

I. What we need in order to love God and others

- A. We *must* love God and others – no one will see God without holiness; our works will reveal us at judgment;
- B. We need a heart that desires to love and obey God.
- C. We need to know that we have been reconciled to God.
- D. We need a confident expectation of future joy.
- E. We must be sure that we have the strength necessary to obey God and love him

II. So what do you do if you find yourself stuck in sin?

- A. Running back over and over again to the same false comforts?
- B. Falling into the same patterns of thought and speech?
- C. Finding yourself cold (or lukewarm) toward God?
- D. Whether you are a non-Christian, a new Christian, or a mature Christian, you will face this question.

III. The obedience of faith

- A. There are many factors in overcoming sin, but they all begin with faith!
- B. If you are staring down the barrel of sins you don't want to give up, put your faith in Jesus Christ. (John 6:28-29; Romans 1:5; 2 Timothy 3:15; Romans 10:4; Galatians 4:1; Romans 2:28; Isaiah 64:6)
- C. Objection: faith is too easy! (2 Kings 5:12-13)
- D. Objection: faith is too hard! (Psalm 110:3)
- E. Objection: faith gives false assurance!

IV. The constant renewal of faith

- A. "Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him." (Hebrews 11:6)
- B. Abide in Him. (John 15:4-5)
- C. Come to Him. (Revelation 22:16-17)
- D. Look to Him. (Numbers 21:9; John 3:14-15; Hebrews 12:1-2)
- E. Faced with your sin and helplessness, trust in him and he will help you.