



II John

Scripture Memory

Review Week: I John 1:1-10

Review: Three false views concerning the reality of sin.

1. Denying the sinfulness of sin (1:6)

“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.”

2. Denying that man is sinful (1:8)

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

3. Denying that man sins (1:10)

“If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”

Sunday School Lesson Notes

Truth to Ponder

If our homes and churches are to be true to Christ and oppose the false teachers, we must know the truth. How do we learn the truth? By carefully studying God’s Word and allowing the Spirit to teach us; by listening to others who are true to the faith; and then by practicing what we learn. We must not only learn the truth with our minds, but we must also love the truth in our hearts and live the truth by our wills. Our total persons must be yielded to the truth. How important it is for parents to teach their children to love the truth! While we thank God for Sunday schools and Christian day schools, in the final analysis, it is the homes that must instill in children a love for truth and the knowledge of God’s truth.

Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary: New Testament, Volume II*, p. 535.

Questions to Consider

As you answer the questions and prepare for Sunday school, carefully read II John.

1. As you read through II John, what word is given prominence both in the number of times it is used (vv. 1-3) as well as in the overall message of John's second letter (vv. 4-11)?
2. What was the cause of John's joy in II John 4?
3. In your own words, what does John mean when he states that the children were "walking in truth?" (Hint: II John 4b provides some insight.)
4. What is the specific command given to the believers in II John 5, and how does John describe the nature of this command in II John 6?
5. Summarize John's warning in II John 7 (i.e., who, what is occurring, etc).

In the face of these spiritual dangers, how must believers respond (II John 8a), and what present appeal (II John 8b) and future motivation (II John 8c) does John give for encouraging an obedient response?

6. In your own words, why is "abiding" in (faithful adherence to) true doctrine so critical (II John 9)?
7. According to II John 11, what is the reason believers should follow the instructions given in II John 10?

What was John's motivation for II John 10-11? (Hint: Consider Question 1.)

Truth to Ponder

[Believers] today can only be grateful that the infant church took heresy regarding the person of Christ seriously. Christianity stands or falls with its Christology. From the human point of view, if John and other apostolic leaders had tolerated the "antichrists" who denied the basic truth of the Incarnation, the church might never have survived. We today are the beneficiaries of the spiritual discernment and moral courage of John and others like him.

Glenn W. Barker, "I John" in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981), 12:366.