****C3 Questions

*C3 exists to glorify God and edify the body by knowing and delighting in the Father through the joy and love of the Spirit and unity in the Son.*

Red Text = Tips and guides to help use the questions

Blue Text = Sample Answers

Green Text = Additional questions to ask

Got Milk?

In this new series, we will be looking at the God-given provisions for fighting sin. How do you fight sin in your own life? (Give examples and Bible)

How would you define evil and sin? (Give Me Bible: Jer 2:10-13, 19/Rom 14:23, 3:23, 1:23/1 John 3:4/ James 4:17)

* Is there a difference between evil and sin?
* The core essence of evil is preferring anything more than God, loving anything not for God’s sake. Evil has to do with the affections of your heart.
* Evil is always in reference to God.
  + God is the supreme value in the universe
  + Failing to value what is ultimately valuable appropriately is evil
  + Therefore, evil must reference the ultimate reality of the value of God
* Sin is feeling, doing, or thinking anything that reflects the preference for other things above God. Sin if the fruit of evil in the heart. It is the action that results from the evil exchange of God for lesser things.
* Sin always spring from desire or preference or want of something above God and not for God's sake

Where’s the Beef?

Read 1 John 3:4-10. Some say this passage teaches that a believer must be sinless. Does this passage teach this? Why or why not? How does 1 John 1:8-2:1 and Romans 7:14-25 help you understand sin in Christians?

* If all we had to reference was verse 6, it would seem like the passage teaches that those who are in Christ never sin. However, if we look at the context around V6, John shed more light on what he means. Both V4 and V8 talk about a person who *practices* or *keeps on* sinning. In contrast, John describes the person who *practices*righteousness in V7. So that seems to indicate that John was thinking about those people who continually sin.
* Furthermore, if we look at the whole counsel of God's word. Earlier in 1 John 1:8-2:1, John himself makes it clear that believers do sin. If fact, if we say we never sin we we are liars! Paul also makes in clear in Romans 7:14-25 that indwelling sin is an ongoing reality for believers. There is a war going on between our sinful flesh and our minds that delight in God. Clearly, Christians can and do sin.
* In 1 John 1:8-21, how does John encourage us to respond when we sin?
* In Romans 7:14-25, can you sympathize with Paul's struggle with sin especially in V15 and V23?
  + What sin have you struggled with in this way?

In this passage, John describes people who keep on or practice sinning. What does it look like for someone (or you) to practice sinning? And what does John say continual sinning indicates about a person?

* How does Jesus's description of sinners in Matt 7:21-23 fit with what John says here?
* A person who practices sin continually goes back to it over time. They live in a certain sin or they default to it. They may try to fight it for a while but they always end up back in that sin. One of the major indicators of this type of person is that they identify with the sin they do. For example, "I am a homosexual Christian" or "I'm an alcoholic who is saved."
* What does Paul say about people who practice sin in 1 Cor 6:9-10 and Gal 5:19-21?
* What does John say practicing righteousness indicates about a person?
* John says that when a person keeps on sinning it indicates...
  + V4 - they are lawless
  + V6 - they have not seen Christ (2 Cor 4:3-6)
  + V6 - they do not know Christ
  + V8 - they are of the devil
  + V10 - they are children of the devil
  + V10 - they are not of God
  + V11 - they do not love believers

Satisfied?

How do these truths help me see God more clearly?

How do they help me savor God in my heart and mind?

How do they help me show God in my words and actions?