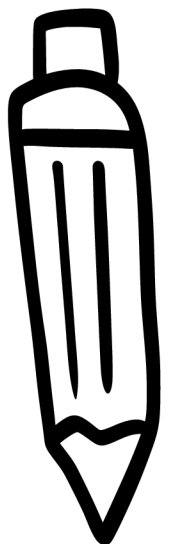
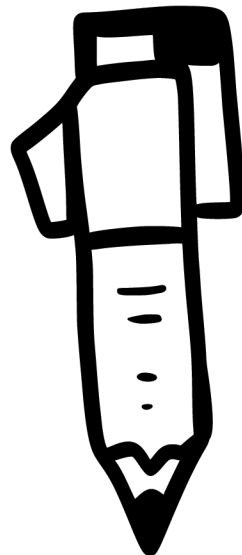
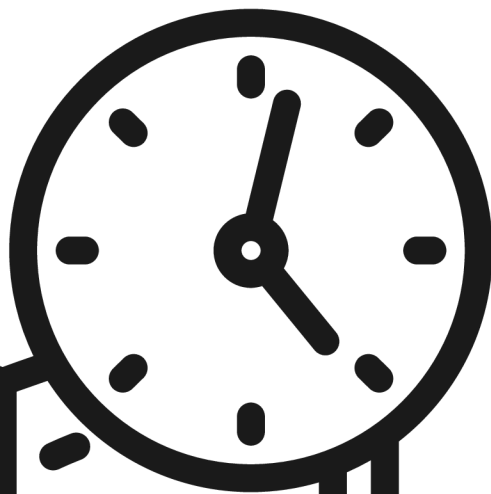
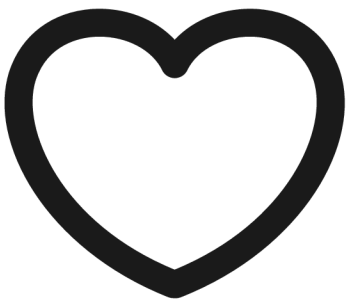


# 1 JOHN 2



My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—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.

### **Love and Hatred for Fellow Believers**

3 We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands.

4 Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person.

5 But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him:

6 Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

7 Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard.

8 Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness.

10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.

11 But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

## Reasons for Writing

<sup>12</sup> I am writing to you, dear children,  
because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.

<sup>13</sup> I am writing to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young men,  
because you have overcome the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> I write to you, dear children,  
because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men,  
because you are strong,  
and the word of God lives in you,  
and you have overcome the evil one.

## On Not Loving the World

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.

<sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

<sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

## **Warnings Against Denying the Son**

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour.

<sup>19</sup> They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

<sup>20</sup> But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.

<sup>21</sup> I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth.

<sup>22</sup> Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist—denying the Father and the Son.

<sup>23</sup> No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

<sup>24</sup> As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

<sup>25</sup> And this is what he promised us—eternal life.

<sup>26</sup> I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray.

<sup>27</sup> As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.

## **Warnings Against Denying the Son**

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<sup>27</sup> As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.

## God's Children and Sin

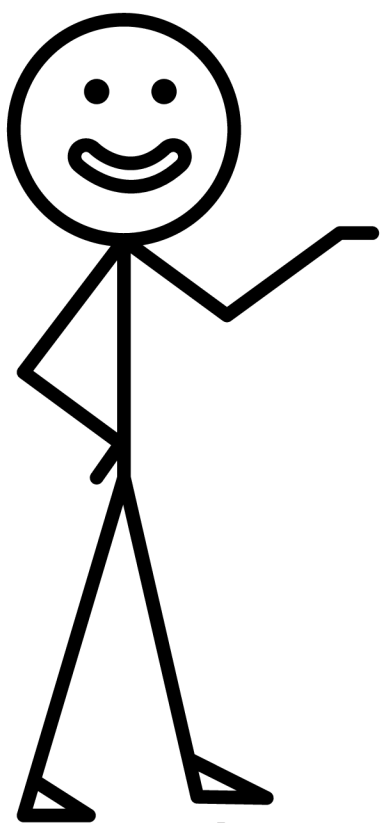
28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

29 If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

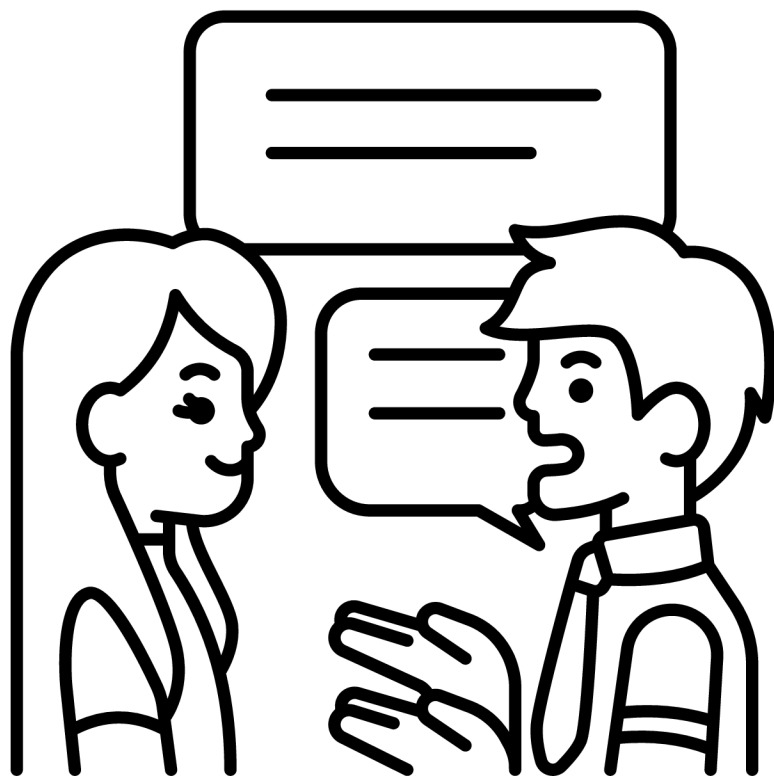
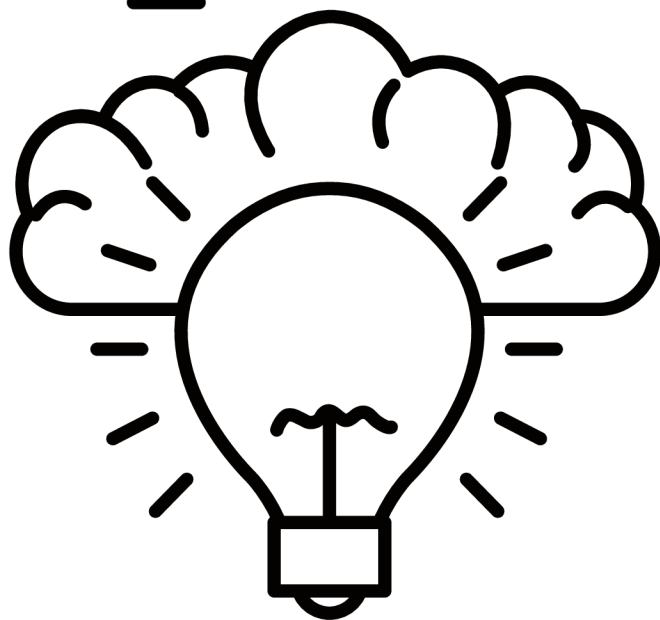


## Key Details About 1 John 2

- 1 John 2 provides pastoral assurance for believers, emphasizing that Jesus Christ is the righteous advocate and atoning sacrifice (propitiation) for sins. Key themes include obeying God's commands as evidence of knowing Him, loving fellow believers, warnings against worldliness and the spirit of the antichrist, and encouragement to abide in the truth.



Propitiation in the Bible refers to the act of turning away God's righteous wrath against sin by providing a fully satisfying sacrifice. Jesus Christ is the propitiation, offering his own blood on the cross to appease this judgment and reconcile humanity to God, turning divine anger into favor



## Key Sections of 1 John 2:

**Christ Our Advocate** (v. 1-2): John writes to prevent sin but clarifies that if anyone sins, Jesus acts as our defense lawyer before the Father, having paid the penalty for our sins.

**Evidence of Knowing God** (v. 3-6): True knowledge of God is demonstrated through obedience to His commandments, specifically "walking as Jesus walked".

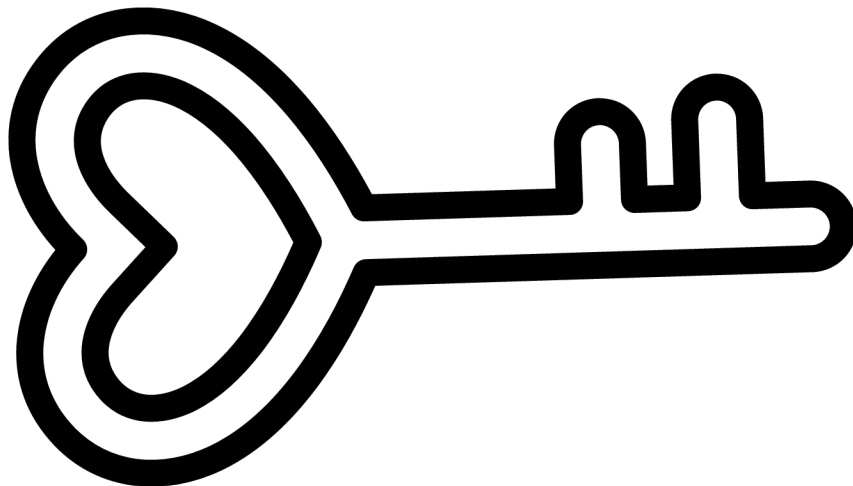
**The New Commandment** (v. 7-11): The command to love fellow believers is both old (from the beginning) and new (as seen in Christ). Abiding in the light requires loving others; hating them means walking in darkness.

**Spiritual Maturity Stages** (v. 12-14): John addresses "little children" (forgiven), "fathers" (know God), and "young men" (victorious over the evil one), encouraging spiritual growth.

**Warning Against the World** (v. 15-17): Believers are instructed not to love the world or its desires (lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life), as these are temporary, while doing God's will leads to eternity.

**Warnings About Antichrists** (v. 18-27): John warns against false teachers ("antichrists") who deny that Jesus is the Christ. He urges believers to let the truth they heard from the beginning remain in them.

**Confidence in Christ's Coming** (v. 28-29): Believers are urged to "abide in him" to have confidence and not be ashamed when He appears

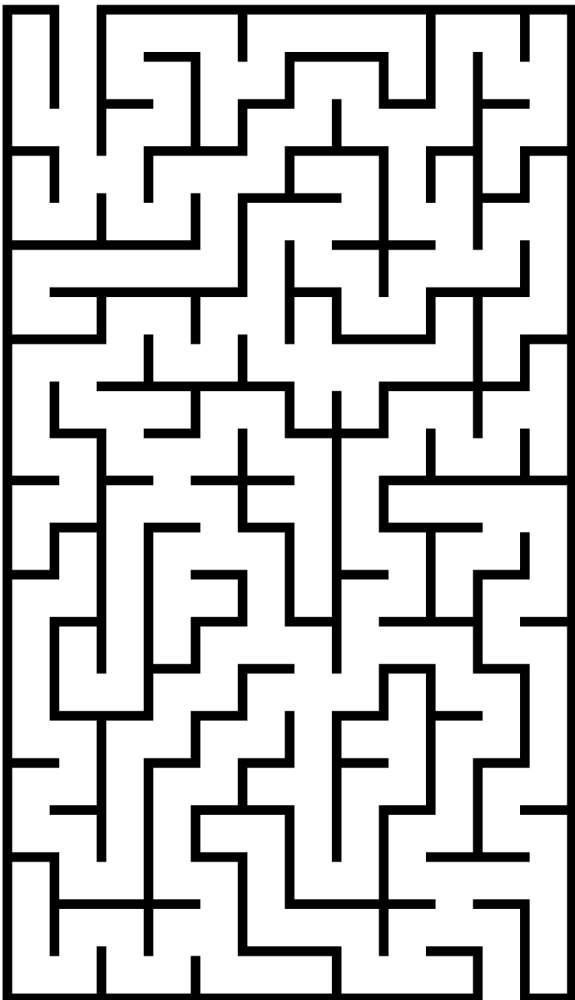


# How?

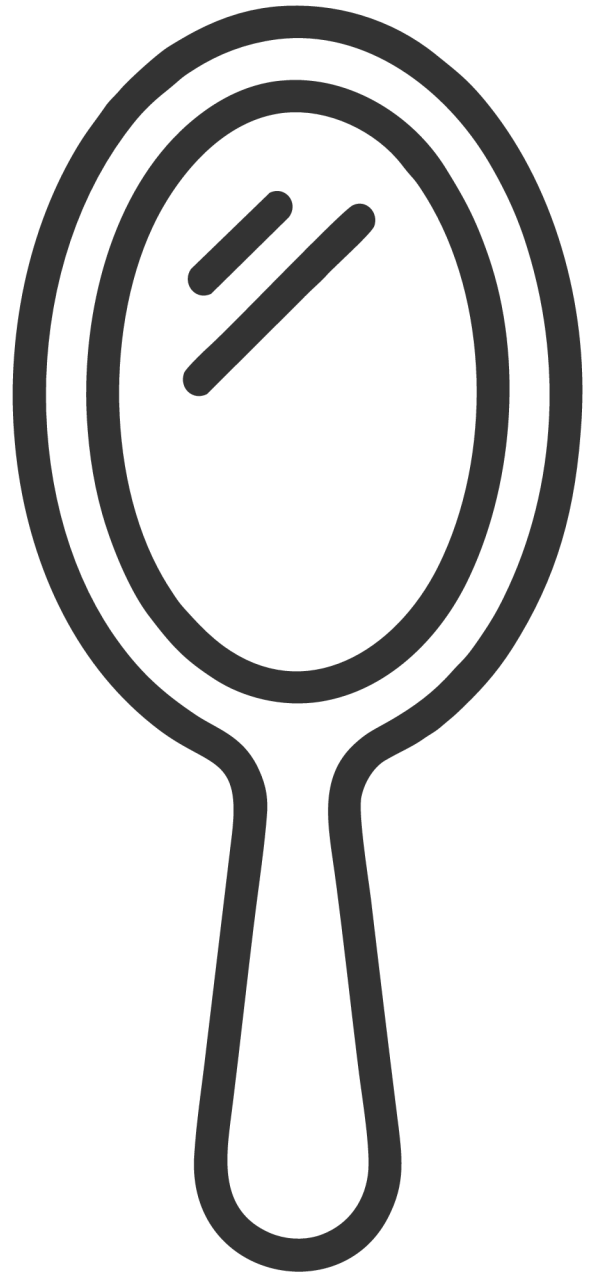
Applying 1 John 2 to your life involves pursuing holiness by actively obeying God's commands, loving others to demonstrate your relationship with God, and refusing to fixate on worldly desires like lust and pride. It calls for walking as Jesus did and relying on Him as your advocate when you stumble



