

1 John 2:1-6 God Gets It

-I got caught drinking when I was 15. I messed up.

-Many times we ask, "God, are you real?"

-God's love story-repairs that broken relationship.

-But how does he do that?

-The bad stuff we do in life goes against God and hey someone has to pay

-Bad business decisions, Watergate, politics. When something goes wrong they always ask who's gonna pay?

-Jesus became the sacrifice that paid for our mess ups and says "I will live a perfect life and take all your failures, die then will rise again just so that it's all paid for."

-When we give our lives to him, God sends a piece of himself to live in us called the Holy Spirit.

-So after I begin to realize all this, I also begin to see that I messed up once and I am bound to do it again.

-What happens when I mess up again?

1 John begins to answer that question

1 John 2:1-2

"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world."

-We've been hearing the "don't sin thing" since we were two.

-We get caught up in this and we become like I was when I was 15 and start to think God doesn't love us when we mess up.

-We forget about the second part of verse that talks about when we do sin.

When we sin God gets it

-God gets it because God became human through Jesus.

-John 1:10-14 "He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

-Jesus felt what we feel.

-Sometimes we get in this rut of thinking God doesn't understand what we go through and that he is far away

-Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin."

But when we sin what happens?

-Jesus pleads for us and reminds God that he took my sins, too.

-God wants to be with people so badly, but he cannot be around sin.

-Even after we are saved we still mess up so how can God be around us? How can God be close to us?

-When we give our lives to Jesus, God no longer sees our sin. He sees Jesus who paid for it.

1 John 1:3-6

"We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. 4 The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did."

-These verses build on this, on belonging to God.

-Notice how introspective this is.

-It's not for looking at other people's lives, it is for our own.

Being in love with God

-We all crave love, all of us have this hunger deep inside us to love and be loved.

-This draws us to God.

-God already loves us and the relationship is made complete when we choose to love him back.

So what happens when we love God?

-They say you change for the people you love.

-Because Jessica doesn't like ice crunching, even though I like to crunch ice, I have given it up for her.

-When you change for God because you love him you don't do it out of religious obligation. You do it because you want to and it becomes a real change from the heart.

What does it mean to live like Jesus?

-Mark 12:29-31 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

-“I never liked jazz music because jazz music doesn't resolve. But I was outside Bagdad Theater in Portland one Night when I saw a man playing the saxophone. I stood there for fifteen minutes, and he never opened his eyes. After that I liked Jazz music. Sometimes you have to watch somebody love something before you can love it yourself. It is as if they are showing you the way.”-Donald Miller

-When we live like Jesus people begin to see that part of God that he sent to live in us.

But what happens when we fall short?

-1 John 2:1 “My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.”

When we fall short in living like Jesus did **God gets it** and still loves us anyway.

-God understands what I am going through.

-God walks through life with us.