difference does it make that those truly in Christ are kept by God?
3. Why does John make confession of the Son the dividing line between truth and lies? How would you answer a friend who thinks he can know God without Jesus? (2:22-23)
4. What does it look like to let what you heard from the beginning remain in you? Which habits keep the gospel at the center rather than drifting toward something new? (2:24-25)
5. Is the "it" that taught you in 2:27 the anointing, the Spirit, or the Word, and how do the Spirit and the Word work together so we neither dismiss teachers nor follow private impressions?
6. What one voice, source, or habit of input do you need to evaluate or replace this week so you are abiding in Christ rather than being led astray?

Prayer

- Pray for hearts to abide in Christ and hold fast to His truth.
- Pray for:
  - Our church to proclaim the true Jesus with clarity and courage.
  - Each of us to remain in the Word and walk by the Spirit.
  - Those who have wandered from the faith to return to Christ.

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I.	**<u>Beware</u> the <u>Deceivers</u>.**		**2:18-19**
	1.	Stay <u>alert</u>.	2:18
	2.	Stay <u>connected</u>.	2:19
II.	**<u>Discern</u> the <u>Liar</u>.**		**2:20-23**
	1.	Know the <u>truth</u>.	2:20-21
	2.	Know the <u>Son</u>.	2:22-23
III.	**<u>Remain</u> in the <u>Truth</u>.**		**2:24-27**
	1.	Let the <u>Word</u> <u>remain</u>.	2:24-25
	2.	Let the <u>Spirit</u> <u>teach</u>.	2:26-27

NEXT WEEK:
Children of God
1 John 2:28-3:10