SERMON: **Being In The World But Not Of The World**

Scripture: 1 John 2: 12-17

John recognizes three groups of Christians in the Church.

**Newcomers**  who recognize they are now truly children of God:

* + Their sins having been forgiven, they ***recognize their salvation and are filled with great joy.***
  + Christ is their advocate.
  + They have come to know God through Jesus Christ as Abba – Father.

**Active Learners & Doers** who are more developed Christians - strong & vigorous:

* + Busily involved in the day-to-day struggle of Christian living.
  + ***Growing by a process of******sanctification.***
  + Reading, studying and knowing the scriptures.
  + Seeking to conform their lives to Christ’s way.

**Seasoned Saints** who are the true elders and mature members of a congregation:

* + Time has passed since the first flush of ecstasy (joy) in receiving forgiveness and fellowship with the Father.
  + They hold their salvation near and dear.
  + Past are many of the day-to-day battles of Christian living.
  + They have progressed into a deep communion with God.
  + Their knowing of God has ripened over time.
  + Newcomers know God as Abba – Father, the more mature Christians have come to know God fully as the Creator of all things who was there from the very beginning and is the possessor of Eternity which is everlasting.
  + ***Consciously living as participants in eternity here and now.***

**Good Yeast comes in three packages:**

**1. Those who …**

**2. Those who are …**

**3. Those who are …**

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