

- How we see ourselves shapes how we act

### 1. **Christians have an incredible new identity v1**

#### a) You are loved

- The magnitude of the love is seen in the contrast – *we... God*
- Security and significance: Loved, not for who we are or how we perform
- Don't build your identity around a problem, build it around this fact – you have God as a loving father.

#### b) You are being changed

- 'Child' speaks also of a new nature
- As God's child we start to value & do the things God values & does
- Implications – sin can be beaten, temptation can be resisted
- Who is your father? Only two types of people - v10
- The only answer is to ask for a rebirth into God's family

### 2. **Christians are heading for a great transformation v2,3**

- When Jesus returns we will be made perfect, but the transformation has started now – we are *now* God's children – God *seed* is in us.
- Encouraging – sin will not triumph
- Challenge – How we live is to demonstrate that transformation v3

### 3. **Christians must see sin as utterly incompatible with who they are v4-10**

- John not teaching that we can be perfect (rem context - see 1:8-10)
- John not talking about what is physically possible, but what is permissible for Christians - Sin is never an option, never excusable.

#### a) Challenge

- Sin is obeying self not God (ignoring his laws) – v4
- Sin is from the Devil – v8. He didn't die for you.
- Sin denies Christ's work for you – v8b.

#### b) Encouragement

- Christ came to destroy the Devil's handiwork in your life – v8
- You don't have to sin – v7
- You have God's power in you for help – v9

#### c) Action

- Believe Christ's truth – not the Devil's lies
- Fight the lies with the truth
- Stay close to Christ through his word and prayer – v6
- Replace wrong with right – v10



Sabbath 13th April 08  
new life fellowship

S E R V I N G J E S U S C H R I S T T H E K I N G

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

#### Notices

Sab	Evening meeting at Mark & Judith's Read any good books lately? Come and bring a recommendation, Come and get recommendations.	8pm
Tues	Book Study - Disciplines of a Godly Man/Woman - ch 7 Mark & Judith's	8pm
Sat 19th	Western Presbytery Choir Practice - Faughan church hall Practice for the Psalm Festival in Carrickfergus on Sat 31st May (see note below)	7.30pm
Sat 10th May	Family Day Conference - Self worth, Identity and Stress in Childhood Speaker Brenda Kelso - 10.30am-3pm Details on poster - application forms available	

#### Denomination News

##### Summer Camps

Application forms available. Deadline: 1st May. Remember the fellowship pays half the cost

##### Day Visitors to Castlewellan Conference

If you aren't able to go to the conference/holiday week in August you are welcome to go as a day visitor. Please fill in a forms if you intend to go as a day visitor.

##### Psalm Singing Festival in Carrickfergus

The Ulster-Scots agency project for 2008 is 'The Covenanters in Ulster'. As part of a week of activities that is being held in Carrickfergus (but possibly also in Ballymena, Derry, Armagh and Newtownards), they want to hold a Psalmody Festival.

Revs Robert McCollum and Harry Coulter have drawn up a programme on the theme 'Christ and His Suffering Church in the Psalms'. It is based around Psalms that were significant in the lives of key individuals among the Covenanters in the 17th century.

Next Sabbath: 1 John 3:11-24

Opening Psalm: 74:7-11

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