

Text: 1 John 3:1-3

Title: "Motivated Purity"

Theme: If your hope is in God you'll be attracted to a lifestyle of purity.

1 John 3:1-3

1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and *such* we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. **2** Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. **3** And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

OUTLINE:

- I. The Father's Love - (vs. 1)**
- II. The Son's Appearance - (vs. 2)**
- III. The Believer's Purity - (vs. 3)**

Personal Application

1. Take some time this week to think about your current (not past) lifestyle — your words, your thoughts, and your actions. Be determined to live a lifestyle of holy purity, and ask God for His help while you do this.

Small Group Discussion

1. Discuss why you think God loves us so much, and also why He isn't ashamed to call us His children. (Try to give examples from the Bible)
2. Discuss the similarities and differences between Christians and non-Christians. How are we alike and how are we completely different? Then, discuss what 1 John 3:1 means when it says, "For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him."
3. Discuss whether or not your faith in Jesus highly motivates you to live a lifestyle of purity. (Does it or doesn't it?) Under what circumstances are you more likely to live a pure lifestyle versus not?
4. Discuss whether or not you think it is more difficult to live a godly lifestyle today versus fifty years ago. Give examples.
5. Discuss what it means to have your hope fixed on Jesus Christ. How does "hope" impact our lives?