

Test the Spirits
Life Principles – Part 4
Life Church St. Louis – May 19, 2019
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

John 8:32 (ESV) “and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

1 John 2:21 (ESV) I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

John 14:6a (ESV) Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

1. Gain _____ with God

1 John 3:19 (ESV) By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him;

1A. Defeat _____

1 John 3:20 (ESV) for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

1B. Live in _____

1 John 3:21-22 (ESV) Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

2. Discern the _____

1 John 4:1 (ESV) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

2A. Who is _____?

1 John 4:2-3 (ESV) By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

2B. _____ the world

1 John 4:4, 6 (ESV) Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ... Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

3. Beware of _____

2 John 1:7 (ESV) For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.

3A. _____ yourselves

2 John 1:8 (ESV) Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

3B. Don't _____ false teaching

2 John 1:10-11 (ESV) If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily quiet time of Bible reading & prayer.
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to the service next Sunday.

How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

Test the Spirits Study Guide
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Intro. What does the truth set you free from (John 8:32)?

Intro. Is all truth in the world God's truth? Why or why not?

Intro. Is every statement or teaching either true or false (1 John 2:21)? Why or why not?

Intro. Who is behind truth and falsehood according to the Bible (John 14:17, John 8:44)?

Intro. In what ways is Jesus the only truth (John 14:6)?

1A. Why does God want us to know we are of the truth (1 John 3:19)?

1B. What is the solution when our heart condemns us (1 John 3:20, 1 John 1:9)?

1C. How can we have confidence before God that we are in His truth (1 John 3:21-22)? What benefit does this confidence give us?

1D. What kinds of error and falsehood do we encounter on a daily basis? How can we learn to detect falsehood?

2A. What kinds of spirits are in the world (1 John 4:1, 1 Timothy 4:1)?

2B. Why is the confession that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh a definitive test of the Spirit of God (1 John 4:2-3)?

2C. In what ways are we as believers in battle with these deceiving spirits (1 John 4:4-6, Ephesians 6:12)?

2D. How does every religion or cult other than Christianity fail the test of 1 John 4:2-3? How do the majority of American adults who believe Jesus sinned fail this test?

3A. What is the relationship between a deceiver and a spirit of error (2 John 1:7)? Why does John call a deceiver the antichrist (1 John 2:22)?

3B. Why must we be alert and watch ourselves with respect to deceivers (2 John 1:8)?

3C. If we welcome false teaching into our lives, how do we partake in its wickedness (2 John 1:10-11)? How is watching sin, sin?

3D. What types of falsehood must we not welcome into our lives?