



# Pastor Jeff's Daily Devotion

## Day 5

### January 15, 2010

#### Day Five

#### 1 John 2:12-14

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

<sup>13</sup>I write to you, fathers,  
because you have known him who is from the beginning.

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

I write to you, dear children,  
because you have known the Father.

<sup>14</sup>I write to you, fathers,  
because you have known 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.

Many people believe this is an ancient hymn that was sung or some sort of verse or poem. The teaching of it is profound even though it is very simple. We, as believers, ought to grow and mature. See the progression: Children, Young Men, Fathers. John uses physical growth to show us that we ought to grow in our spiritual lives. Mature. Let's look at the progression.

Children – Learning forgiveness and knowing the Father.

Young Men – Growing strong, Word of God living in you, Overcoming the evil one.

Fathers – Known God from the beginning: Experience

So much of a child's life is learning. Getting to know your Father. Understanding, accepting and experiencing His forgiveness when you mess up often.

The young men stage is about growing strong. Taking what you have learned and putting that into practice. Battling the enemy and winning.

The father stage is about experience. Teaching the children and encouraging the young men. The knowledge is there and the battles have mostly been won.

We should long to mature.

First Baptist Church Indian Rocks • 12685 Ulmerton Rd., Largo, FL 33774

P. 727.595.3421 • F.727.595.6346

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