



The Really Real “Reality Show

1 John 2

Small Group Plan

When I was a freshman in college, I was awakened one night by a loud ringing sound. I saw my roommate get out of his bed and stumble towards the door. The light was on in the hallway outside and he stood in the open doorway, just a black silhouette against the light. I asked him what it was, and I’ll always remember his answer, “Nothin, just the fire alarm.” And he climbed back in bed.

OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- Have you ever known of a person to become immune to a serious warning?
- What could cause this ... why would it happen?

LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

— PAYING ATTENTION IN A MULTI-TASK SOCIETY —

1 John 2:18-19

¹⁸ Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

- Since there is no way to keep up with all that is happening in the world, how do you decide where to put your focus?
- What does John mean by “the last hour?”
- In verse 19 we learn that the defectors left the church — Why do people leave the church today? Is every person who leaves a “defector?” Explain.

— LIES & THE LYING LIARS WHO TELL THEM —

1 John 2:20-23

²⁰ But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. ²¹ I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but

because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. ²² Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist — he denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

- We have the Holy Spirit — How does this help us today?
- We can know truth — How do we decide what is true and how do we apply it to life?
- We can identify the antichrist — What does a life of denial look like? How can we reject it?
- We have Jesus — Why is Jesus the way to the Father? How does he reveal God to us?

— THE REALLY REAL REALITY REMAINS —

1 John 2:24-27

²⁴ See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is what he promised us — even eternal life.

²⁶ I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. ²⁷ As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit — just as it has taught you, remain in him.

- What does John say must “remain” in us? Why is this essential?
- What does John say we must “remain” in? What will begin to happen if we don’t?

USE IT / APPLY IT ...

- In view of spiritual counterfeits and the damage they bring ...
 - ✓ How does it feel to be misled? How can a person recover?
 - ✓ What causes spiritual doubt? How we find clarity?
 - ✓ How can we help to preserve and protect what is true?
 - ✓ What is the most appropriate way to deal with the counterfeit?
- Close by thanking God for the clarity of His Word and the life of His Son?