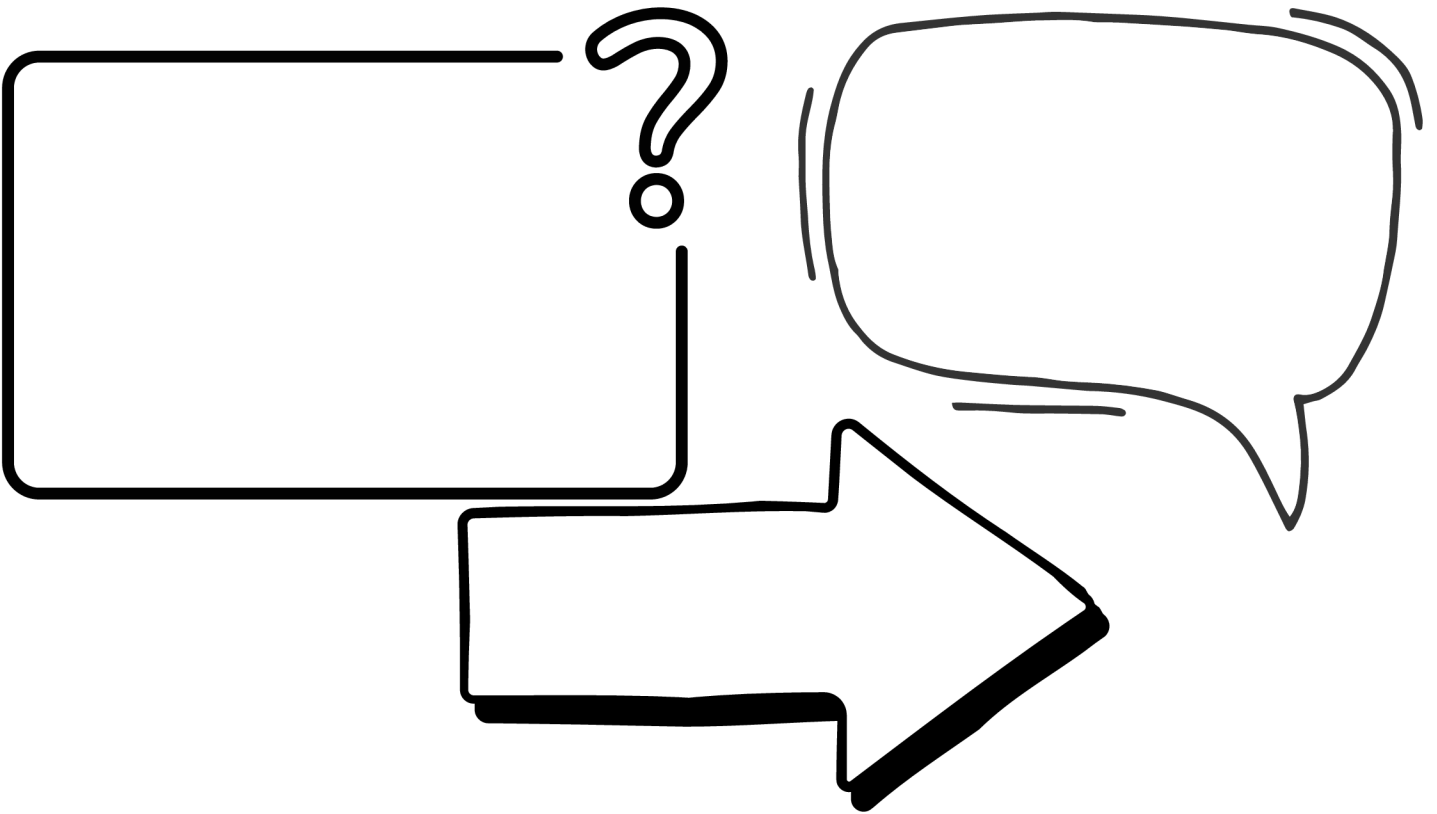
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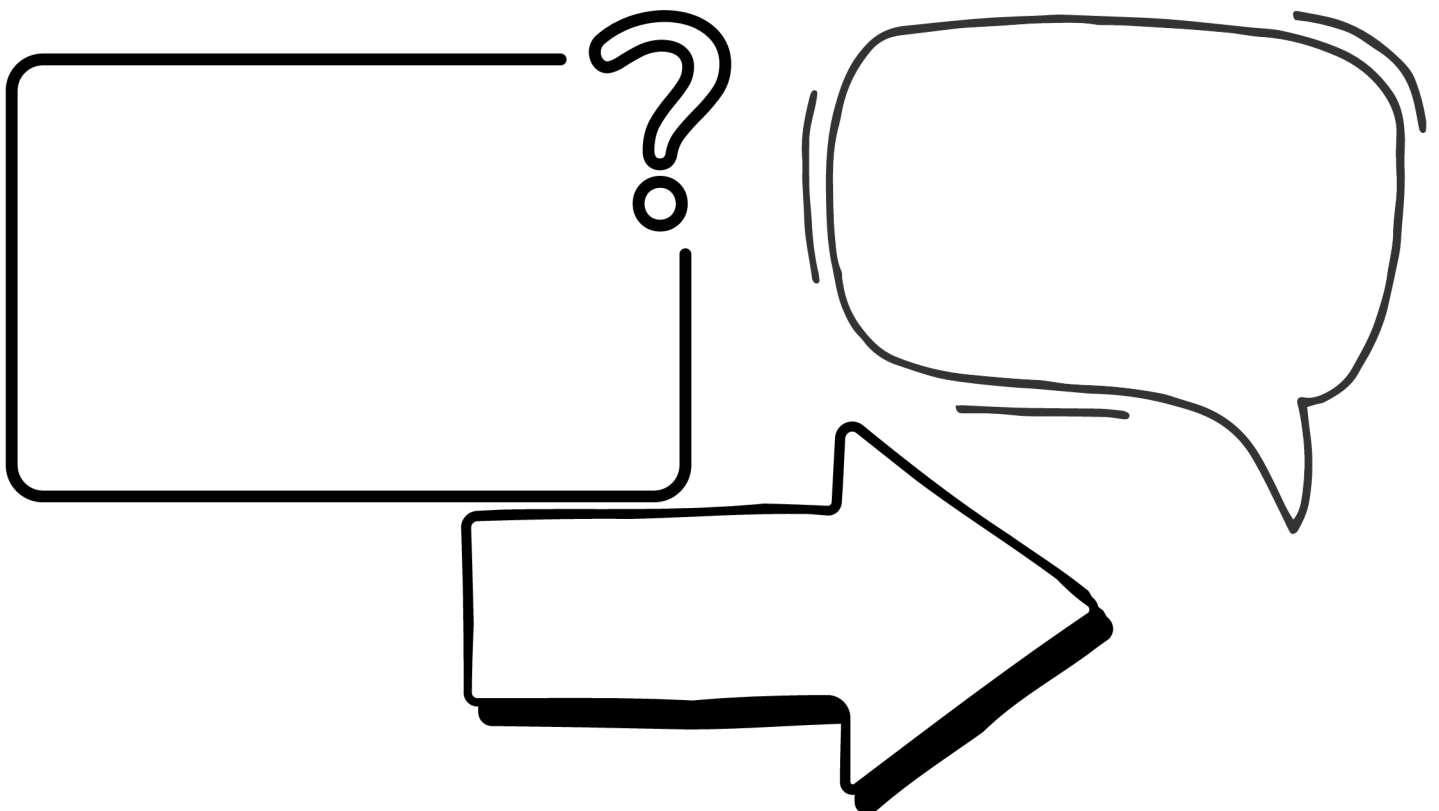


1 John 2:1 highlights the goal of holiness—to not sin—while providing assurance that Jesus Christ acts as our righteous advocate (defense attorney) before God the Father when we fall. It teaches that while believers should strive for obedience, Jesus provides immediate covering and grace for sins

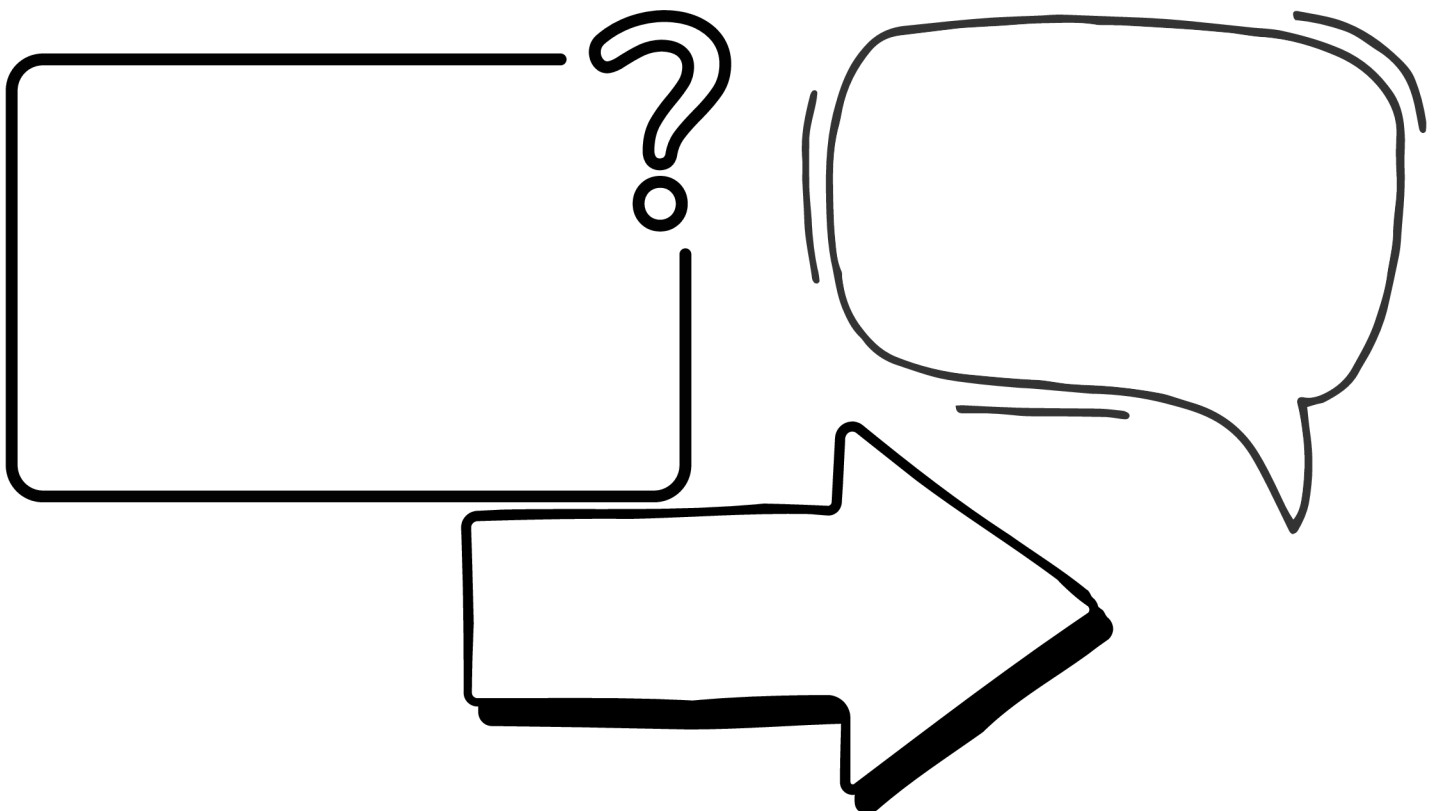
1 John 2:2 states that Jesus Christ is the "propitiation" (atoning sacrifice) for sins, covering not only believers ("ours") but the entire world. It means Jesus' death appeased God's righteous wrath against sin, providing a way for humanity to be reconciled to Him.

