

GOSPEL GUT CHECK: CHRISTIANS GROW BY ABIDING IN
CHRIST

1 JOHN 2:28-3:10 (NRSV)

Overarching theme of 1 John 2:18-3:24:

When the Holy Spirit indwells someone, He actively encourages that person's growth in (1) _____, (2) _____ and (3) love for Christian brother.

I. Even though no Christian is fully _____ sin, we should hope and expect Christians—even _____—to become more like Jesus.

A. John expected this, because the _____
changes us.

1. When God adopts us into His family, the Holy Spirit begins cultivating a _____ in us.

2. When the Holy Spirit indwells us, He gives us new spiritual _____, where there once was only death, sin, and _____.

B. John expected this, because God _____ to make us _____, like Jesus.

1. God has promised that when Jesus returns, His people will _____ like the resurrected Jesus.

2. Looking forward to our _____ glorification actually helps us to grow in holiness _____

C. The _____ we have for ourselves _____
our behavior.

D. So by what _____ do we define ourselves: the Gospel
or something else?

II. We live into these promises and grow by _____ in

A. . Abiding in Jesus...

1. Is not merely a religious ritual or devotional _____.
2. Is a personal pursuit of _____ with Jesus, borne of
our love for Him.

B. This personal pursuit of intimacy with Jesus expresses itself by...

1. _____ on Jesus' character and works.
2. _____ with Him, engaging in the
ordinary means of grace like prayer, Scripture reading, and
worship.

III. The person who (1) hopes in what God promised and (2) engages
in deep intimacy with Jesus, (3) so that they are growing in holiness
—that person also grows in _____ about their eternal
_____.