

III. **REMAIN** CLOSE TO GOD (2:28)

John uses three words that encourage us to remain close to God:

A. **Abide** (v 28a)

“3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.” John 15:3-7

B. **Appear** (v 28b)

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
II Corinthians 5:10

C. **Ashamed** (v 28c)

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
II Timothy 2:15

DO YOU HAVE TRUTH?

*“31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;
32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*
John 8:31-32

BIRTHMARKS OF A CONFIDENT BELIEVER

Birthmark #3 - Truth

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INTRODUCTION

A. Life is filled with uncertainties. Will today’s job be there tomorrow? Will my marriage survive? Will my children be ok?

Sometimes these uncertainties touch our spiritual being. We wonder about our relationship with God. Is my life pleasing to Him? These doubts erode our confidence and can be erased.

“13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him,...”

I John 5:13-14a

B. Join me in this eight week series we will reveal the birthmarks of a confident believer.

May 9	Birthmark #1 - Joy
May 16	Birthmark #2- Obedience
TODAY	Birthmark #3- Truth
May 30	Birthmark #4-
June 6	Birthmark #5-
June 13	Birthmark #6-
June 20	Birthmark #7-
June 27	Birthmark #8-

Come as you are and build your confidence as we study God’s Word.

C. **TEXT:** I John 2:18-28 (Pew Bible Page 241/New Testament)

“Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”
John 18:37

HOW TO HAVE TRUTH

I. **RECOGNIZE** FALSE TEACHERS (2:18-23)

John reveals two characteristics of false teachers:

A. They depart from the **fellowship** (vs 18-19)

“14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly:

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”
I Timothy 3:14-15

“1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”
II Timothy 4:1-4

B. They deny the **faith** (vs 20-23)

“I and my Father are one.”
John 10:30

“7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.”
II John 7-11

“8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.”
Colossians 2:8-9

II. **REMEMBER** THE SOURCES (2:24-27)

John describes two sources for truth:

A. God's **Word** (vs 24-26)

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

John 17:17

“15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”
II Timothy 3:15-17

B. God's **Spirit** (v 27)

“21 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”
II Corinthians 1:21-22

“16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”
John 14:16-17

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”
John 16:13