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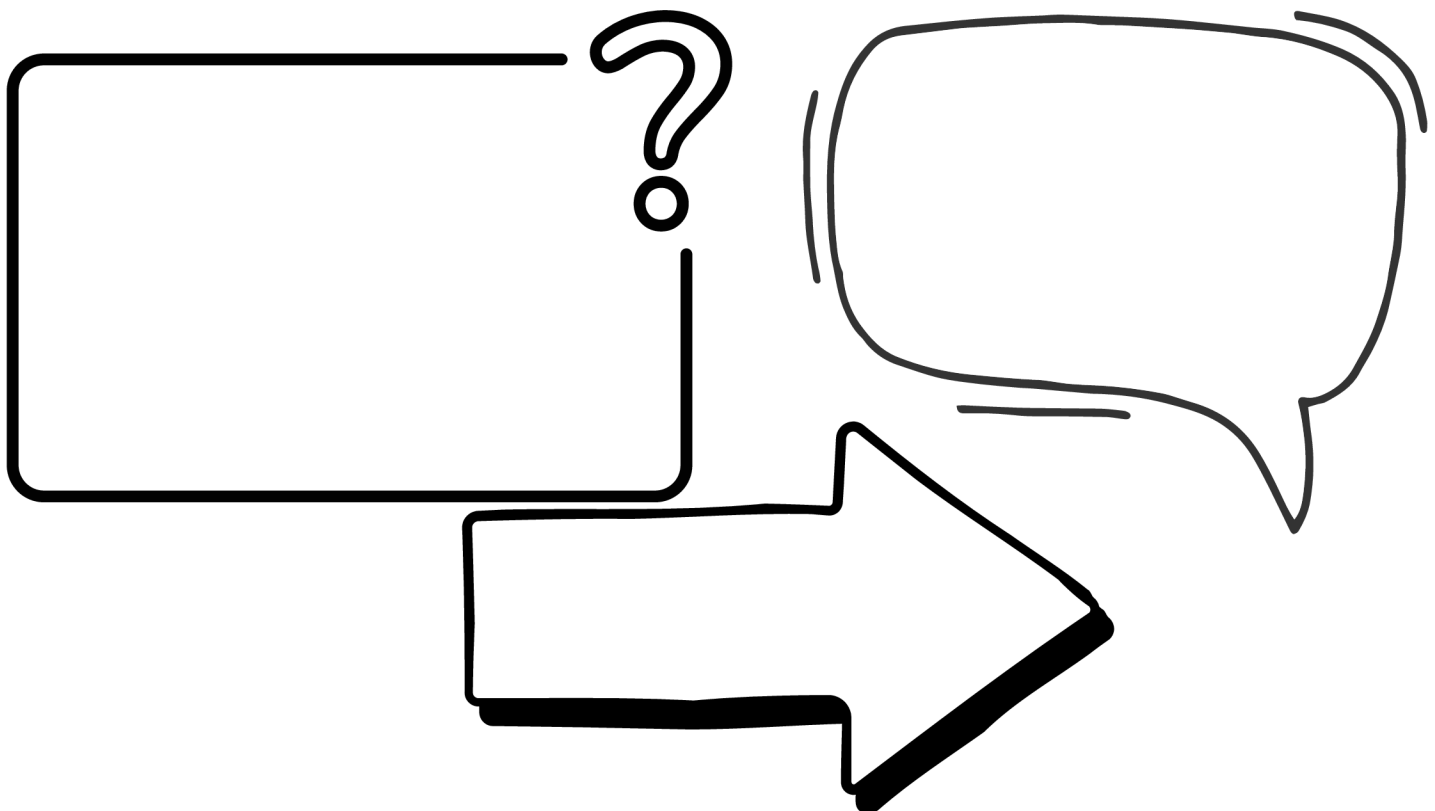
1 John 2:3 states, "And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments" (NLT). It means that true knowledge of God is not merely intellectual, but is proven by a lifestyle of obedience to His commands and moral teachings, serving as a vital "assurance test" of a believer's salvation

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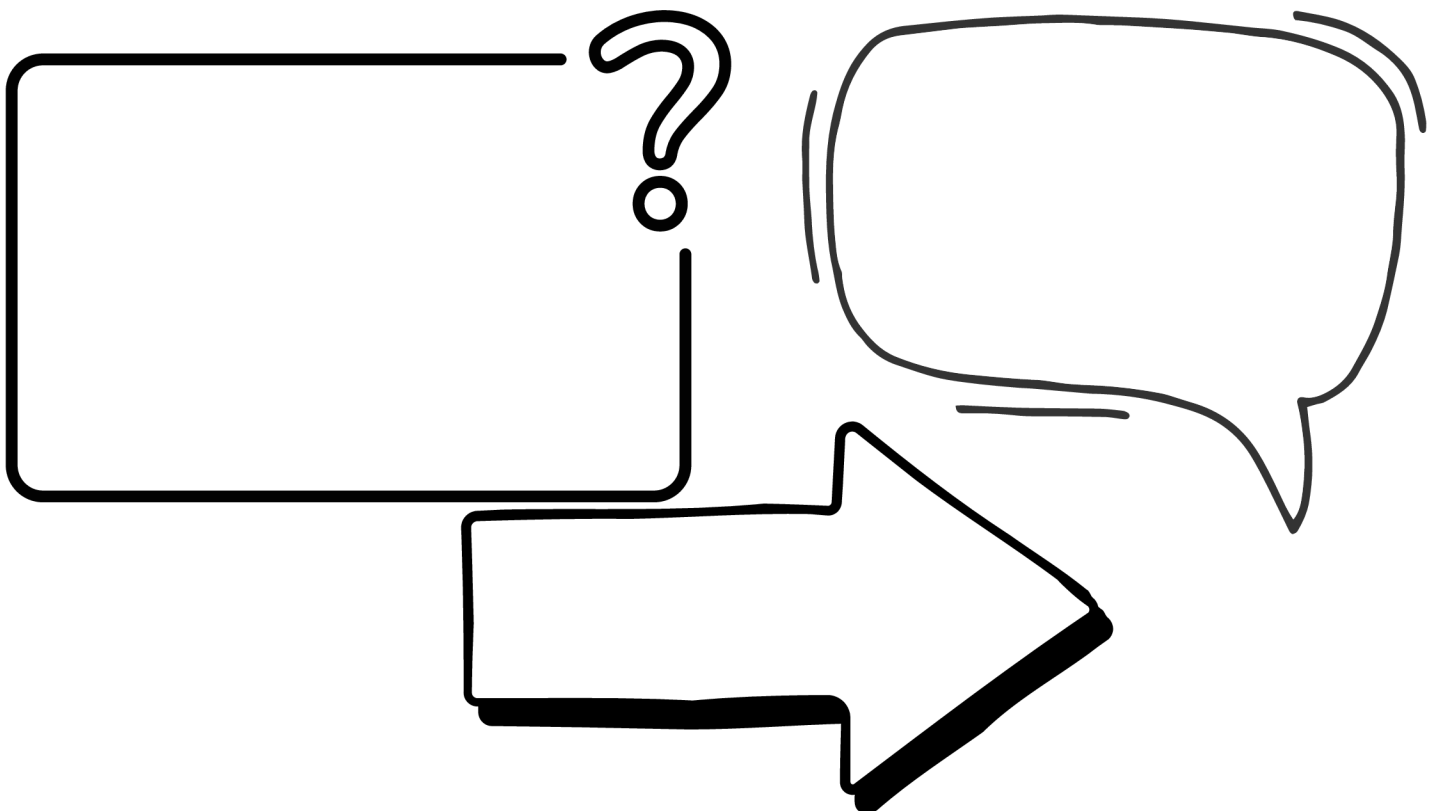
1 John 2:4 states, "Whoever says, 'I know him,' but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person" (NIV). It means that true, intimate knowledge of Jesus is evidenced by obedience to His commands, not mere verbal claims. Disobedience marks a false profession of faith.

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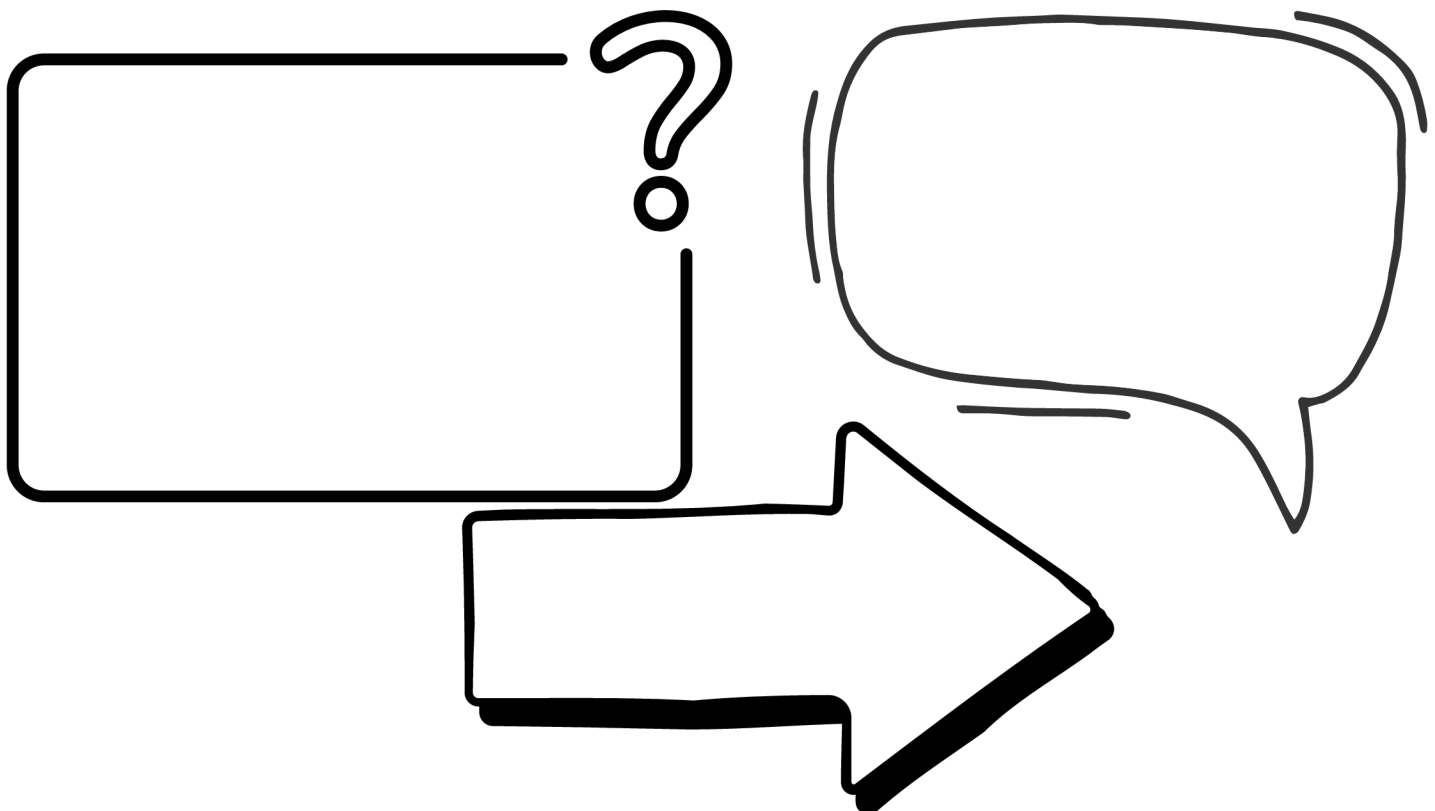


1 John 2:5 states, "But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him" (NIV). According to GotQuestions.org, this verse teaches that obedience to God's commands is the primary evidence of genuine love for Him and assurance of being a true believer, rather than just claiming to know Him

