

I John – Heresy  
Johnathan Cleveland  
I John 2:18-27  
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**Reflection & Discussion Questions**

**God is always offering greater understanding for us**

Yet sometimes we can be very ugly to someone who misunderstands God.

\*How do misunderstandings impact the way we treat each other?

**John is fighting to hold on to the core of the faith - Jesus**

Read and discuss I John 2:18-27(ESV)

*<sup>18</sup>Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. <sup>19</sup>They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. <sup>20</sup>But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup>No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. <sup>24</sup>Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. <sup>25</sup>And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.*

*<sup>26</sup>I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. <sup>27</sup>But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.*

\*What do these verses say about God? About us?

\*What might the context of the times help us understand about what John is writing?

\*How does maturity shrink the number of issues that are essential?

**Jesus is the Christ**

Heresy (in the NT) was never about disagreeing with those in charge, it was challenging the idea that Jesus was the Christ.

\*What does it look like to be confident in the anointing of the spirit?

\*Why shouldn't we hand our discernment over to human teachers?

\*How have you seen believers, or yourself, misunderstand this idea of heresy?

**Everything matters...but also nothing matters as much as Jesus**

Jesus is the Christ – draw a circle around that.

\*Is there a time you've gone too far in a disagreement? Is there someone that you might need to apologize to?

\*How do we keep our connection of fellowship with others whom we might disagree about secondary issues?

**Visual reflection (Visio Divina)\*** [Untitled](#)

**Song for reflection** [Jesus at the Center](#) by Maverick City

\*Visio divina – a thoughtful and slow way of contemplating a visual prompt like a piece of art, photograph or image and inviting God to speak to you through it. First, focus on the detail that your eyes are drawn to right away – keep focus there and pay attention to what thoughts and emotions you are having. Then, look at the entire image and consider it as a whole, being aware of thoughts, questions and emotions it provokes. End in silence and prayer, considering your experience and anything you feel called to respond to.