

Message Notes

Wish You Were Here Part 2: Proof of Residence

1 John 2:1-10

→ you didn't get a rose

#1 Being "in" is awesome. Being "out" is awful.

→ the temple taught the distance between us and God

→ God had a plan for getting rid of that distance - **vs. 1-2**

#2 You're in because of Him. (Jesus)

→ real love is more than just words of love

#3 Obedience is the evidence of our residence.

→ "love" is the target of our obedience - **Matthew 22:36-40**

→ it's easy to get bored with what we have

#4 Daily obedience grows through daily appreciation.



Growth Groups. Growth Groups are a core ministry at Bethlehem. The message notes and questions on the back are used as the basis for our Group discussions.

Group Questions

Wish You Were Here Part 2: Proof of Residence

1 John 2:1-10

1. Share a time when you were excluded from a group, a team, a job. What did you learn through that experience?
2. Have you ever had a church experience where you felt excluded? How did that experience affect the way you view God?
3. Ben spent some time explaining the Old Testament temple floorplan. Can someone summarize what they learned in their own words?

What was God trying to teach people through the exclusiveness of Holy of Holies?

How does this make you feel about God?

4. **Read 1 John 2:1-2.** Based on these verses, why were the Old Testament animal sacrifices no longer needed?

Is God exclusive or inclusive? Explain your answer.

5. React to this statement: *"We will eventually become bored with anything that we have."* Give some examples to support your reaction.

Does this ever happen with God's forgiveness?

6. **Read 1 John 2:3-6.**
Daily obedience grows through daily appreciation.

How is obedience to God connected to our appreciation of God's love?

What's one way that you can grow in your daily appreciation this week?