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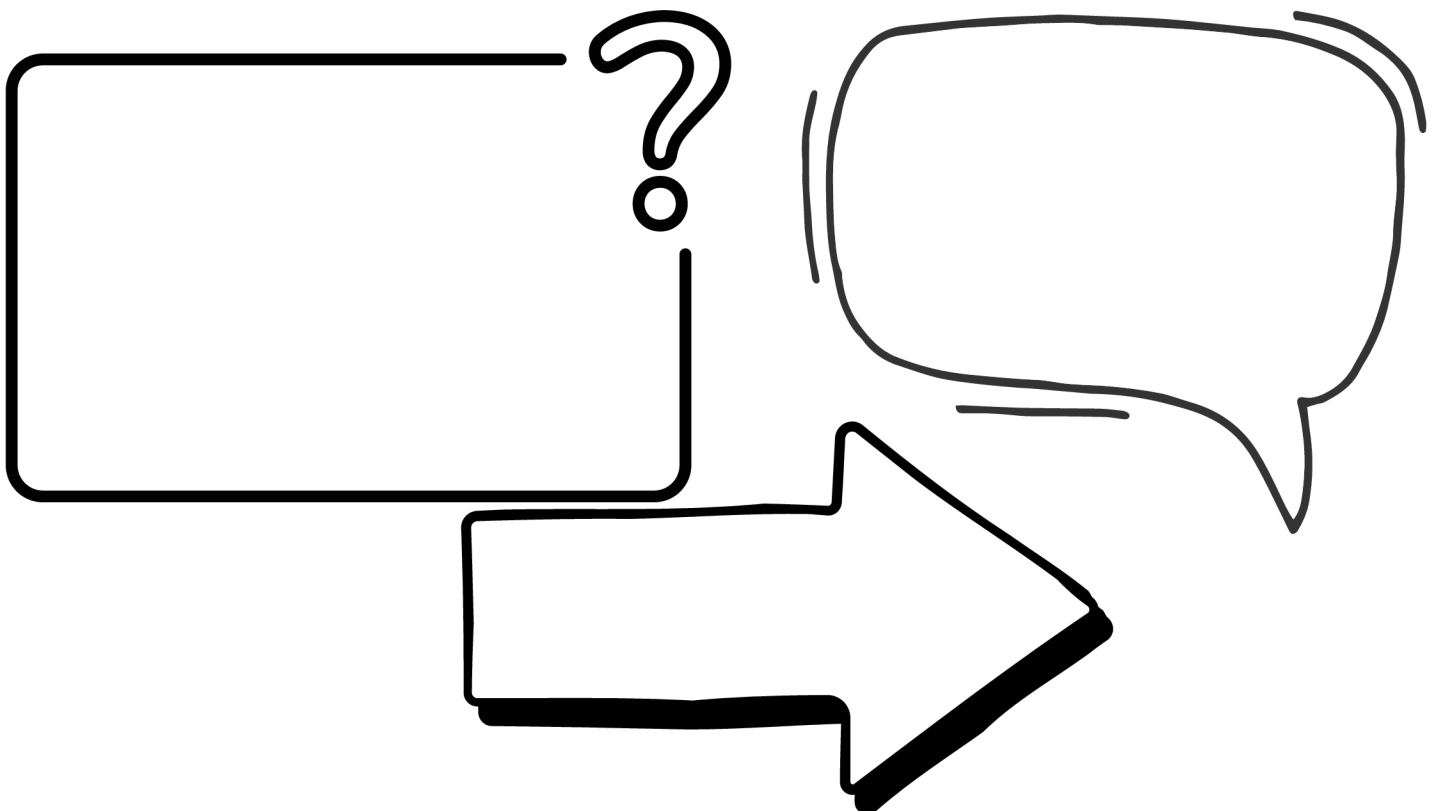


1 John 2:6 states, "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did" (NIV). According to GotQuestions.org, this verse sets the standard for true Christian discipleship: actions must align with confession. Abiding in Christ means imitating His lifestyle of obedience, love, and holiness

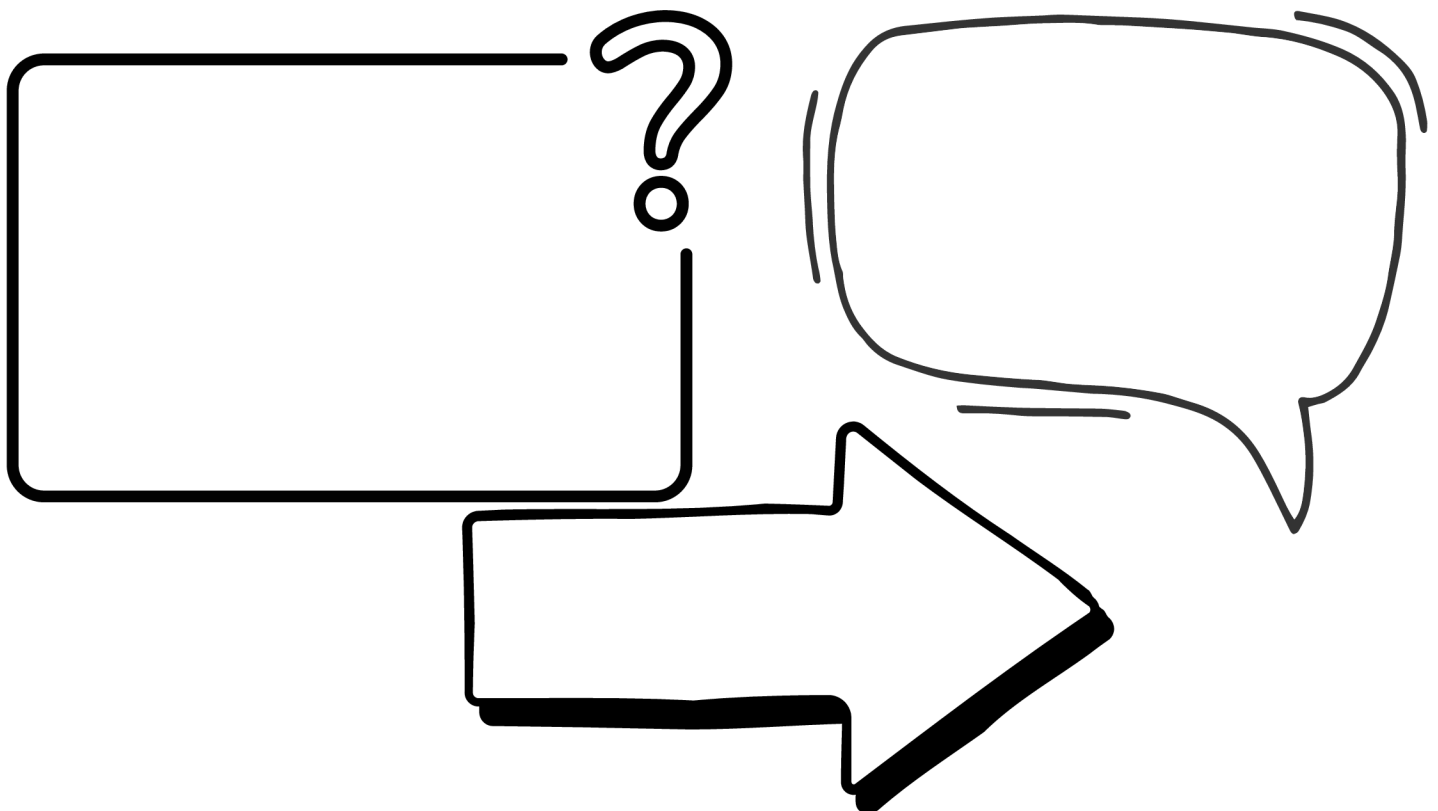
1 John 2:7 teaches that the command to love one another is not a new invention, but an "old commandment" heard from the beginning of the Christian faith. It is rooted in Old Testament law and Christ's teaching to love, fundamentally calling for consistent obedience, love, and light over darkness

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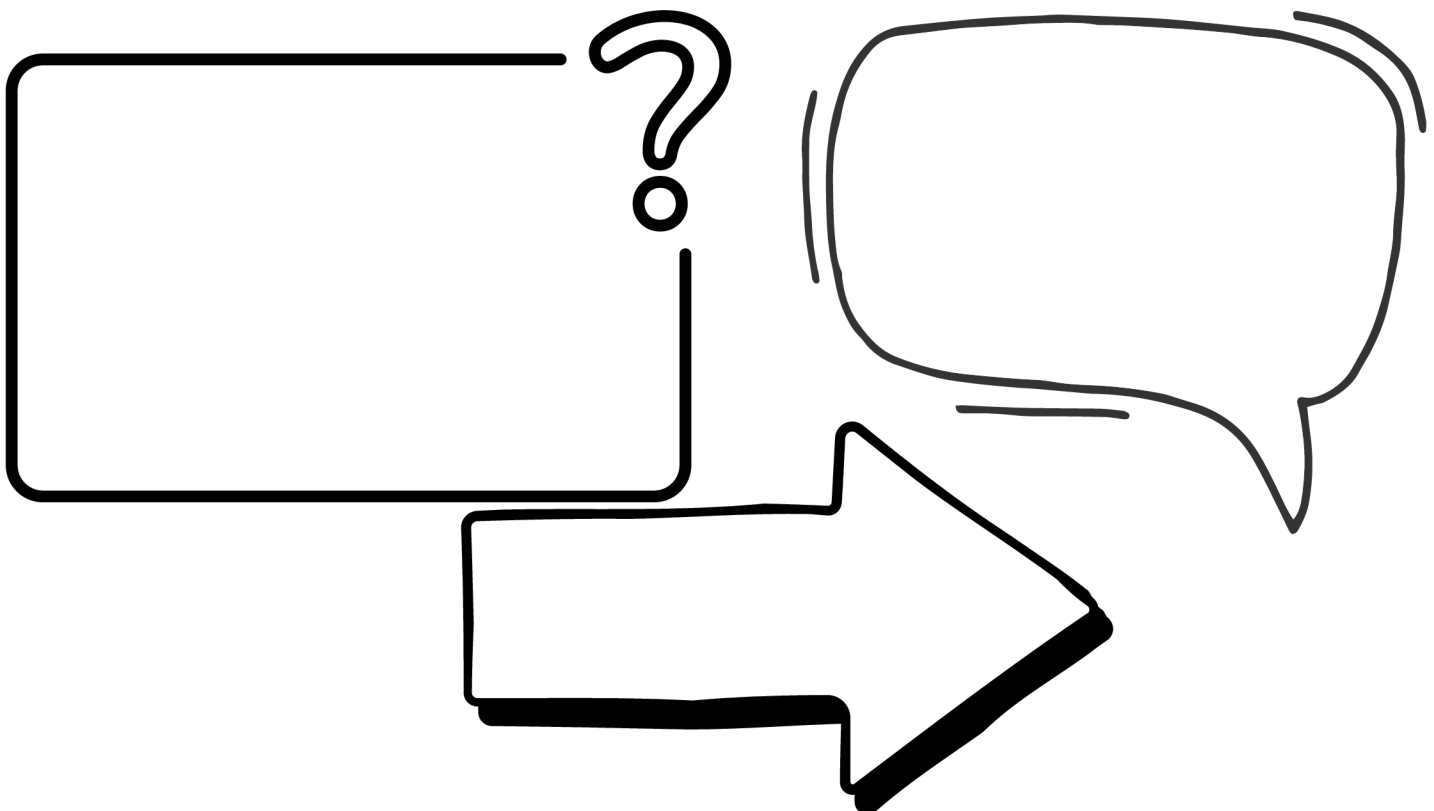
1 John 2:8 describes the command to love others as both "old" and "new"—a foundational truth modeled by Christ and now lived out by believers. John explains that this love is practical, marking the transition from spiritual darkness (sin) to light, as Jesus' life-giving truth replaces the old ways.

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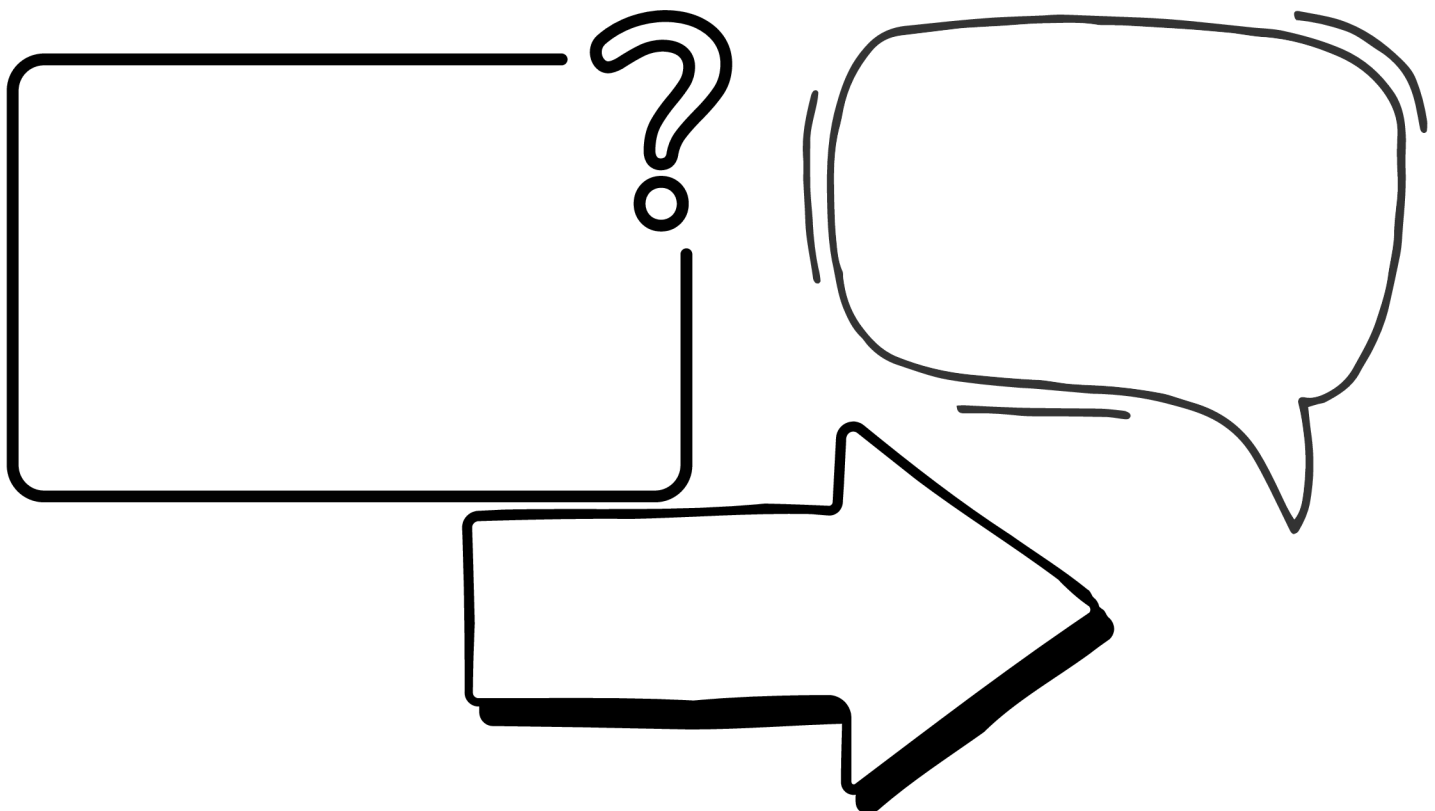
1 John 2:9 states, "Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness." According to GotQuestions.org, this verse teaches that claiming to follow Christ (being in the light) is invalidated by harboring hatred toward another believer. Love for others is a crucial marker of God's presence, while hatred proves one is still in spiritual darkness

