

# How to Change



1 John 2:28-3:10

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- Which part do you like the least about yourself?

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- How can we keep on sinning when we claim to live in Christ?

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- Which part do you like the least about yourself?
- How can we keep on sinning when we claim to live in Christ?
- Sin is active rebellion against God, not just missing the mark or not doing what is right.

# How to Change



## 1. What God has done

- He has made us his children!
  - ✦ Changes come as a result of what God has done
- God has defeated the devil
  - ✦ He has won that victory
- John's NOT saying, 'Try harder!'

# How to Change



## 1. What God has done

- He has made us his children and defeated the devil.
  - ✦ John's NOT saying, 'Try harder!'

## 2. What God will do

- We *will* be like God
  - ✦ Don't despair!

## John Stott



“The new birth involves the acquisition of a new nature through the implanting within us of the very seed or life-giving power of God. Birth of God is a deep, radical, inward transformation. Moreover, the new nature received at the new birth remains. It exerts a strong internal pressure towards holiness. It is abiding influence of God’s seed within everyone who is born of God, which enables John to affirm without fear of contradiction that he cannot go on sinning.”

## How to Change



1. What God has done
  - He has made us his children and defeated the devil.
    - ✦ John’s NOT saying, ‘Try harder!’
2. What God will do
  - We *will* be like God
    - ✦ Don’t despair!
  - We have been changed *in kind*
    - ✦ And we *will* eventually bear fruit!
3. What we do now
  - John’s not expecting perfection now.
  - ‘See’, ‘Behold’, ‘Just look at it!’
    - ✦ God’s love, Christ as he is
    - ✦ Trust in the Holy Spirit and participate in the work