

IN THE BOOK OF 2 JOHN THE

HOLD FAST TO CHRIST

AUGUST 21
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sermon Outline

Key verse

Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully.

2 John 1:8

Hold fast to the truth!

1. Jesus came in the flesh

Many deceivers... do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world.

2 John 1:7

2. Watch out for false teaching

Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them.

Matthew 7:14-15

3. Choose godly influences

I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.

2 John 1:12

Opening Thought

We must hold fast to Jesus in order to endure and not lose the truth of the gospel. There are many deceivers and antichrists who go out into the world spreading false doctrine that does not acknowledge Jesus' humanity. We must be wise in who and what we allow to influence us.

Ice breakers

- Can you think of a time that you were over-confident going into a game or performance? What happened?
- What are the most important characteristics you look for in a friend?

Dig Deeper

- Read 2 John verse 9. What do you think it means to, "run ahead?" Compare this verse with Galatians 5:25.
- What do you find encouraging about Jesus actually coming in the flesh?
- What do you think Jesus meant when he said that false prophets come as wolves in sheep's clothing? (Mt. 7:14)
- What are some ways to safeguard against being deceived by false teaching?
- In what ways do you see yourself slowing down in your spiritual life?
- Rank order the following groups from 1-5 by how much impact they have on you: parents, co-workers or classmates, teachers or boss, friends, core group.

Closing

The digital age makes it easy to connect through Facetime and Zoom, but there is no substitute for face to face interaction. Just as Jesus came to earth in the flesh to draw near to us, so we ought to draw near to one another in loving Christian community. Who do you need to schedule a joyful visit with?