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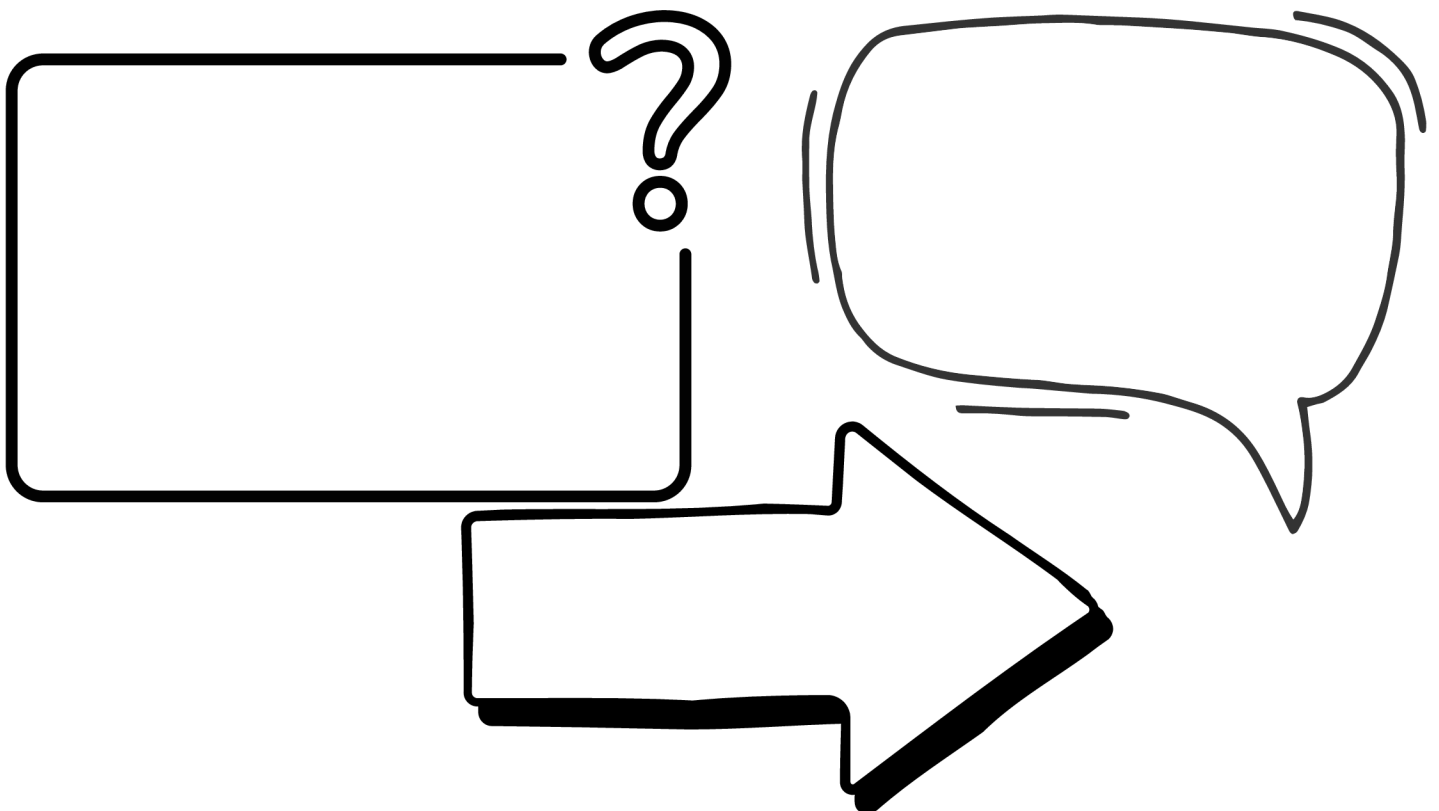
1 John 2:10 states, "Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble" (NIV). According to GotQuestions.org, this verse teaches that loving fellow believers is a key indicator of walking in obedience to God (the Light). Such love prevents believers from stumbling into the spiritual darkness of sin, hatred, and doubt

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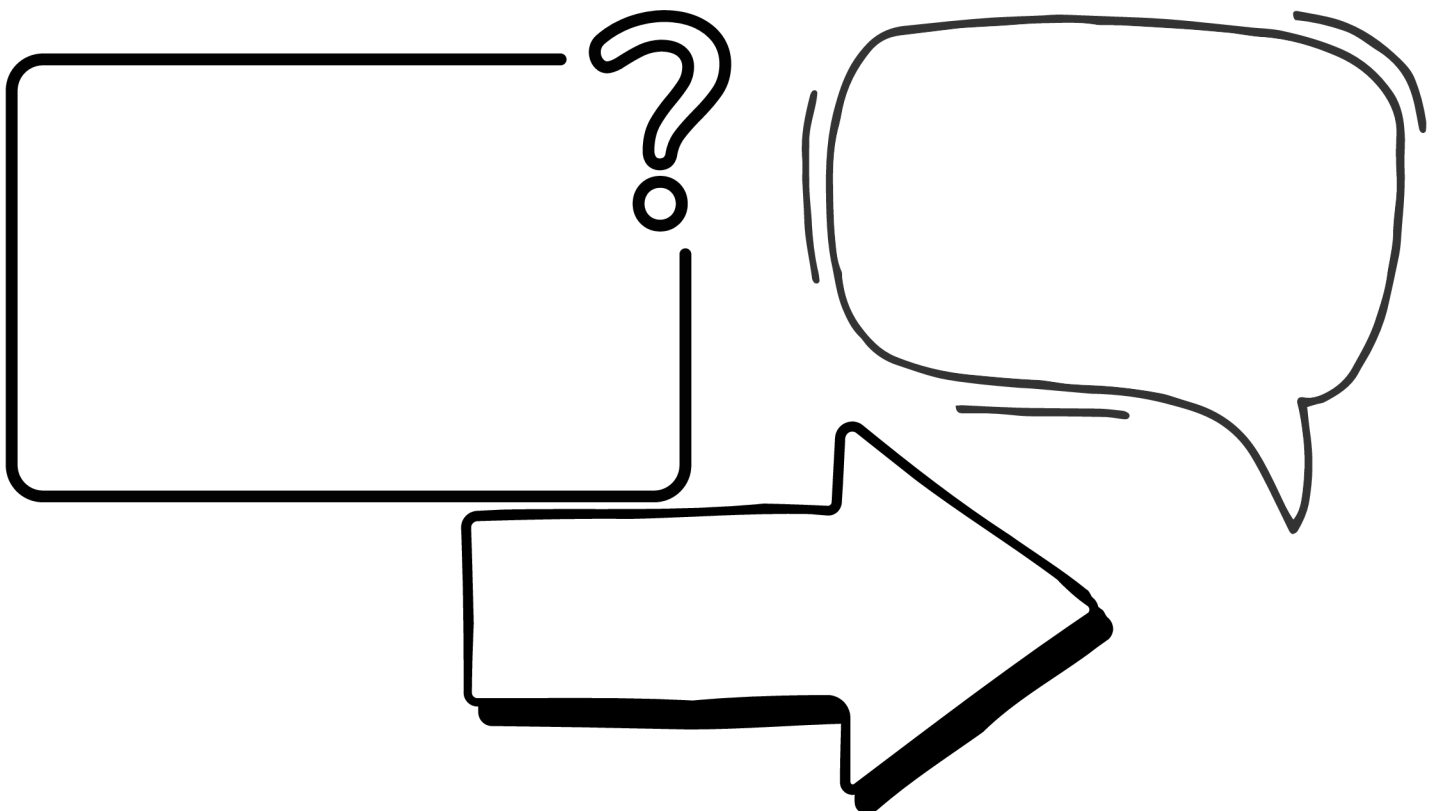
1 John 2:11 teaches that a person who claims to know God but harbors hatred toward fellow believers is spiritually blind and walking in darkness. This hatred indicates a lack of true salvation, as light (love) and darkness (hate) cannot coexist in the heart.

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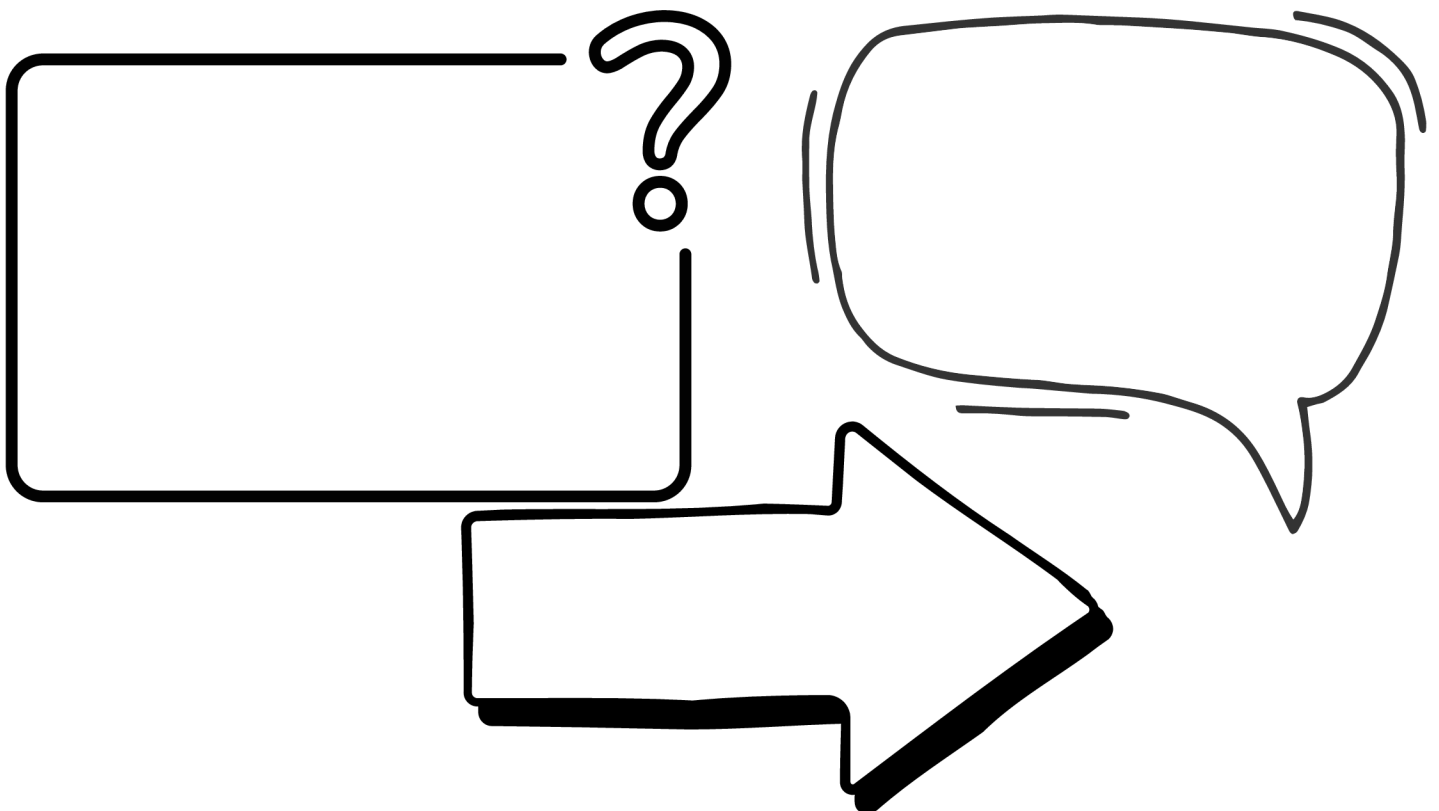
1 John 2:12 ("I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake") serves as a reassuring foundation for believers, highlighting that forgiveness is an accomplished fact based on Christ's work, not personal merit. It begins a poem addressing various spiritual maturity levels, emphasizing the foundational truth of sins forgiven through Jesus.

