

"If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin."
John 1:7



Winter 2023

session six

Welcome



Thank you for joining me for session five of our study on 1, 2, & 3 John. Today we come to the conclusion of 1 John as we study chapter 5. This letter, as it was intended, was to bring comfort and conviction to the believers and correction to those

who were bringing false teaching. As a spiritual leader, I can only imagine the burden that the Apostle John must have felt to keep the main thing the main thing. That is why we see him continuously loop back to "loving others" as a reflection, symbol, and commandment of our love for God. He is basically telling us that if you wonder how you are doing in your walk for God, look here, it is a good indicator of whether you are in a good place.

I am so thankful for you and your loving kindness towards me and others in the room or online in your study groups. Feel free to reach out to me if I can answer any questions for you!

Blessings,

Cheryl Jamison



Teaching Notes

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3

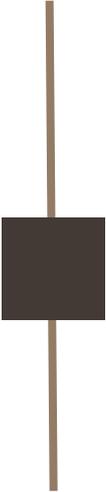
1 John 5:1-21

First John 5 completes the letter by summarizing how Christians can know that they have eternal life. Prior chapters have explained the various signs of "abiding" with God, but the key measurement is love. In this final passage, love is once again used as the supreme measurement. In light of the rest of the letter, love for God and love for others is shown to be both a source of confidence and a sign of faith.

Themes of 1 John:

In 1 John the author calls readers back to the three basics of Christian life: true doctrine, obedient living, and fervent devotion. Because “God is light” (1 John 1:5), Christ’s followers overcome evildoers who seek to subvert them. The one who lives in and among them—God’s Son—is greater than the spirit of “the antichrist” now in the world (1 John 4:3–4). To believe in the name of the Son of God is to know the assurance of eternal life (1 John 5:13).

God is light (1:5; 2:8)	God is love (4:8, 16, 19)
Christians were spiritually dead: they have "passed out of death into life" (3:14)	
God loved his people and sent Jesus to die for them (3:16; 4:10, 14, 19; 5:11)	
Christians have been born of God (2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18)	
God gave them life (3:14; 4:9; 5:11, 16)	
God gave Christians the Spirit (2:20, 27; 3:24; 4:13) along with understanding (5:20)	
Christians are of/from God/the truth (3:10, 19; 4:4, 6; 5:19)	
God abides in Christians, and his Word abides in them (2:14, 24, 27; 3:9, 24; 4:12, 13, 15, 16)	Christians abide in God, and thus abide in the light (2:5, 6, 27, 28; 3:6, 24; 4:13, 16)
Christians know God (2:13, 14; 4:6, 7), they know the Father (2:13; 5:20), they know Jesus (1:3; 2:3), and they know the Spirit (4:2, 6)	Christians love God (2:5; 4:21; 5:2, 3)
Being born again, having received the Spirit, abiding in God and God abiding in them, and knowing and loving God, Christians bear observable fruit:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice truth/righteousness (1:6; 2:29; 3:7, 10) • Walk in the light/as he walked (1:7; 2:6) • Confess sins and have forgiveness (1:9; 2:12) • Keep/obey his commandments/Word (2:3, 5; 3:22, 24; 5:2, 3) • Love one another/the brothers (2:10; 3:10, 11, 14, 16, 18, 23; 4:7, 11, 21) • Overcome the evil one/them/the world (2:13, 14; 4:4; 5:4) • Do the will of God/cannot keep on sinning (2:17; 3:9, 22) • Confess the Son/believe in Jesus (2:23; 3:23; 4:2, 15; 5:1, 4, 13) 	



Group Discussion

- Read 1 John 5:3-4 2. Verse 3 says God's commands are "not burdensome" or difficult. Do you find this to be true? Why or why not? What purposeful actions can you take to live more fully as an overcomer?

- Read 1 John 5:6-10 What is the significance of the water, the blood, and the Spirit all testifying that Jesus is God?

- Read 1 John 5:13-15 How does this scripture reflect your confidence in prayer? What does "anything" mean to you?

- The Apostle John closes this letter with a concern and addresses it to "dear children" his last pastoral caveat in the letter, "keep yourselves from idols". What would some of the idols be that are tempting in our culture today....even for believers?

Personal Study 1 John 5:1-21

1. Explain how the following pairs are related to each other:

A. Loving God and obeying God (see 1 John 2:15-17, 5:2-3).

B. Loving God and loving other believers (see 1 John 4:20-5:2)

2. What two reasons reflect our love for others (see 1 John 5:2)

3. Who is it that overcomes the world (see 1 John 5:5) Do you qualify for that, if not would you like to?

4. We accept the testimony of three human witnesses in a trial. Why is God's testimony - through the Spirit, the water, and the blood - even more trustworthy (see 1 John 5:9)?



Personal Study 1 John 5:1-21

5. What specific word does 1 John 5:6 say that the Holy Spirit is?

6. What significant role does the Holy Spirit play in this passage?

7. Read John 14:25-26; what did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would remind them of?

8. Read 1 John 5:14, When we approach God in prayer, what is our confidence based on?

9. Read the following scriptures and note the instructions for seeking God in prayer:

2 Chronicles 7:14

Psalm 55:17

Psalm 116:1-2

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7



Personal Study 1 John 5:1-21

10. Describe a time when you prayed for something, and God answered your prayers in an entirely different way than you could have imagined, yet you are now thankful for it.

11. How does what James tells us (James 5:20) compare to 1 Joh 5:16?

12. Read 1 John 5:18-20, and list the three things that Johns says "we know"

13. Read 1 John 5:21; Your translation may say *keep yourselves from idols* while others say *guard*. In the verses below, what was being guarded, and who was doing the guarding?

Luke 2:8

Acts 12:4-5

1 Timothy 6:20

14. Let's bring this one full circle...Like the shepherd guarded their flocks, the soldiers guarded Peter, and Timothy kept what was entrusted to his care; in what ways do you specifically guard yourself against idols?