

GENUINE FAITH

1 John 3:4-10

PRACTICE
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Lawlessness (*anomia*) - complete disregard for God's law (His written and living Word).

The Practice of Lawlessness (1 John 3:4)



1. Incorrect Mindset (Ephesians 4:17-18)



2. Lack of Self-Control (Ephesians 4:19)



3. Verbal Divisiveness (Jude 16-19)

Resisting the Practice of Sin (1 John 3:5-9)

One Person: Jesus (3:5-6, 8b; John 14:6)

One Word: Abiding (3:6,9; 1 John 4:13-17)

One Warning: Resist Deception (Awareness)
(3:7-8a; Ephesians 5:6-10)

Evidence of Authentic Faith (1 John 3:10)

Practicing Righteousness (1 John 2:28-29)

Practicing Love - Fruit Catalyst (Gal. 5:22-23)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Romans 3:23, 6:23. What a promise we have in Romans 6:23! What sins in your life lead you to seek repentance on a consistent basis (ex.: your thoughts, behavior, things you say)? Discuss.
2. Read 1 John 3:5-9. In these verses we see John define 1) Who (Person), 2) What (Word), and 3) Warning concerning the battle with sin. What can we learn from his insight intense verses? Discuss.
3. Pray together for a commitment to authentic faith.

1 John 3:4-10: Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; *sin is lawlessness*.⁵ You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin.⁶ No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him.⁷ **Little children, let no one deceive you.** **Whoever** practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous.⁸ **Whoever** makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.⁹ *No one born of God makes a practice of sinning*, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

Ephesians 4:17-19: Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the **futility of their minds**.¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

Jude 16-19: These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.

¹⁷ But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.¹⁸ They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions."¹⁹ It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

1 John 2:28-29: And now, **little children, abide in him**, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.