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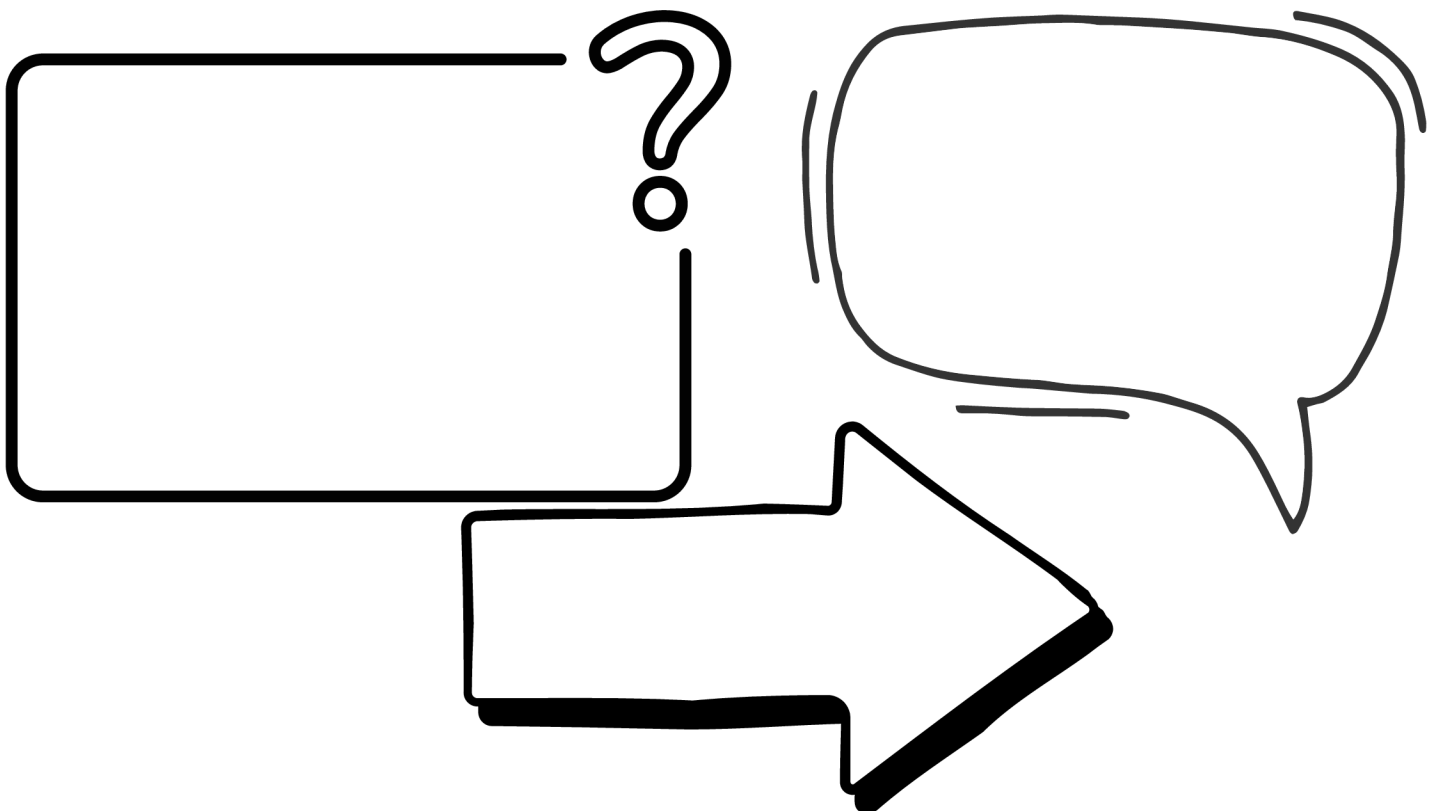
1 John 2:13 is part of a poetic address by the Apostle John to three groups within the church—"fathers," "young men," and "little children"—representing different levels of spiritual maturity. It encourages them by highlighting their mature knowledge of God and their victory over the devil, reinforcing their identity in Christ.

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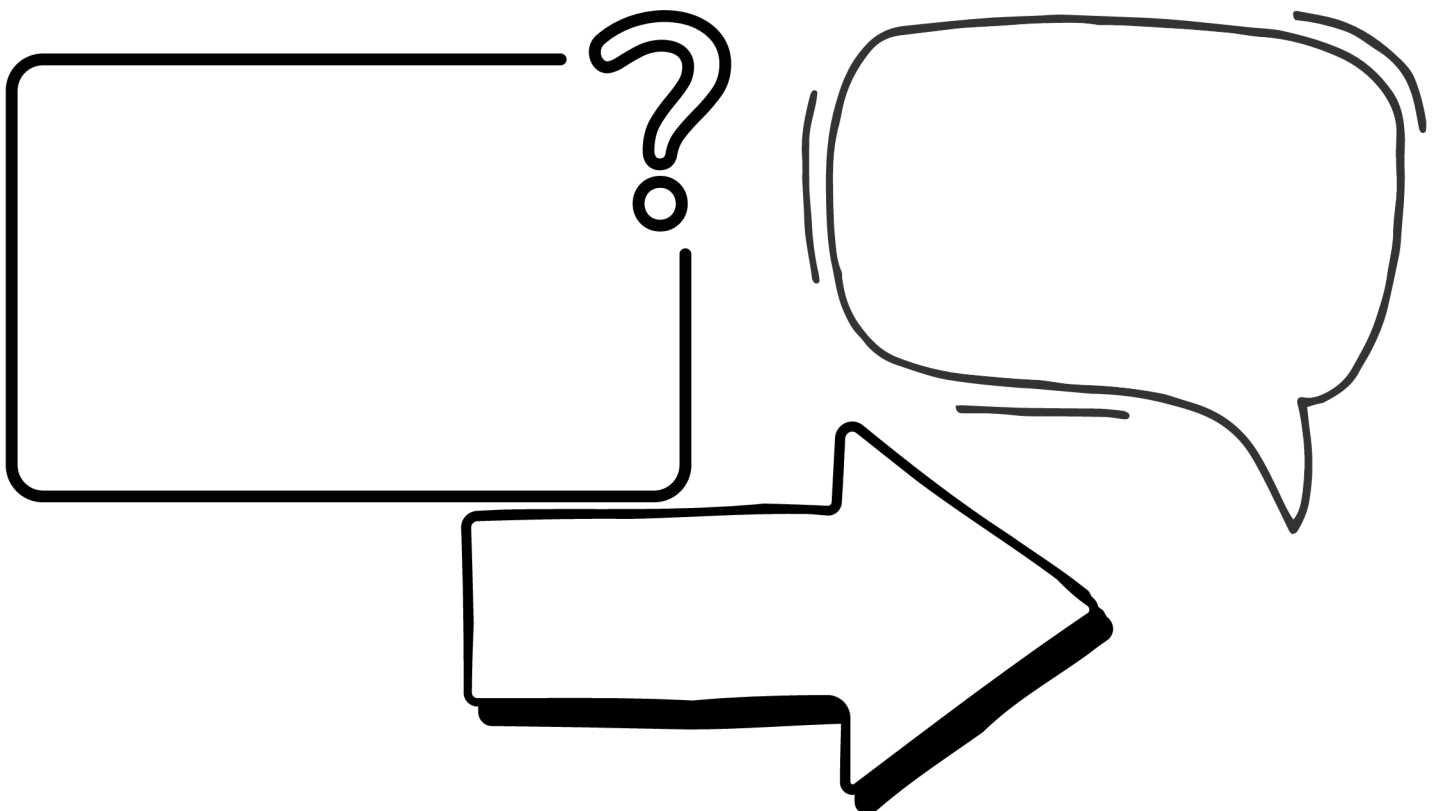
1 John 2:14 emphasizes spiritual maturity and victory, addressing "fathers" (knowing the eternal God) and "young men" (strength, abiding Word, overcoming the evil one). It highlights that believers find strength and victory over temptation by holding fast to God's Word, enabling them to resist the world's influence.

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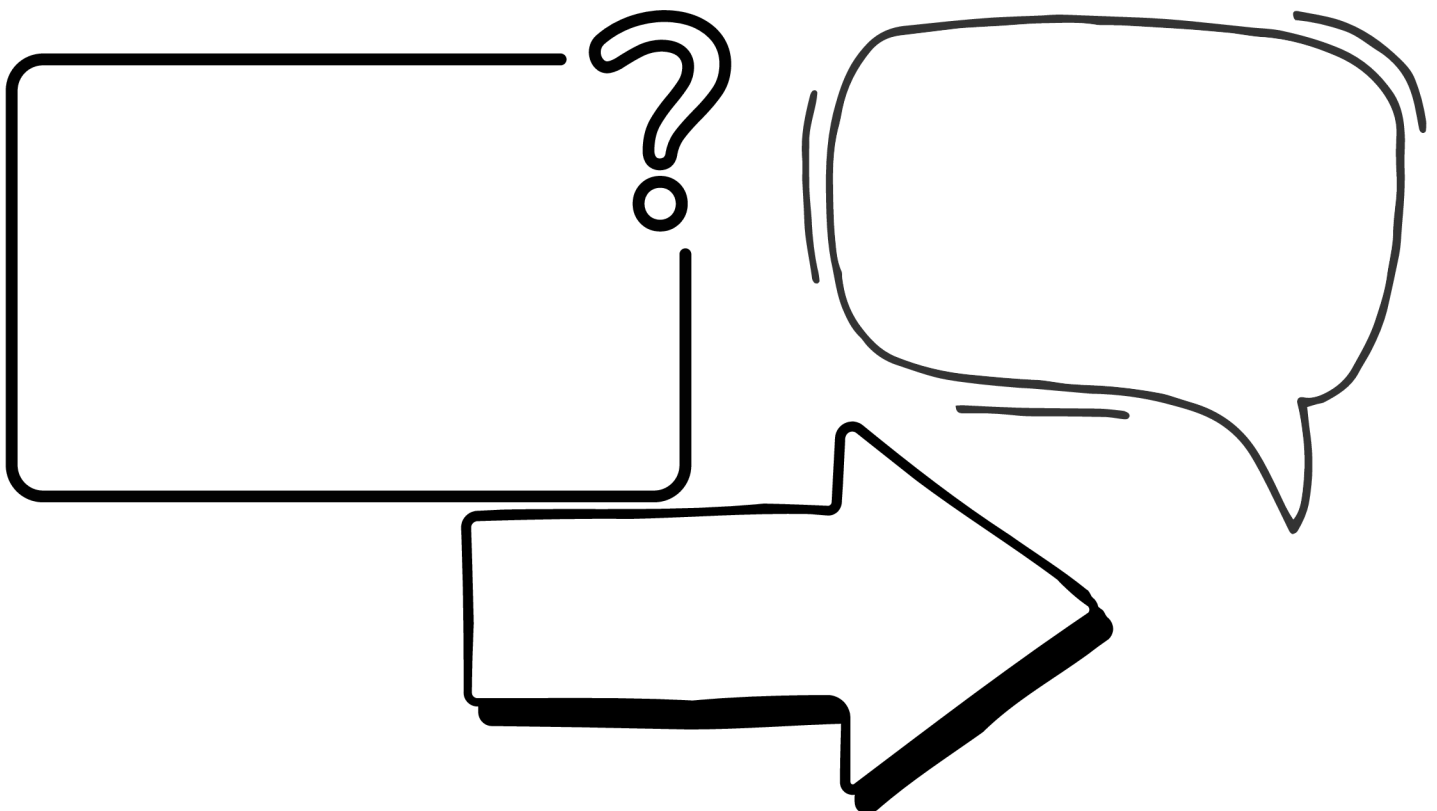
1 John 2:15 ("Do not love the world or the things in the world...") warns believers against loving the fallen world system—comprising anti-God values, behaviors, and desires—which is mutually exclusive with loving God. Loving this world means letting the desires of the flesh, eyes, and pride consume our affection, making the love of the Father absent

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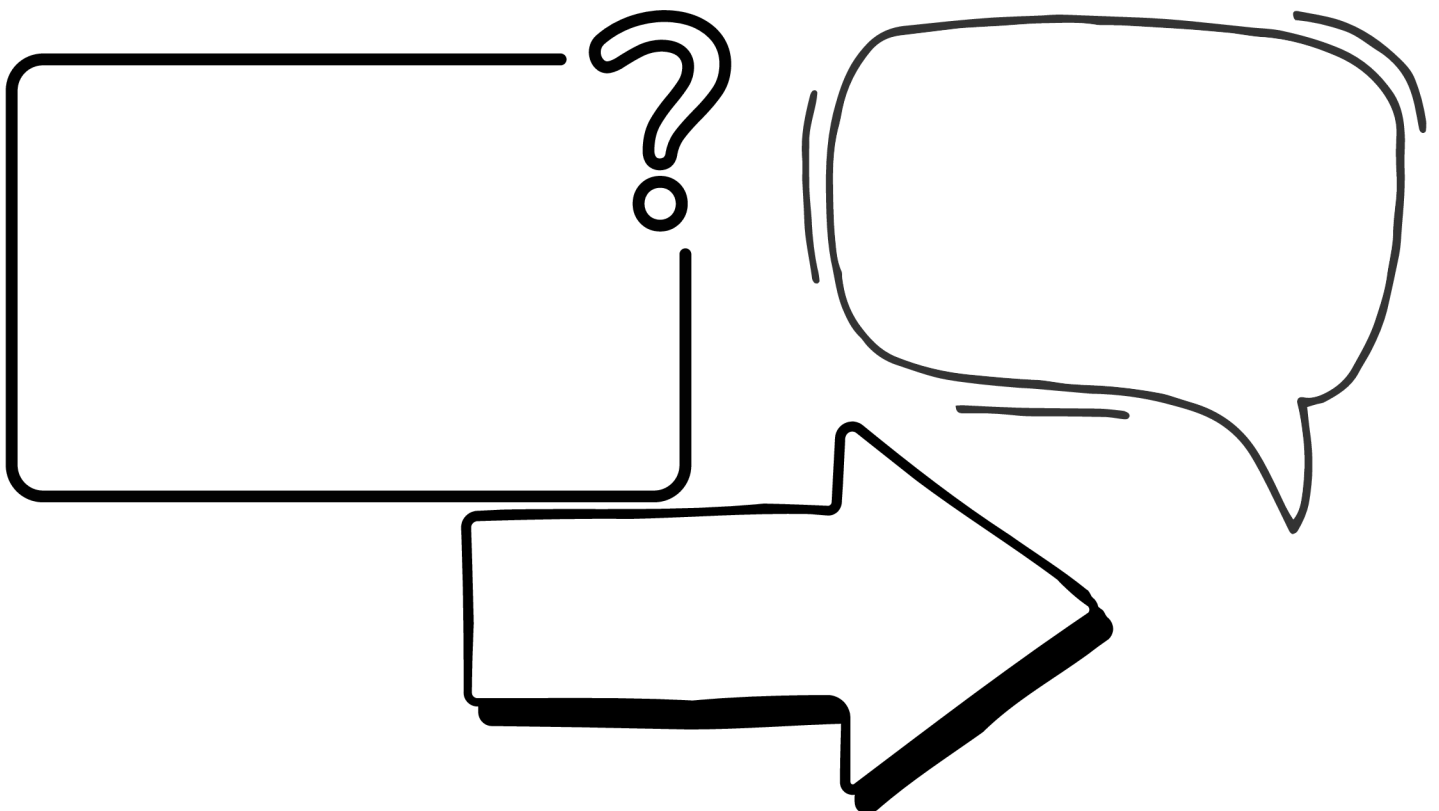
1 John 2:16 explains that the "world's" system—defined as selfish desires rather than God's will—is characterized by the lust of the flesh (sensual cravings), the lust of the eyes (coveting what is seen), and the pride of life (arrogant self-sufficiency). These desires are temporary and originate from a fallen world, not from God.

