**11-1-15**

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**Authentic**

**“An Authentic Believer: Has Confident Faith”**

1 John 3:21-24

Dear friends, if we don’t feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. 22  And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him. 23  And this is his commandment: We must believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as he commanded us. 24  Those who obey God’s commandments remain in fellowship with him, and he with them. And we know he lives in us because the Spirit he gave us lives in us.

What The Bible Says

## 1. Guilt destroys confidence before God

21 Dear friends, if we don’t feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence.

OPPOSITE:

If we **DO** feel guilty,

we **CANNOT** come to God with confidence!

John 15:7

But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!

***“Guilt is to the soul like pain to the body”***

## 2. A clean heart is the doorway to effective prayer

22  And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him.

*Obedience is the result of the Holy Spirit's working in his people, teaching them to desire God's will, so that their prayers grow out of this accord between God's will and theirs.*

-labc

## 3. One Command – Two Parts

23  And this is his commandment: We must believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as he commanded us.

* believe in the Name of Jesus
* AND love one another

## 4. Mutual Indwelling

24  Those who obey God’s commandments remain in fellowship with him, and he with them. And we know he lives in us because the Spirit he gave us lives in us.

John 14:20 (NLT)
20  When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

John 15:5 (NLT)
5  “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

Am I ATTACHED?

Application

As a result of active listening to AND applying the truth by real deeds of love, Christians can calm their disapproving (guilty) hearts **and achieve boldness in prayer, and their prayers will be answered !!**

**Here’s Where We’re At:**

**BECAUSE AN AUTHENTIC BELIEVER:**

* Has encountered Jesus
* Obeys God’s Word
* Loves One Another
* Does not love this world
* Knows the Truth
* Remains Faithful
* Is a child of God
* Demonstrates love
* Does not keep sinning

**THEY CAN EXPECT THESE RESULTS:**

* They will be: confident in their faith
* They will be: discerning
* They will be: maturing
* They will be: victorious

Response:

## What is God speaking to me?

## Specifically, how will I obey Him?