

Wheelersburg Baptist Church 06/22/25

Sermon Series: Flourishing Fellowship with God: A Study in 1 John

Sermon Title: Flourishing Fellowship Tests the Spirits by Consistent Christian Confession and Conduct.

Scripture: 1 John 4:1–6 (cf. 3:1–24; 4:7–21)

Biblical idea: John exhorted believers to _____ the spirits based upon true Christian confession and conduct.

Outline of the Text:

- Christian _____ harmonizes with truth (3:1–24).
- Christian _____ about Christ distinguishes between spirits (4:1–6).
- Christian _____ matures in Christ-like love (4:7–21).

Theological Tension: Discernment of spirits is a preventative spiritual _____ given to the church to protect it from deception.

Theological Truth: The Holy Spirit's presence is always _____.

Theological Purpose: To demonstrate how Christian confession and conduct bring _____ to discerning spirits.

Make It Personal: Test the _____ by consistent Christian confession and conduct.

- Test the spirits that hold _____ over you.
 - In _____
 - In _____
 - In _____
- Test the spirits in _____ ways: “The Gold Method”

- The test of _____: Is it markable?
- The test of _____: Is it identifiable?
- The test of _____ Is it heavy?
- The test of the _____ eye: What do the experts say?