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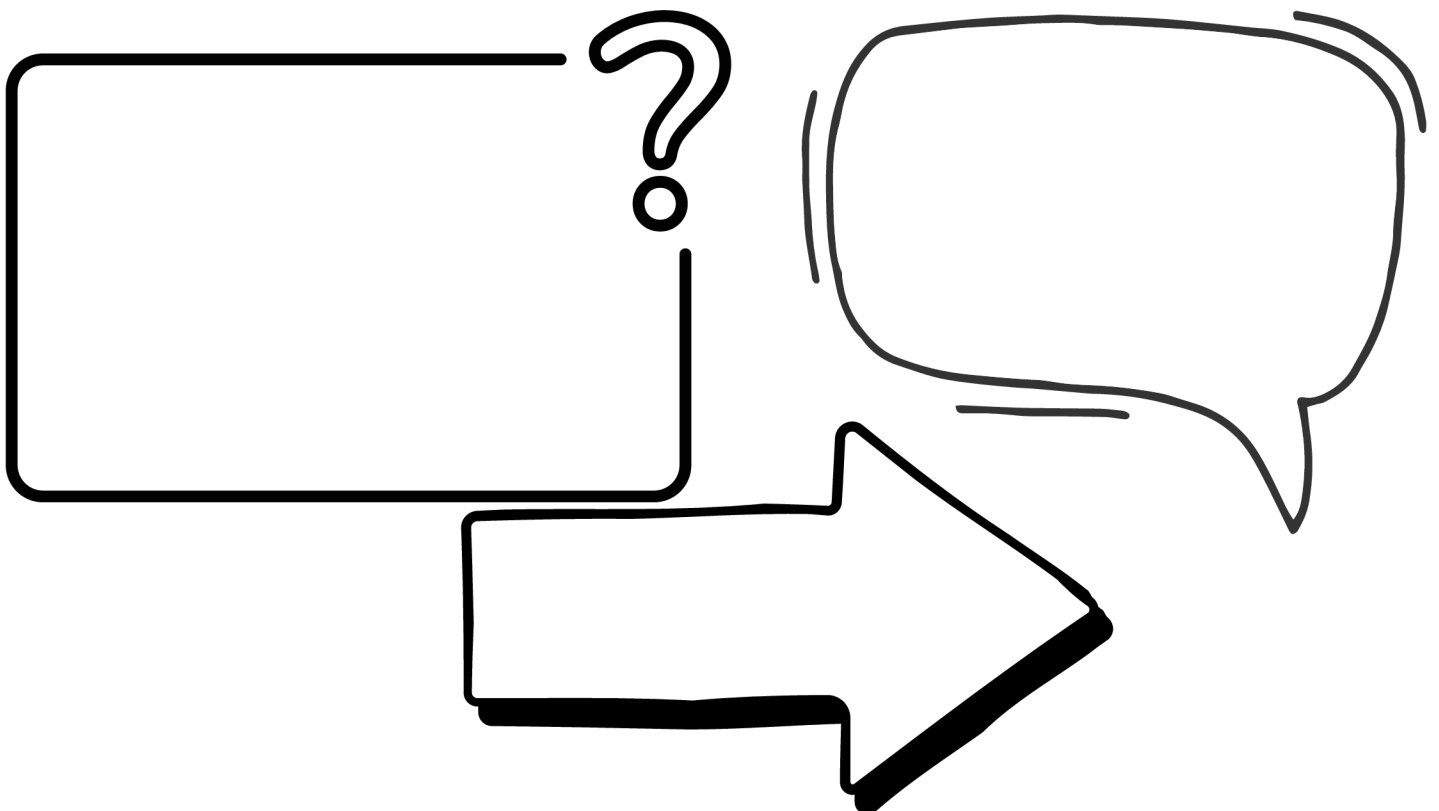
1 John 2:17 states that the world and its desires are passing away, but those who do God's will live forever. It contrasts the temporary nature of worldly pursuits—characterized by selfish desires and pride—with the eternal nature of serving God, urging Christians to focus on eternal priorities rather than fleeting earthly pleasures

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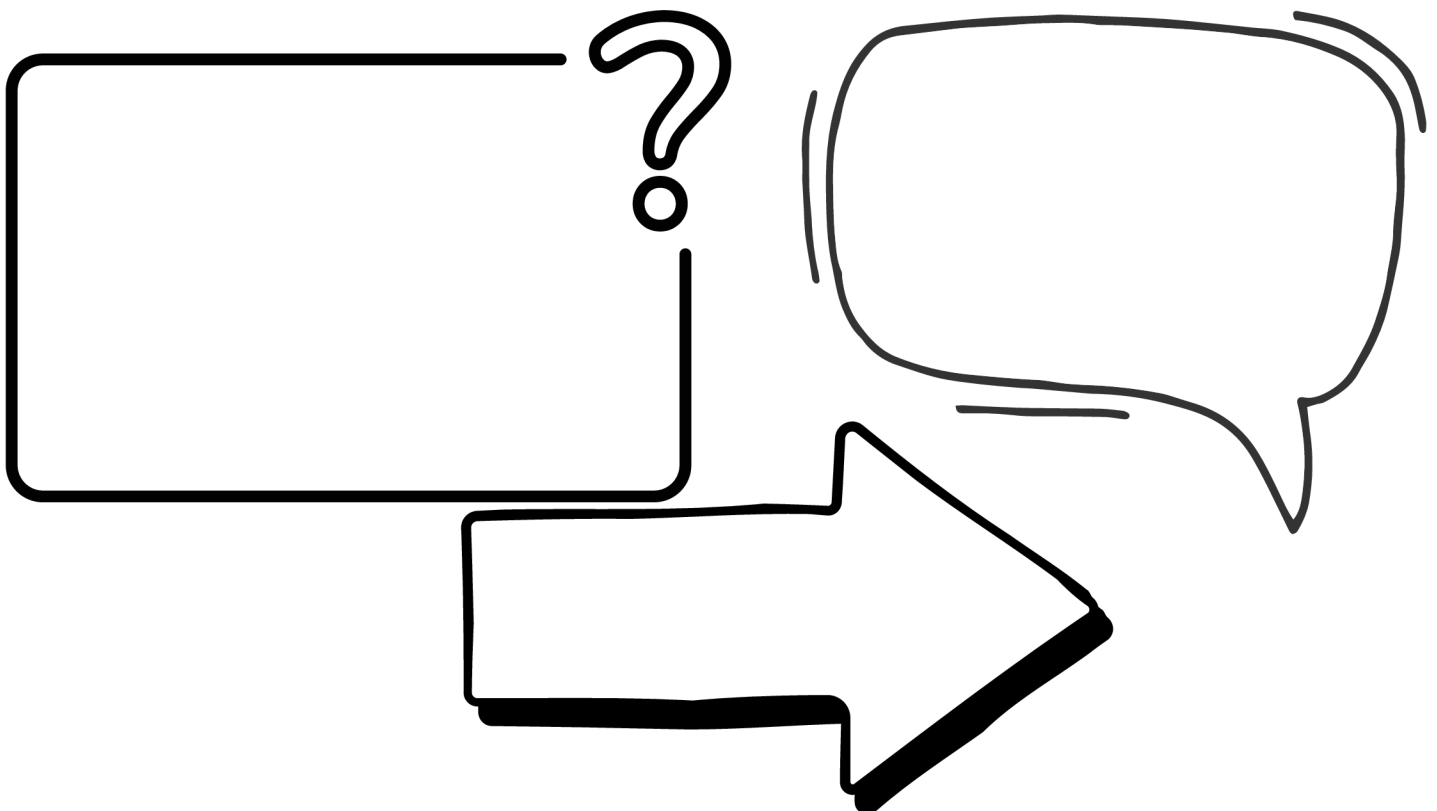
1 John 2:18 explains that we live in the "last hour" (the time between Christ's first and second coming), characterized by the arrival of "many antichrists". These are false teachers who deny that Jesus is the Christ, acting as forerunners to the final, ultimate Antichrist

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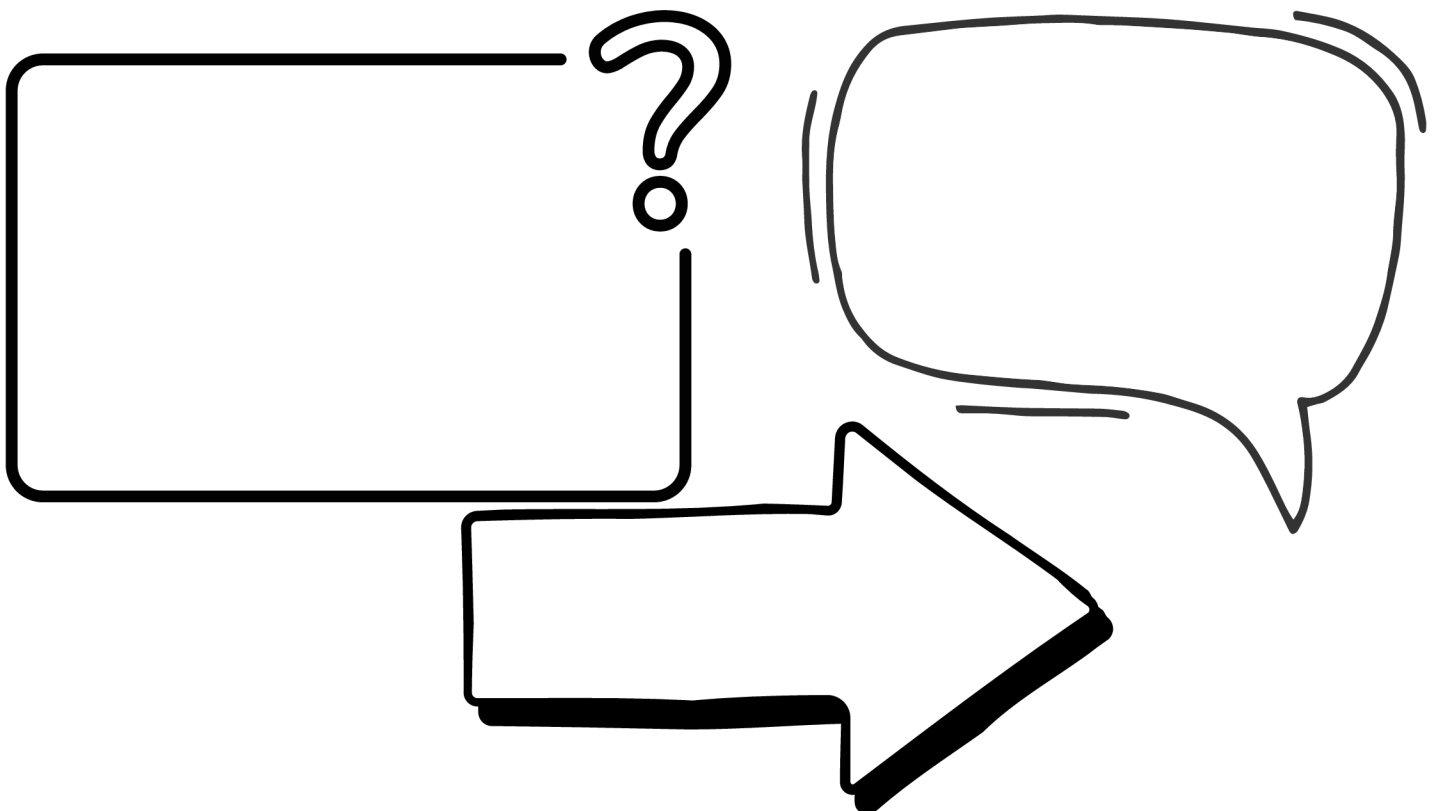
1 John 2:19 ("They went out from us, but they were not of us...") explains that people who abandon the true Christian faith demonstrate they were never genuinely saved to begin with. According to Got Questions, those who leave were likely false teachers or "antichrists" who briefly blended in but ultimately proved they lacked true salvation by departing

