

Life Group Guide

1 John 5:1-12

Connect: 30-45 min

Consider sharing a meal together, discussing the highs/lows of the week or any celebrations/hard things that happened last week, follow up from prayer requests.

A Reminder: If you are looking for more in-depth study to do during the week before the sermon, this is a free 12-week course through 123 John:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowning-the-bible-1-3-john/#week-1-overview>

The grand story of the Gospel: The OT points in hopeful expectation, and the NT points back in remembrance (What He did/what He promised He would do!). The full Gospel (Death, Burial, Resurrection, Ascension, and Promised Return).

Discuss: Scripture/Sermon Discussion (30-45 mins)

1. Reread this week's passage, **1 John 5:1-12**. Have someone summarize the sermon in 1-2 minutes. What stood out? What was challenging? Encouraging?
2. **1 John 5:1**. How does a confession of Jesus as the Savior help with assurances in the Christian life? Why is the new birth so important to the Christian? How Does the new birth relate to repentance and faith?
3. **Read 1 John 5:2**. Brad mentioned, "When we love God, do we love God because we love God, or do we love God because He first loved us? If you desire to love God, don't boast because it's Him. If you wish you had a desire to love God, it's Him. If you wish you even wish you had a desire to love God, it's Him." Has there ever been a time in your life that you have felt this way? What was that experience like, and are you currently experiencing that?
4. **Read 1 John 5:3**. To love God is to keep His commandments and live under the authority of the Scriptures. Are there any areas in your life where you have a pattern of not submitting to scripture? How would abiding more in Jesus' love help you more consistently submit to and obey his commands? See Psalm 19:7-9 and John 8:31-32.

"We do not change the Bible to fit the way we live; we change the way we live to fit the Bible."

-Brad Bell

5. **1 John 5:4** talks about how whoever is born of God overcomes the world. What does it mean for believers to have overcome the world? What role does faith play? See 1 John 2:15-17 and John 16:33.
6. **Read 1 John 5:9-11**. Brad mentioned, "We don't simply have the testimony of men. We have the testimony of God concerning His Son, Jesus Christ?" What are some reasons people wrestle with accepting Jesus Christ's testimony? How would others rate your life as an endorsement of Jesus being who He said He was?

Closing Practice: Embracing the Gospel at a point in time.

Read 1 John 5:12. If you have embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you have eternal life. If you have not embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you do not have ETERNAL LIFE! But wait! It's not too late! Today can also be the day you receive ETERNAL LIFE found ONLY IN JESUS!