Application:

1 John that you may know...

Be Encouraged, but Don’t Be Complacent
1 John 2:7–17

I. Stages of spiritual life

A. There are stages in our physical life.
   1. Infancy (Ages 0–3)
   2. Children (Ages 3–12)
   3. Early Childhood (Ages 3–6)
   4. Middle Childhood (Ages 6–8)
   5. Late Childhood (Ages 9–11)
   6. Adolescence (Ages 11–18)
   7. Early Adulthood (Ages 18–30)
   8. Midlife (Ages 30–55)
  10. Late Adulthood (Ages 80+)

Discussion questions for weekend sermons are available online and may be downloaded from http://www.hhbc.com/sermons/sermon-notes/

A CD of this Bible study, as well as all our messages, are available at the Bookstore in the east side of the lobby. These are provided on a donation basis. Or to view a message online, visit http://www.hhbc.com/sermons/current-message/.
B. Physical growth is an illustration of spiritual growth (John 3:1–5).

C. First John 2:12–14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHILDREN</th>
<th>FATHERS</th>
<th>YOUNG MEN</th>
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<tr>
<td>I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name’s sake (v. 12).</td>
<td>I [have written] to you, children, because you know the Father (v. 13).</td>
<td>I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one (v. 13).</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning (v. 13).</td>
<td>I [have written] to you, fathers, because you know him who has been from the beginning (v. 14).</td>
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II. What is your stage?

A. Infant (Matt. 18:1–3; 1 Pet. 2:1–2)

B. Child (1 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:14–15)

C. Adolescent (1 John 2:13)

D. Mature Christian (Eph. 4:11–15; 1 Cor. 13:11, 14:20)

E. Always pressing forward (Phil. 3:13–14)

III. Growth is not automatic.