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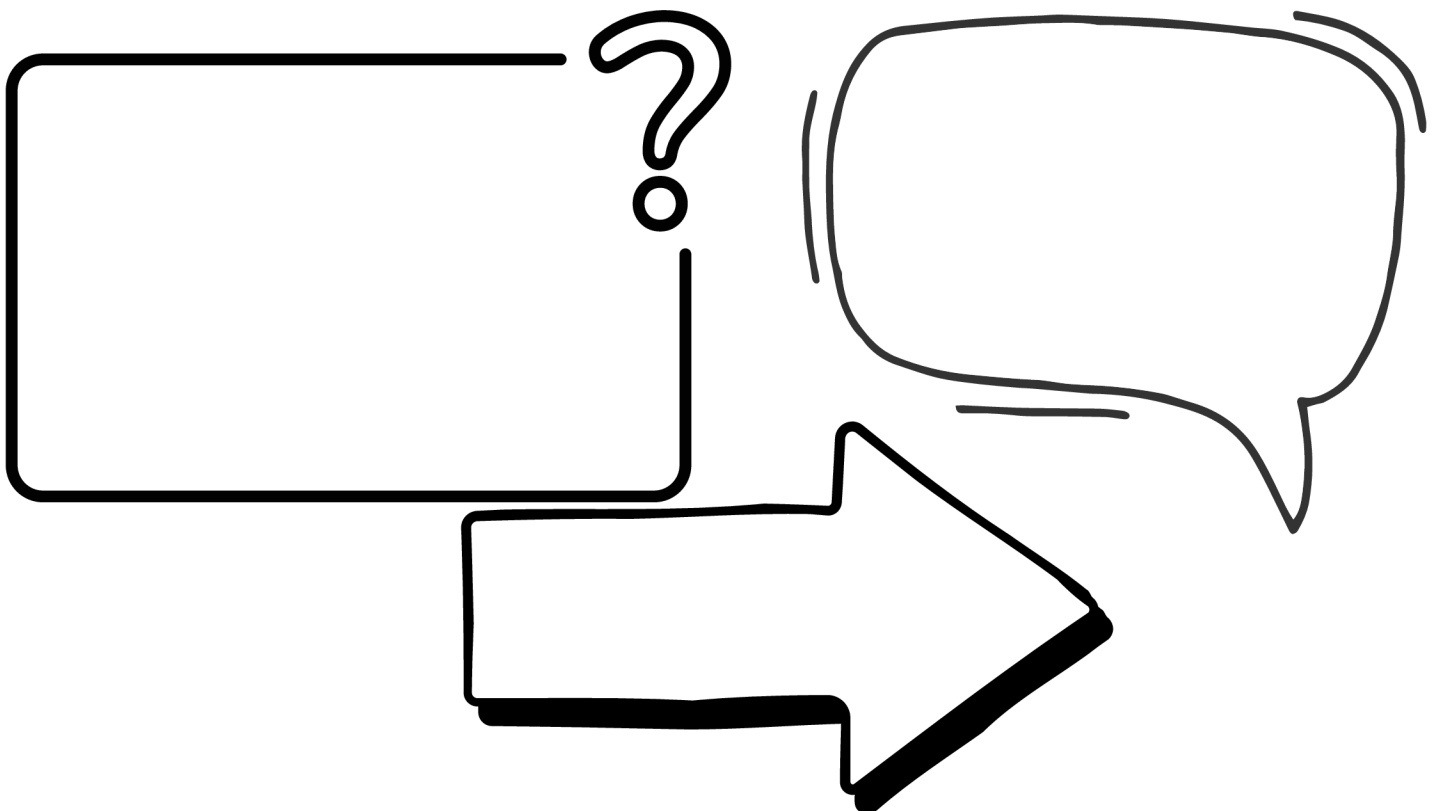
1 John 2:20 states: "But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth" (NIV). According to GotQuestions.org, this refers to the Holy Spirit dwelling within every believer, providing spiritual discernment to distinguish truth from falsehood. It signifies that all Christians are set apart and empowered by God

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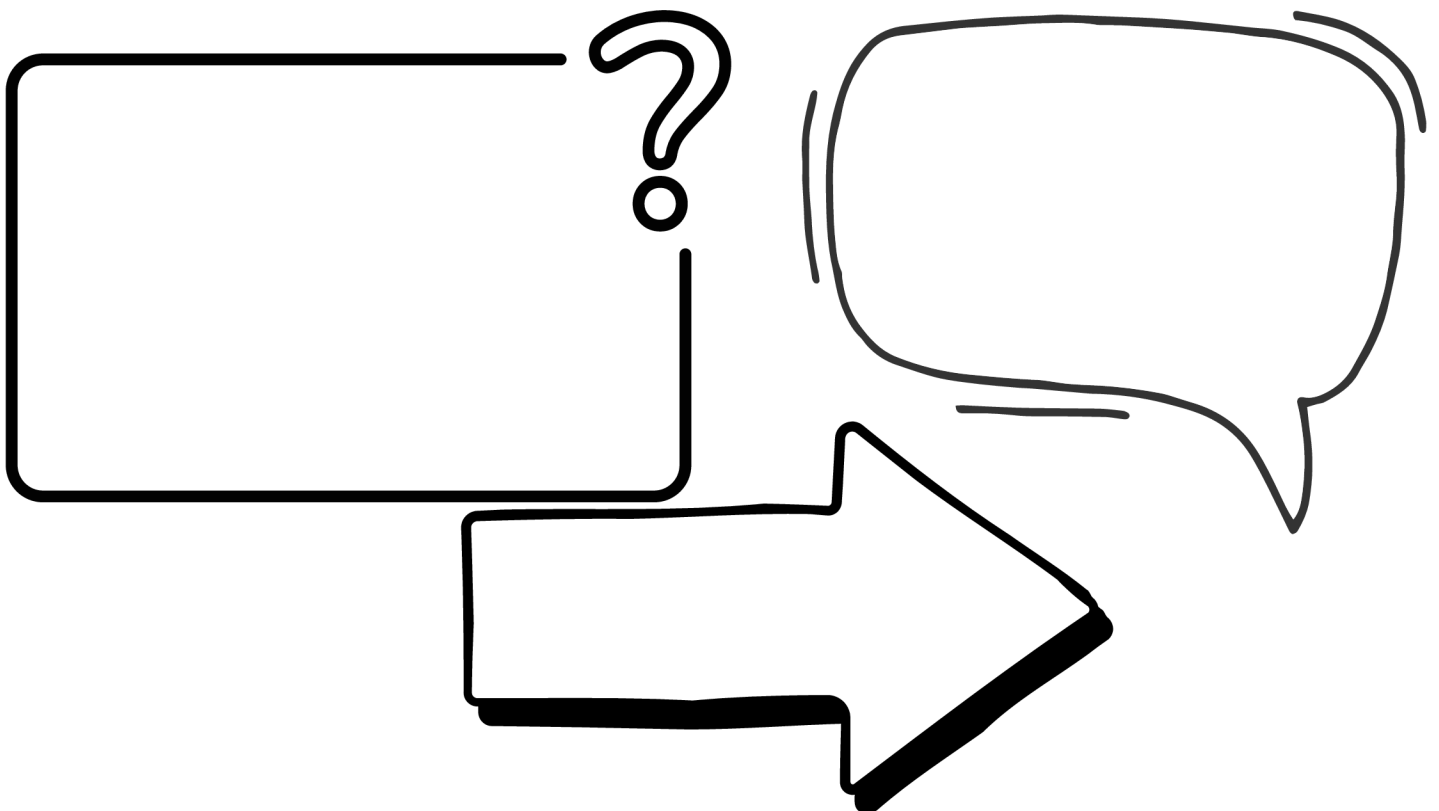
11 John 2:21 states, "I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth." John reassures believers that they already possess the foundational truth about Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit, enabling them to discern and reject false teachings (lies) circulating in the church.

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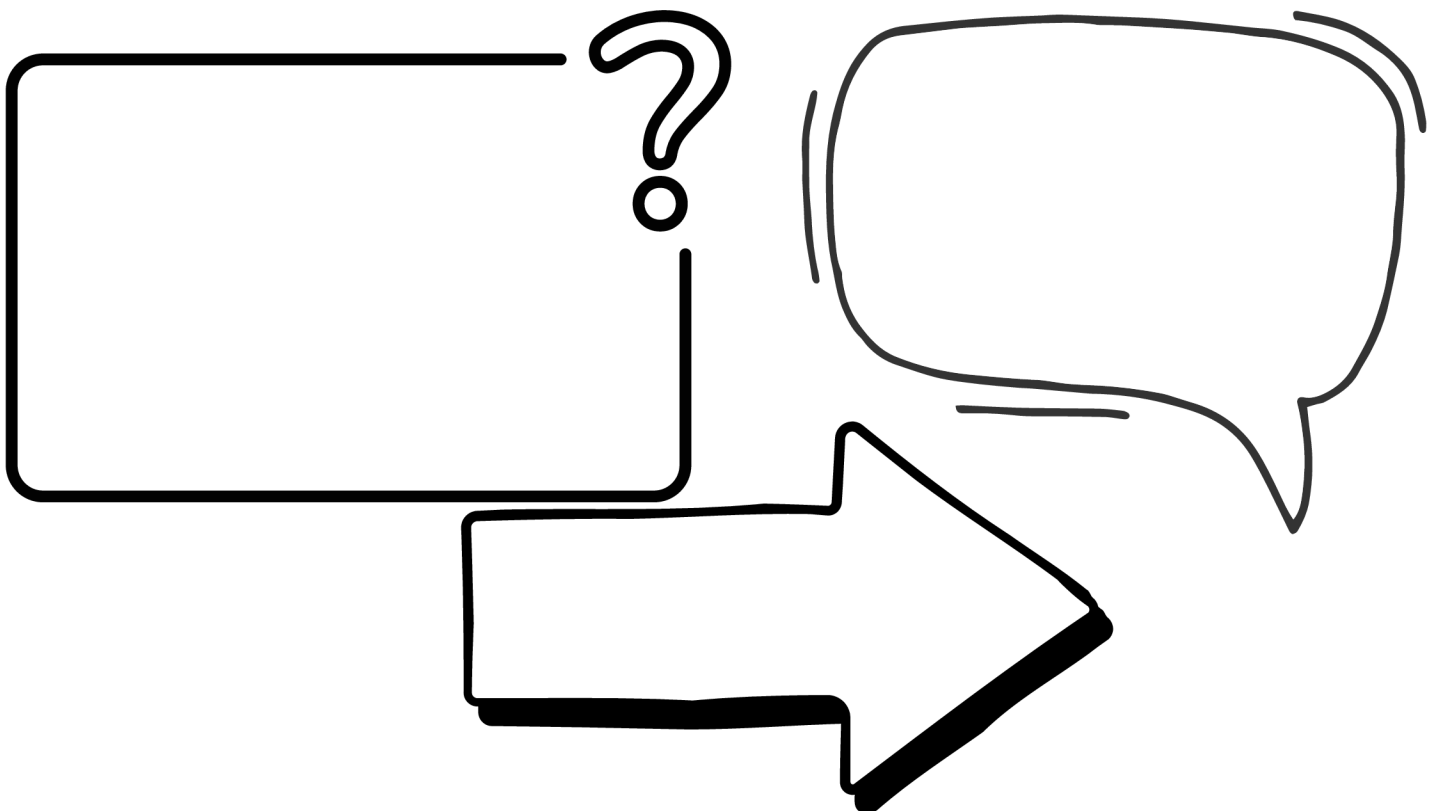
1 John 2:22 defines an "antichrist" or "liar" as anyone who denies that Jesus is the Messiah (the Christ). This denial constitutes a rejection of both the Son and the Father, labeling the denier as an opponent of Christ's true, divine, and human nature.

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1 John 2:23 states, "No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also." According to GotQuestions.org, this verse teaches that a saving relationship with God the Father is inseparable from acknowledging Jesus Christ as the Son of God. Denying Jesus' divinity or his role as the Messiah means one does not truly know God

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Applying John 2 to your life involves trusting Jesus with your limitations, obeying Him completely, and allowing Him to transform your "ordinary" situations into miracles.

**Key applications include:**

- Trust Him in Scarcity: When you feel you have run out of resources, patience, or hope, trust that Jesus can provide abundance and turn the situation around.
- Obey Without Question: Follow Mary's advice: "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). Act on his guidance immediately, even if it seems mundane or illogical,
- Let Him Purify Your Life: Just as Jesus cleared the temple, allow him to cleanse your life of things that do not honor Him, turning your heart into a true place of worship.
- Look for His Glory: Recognize that every "problem" is an opportunity for God to display His power.



**Actionable Steps:**

**Surrender Control:**

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 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_



Specifically pray about a situation where you feel

**Act in Faith:**

♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_



Perform a small, obedient step that you know God is calling you to, even if you don't see the full outcome yet.

**Refocus Your Zeal:**

♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ♥ \_\_\_\_\_



Examine what you are passionate about, and ensure your life is focused on God's glory rather than personal comfort

**In the Bible, zeal (Hebrew: qinah; Greek: zelos) means a passionate, fiery devotion to God, His righteousness, or a cause. It represents an intense, active enthusiasm—a "faith on fire" that refuses apathy, often described as intense love for God's house and holiness. God Himself is described as zealous (Exodus 34:14)**