

Knowing Christ I John 2:3-6

How do people identify counterfeit money? Hold the dollar bill up to the light and see if there are any imperfections. Christians will never be completely perfect until glorification, but if we really know Christ there will be evidences of true transformation in our lives. The One who knows Christ:

1. Runs toward Obedience and not away from obedience to Christ (I John 2:3-4)
 - Know is in the Perfect tense – Something that happened in the past with continuing results in the present
 - We can have current cognitive knowledge that we came to know Christ in the past and have a personal relationship with Him because we keep His commands in the present
 - Not perfection, but the direction of our lives based on God's Work for us and in us (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 10:11-18)
 - John Stott, "It is not the person who claims to be a Christian and to know God who is presumptuous, but the person whose claim is contradicted by his conduct. He is a liar."
2. Responds to God's promises in loving obedience (I John 2:5)
 - What does a mature believer look like?
 - A mature believer builds their life on the promises of God's Word and responds to those promises in love for God and obedience
 - Faith is a life dominating conviction that all God has for me through obedience is better by far than anything Satan can offer me through selfishness and sin.
3. Resembles the Savior (I John 2:6)
 - Walk in the Bible refers to a pattern of behavior.
 - By this we know that we are in Him, when we see a behavior that shows the reflection of our savior
 - Does our Christianity produce in us a growing resemblance to Christ?