



unfailing **love**
in **uncertain** times

A Journey Through 1 John

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

PREFACE

THANK YOU FOR PURCHAING *UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES*! THIS STUDY WAS BORN OUT OF NECESSITY. IN THE SUMMER OF 2020, DUE TO COVIE-19, I HAD TO MAKE THE HARD DECISION TO CUT MY CHURCHES EDUCATION BUDGET. PART OF THOSE CUTS MEANT THAT WE WOULD NOT BE ORDERING SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM LIKE WE USUALLY DO. I HAD BEGUN TO WRITE ON 1 JOHN A WHILE BEFORE THIS, SO I PULLED OUT THOSE LESSONS AND BEGAN CRAFTING THEM INTO WHAT YOU SEE BEFORE YOU. THIS HELPED OUR CHURCH GET THROUGH THE SUMMER, AND IT KEPT OUR CLASSES ON THE SAME PAGE AS WE WENT THROUGH THE PANDEMIC TOGETHER.

THIS DISCUSSION GUIDE IS MEANT TO BE USED BY CLASS MEMBERS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BOOK. IT IS ALSO EXPECTED THAT YOUR BIBLE WOULD BE OPEN TO 1 JOHN AS YOU GO THROUGH EACH SESSION. I HOPE THIS BLESSES YOUR SOUL AND BENEFITS YOUR GROWTH IN THE LORD.

SINCERELY,

J RYAN WICKER

FBC Dickson

UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 1 JESUS, THE WORD MADE FLESH

MAIN POINT

To come to a biblical understanding of who Jesus is.

INTRODUCTION

What are some popular responses from the world about who Jesus is?

Why is it important for us as believers to be able to articulate a biblical view of the person of Christ?

STUDY AND DISCUSSION:

Read 1 John 1:1-2

- 1. Why might it be hard for some to think of Jesus in human terms?**
- 2. Why is the incarnation of Jesus a stumbling block for some?**
- 3. How can we daily honor the biblical doctrine of who Jesus is, both God and man?**

Read 1 John 1:3

- 4. What reservations do you personally have about evangelism?**
- 5. What barriers must we overcome in order to share the gospel effectively?**

6. What aspects of Christian fellowship do you value the most?

Read 1 John 1:4

7. According to John, what is the purpose of his letter?

Read James 1:2-4

8. According to James, how can trials bring joy into our lives?

9. What promises of God bring you joy?

10. What keeps our joy from being "complete"?

APPLICATION:

Are you abiding in Christ, the word so that your joy may be complete?

Who can you share Jesus with this week?

What in your life is causing your joy to be incomplete or lacking?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 2
CONFRONTING SIN IN A CULTURE OF MORAL RELATIVISM
1 JOHN 1:5-2:2

MAIN POINT

This lesson will help us all see the destructive nature of sin and to confront sin in our own lives

INTRODUCTION

How would you define sin? (Discuss)

How might you explain the concept of sin to someone who doesn't understand it?

STUDY AND DISCUSSION:

Confronting Sin Means Exposing it to God's Light

Read 1 John 1:5

- 1. In what ways is God like light?**
- 2. How does his light expose darkness?**
- 3. Have you ever experienced utter darkness like in a cavern or cave? how did that make you feel?**
- 4. How comforting was it when the lights came back on?**

5. In what ways might God "shine a light" on our sin?

Confronting Sin Means Walking in the Light

Read 1 John 1:6-10

- 6. According to John why is it impossible to both have fellowship with God and to walk in darkness?**

- 7. In your own words, what does it mean to "walk in the light"?**

- 8. what ways does claiming not to have sin make God a liar? (see v.10)**

- 9. How can we lovingly confront sin in the lives of brothers and sisters in Christ?**

- 10. How open are we to others who lovingly confront sin in our lives?**

Confronting Sin Means Placing All Our Hope and Trust in Christ Alone

Read 1 John 2:1-2

- 11. What is an advocate?**

- 12. In way is Christ our advocate?**

Read Colossians 2:14

13. How can we thank Jesus for being our advocate and propitiation?

14. When we do sin, how can the truth of Christ as advocate and propitiation bring you hope?

APPLICATION

Is there a brother or sister in your life that needs to lovingly have sin confronted? How can you do that this week?

Is there a sin issue in your own life that needs confronted? Who can you talk to about that?

Who in your life needs to hear the truth of Christ as advocate and propitiation this week?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 3
EMBRACING RADICAL LOVE
1 JOHN 2:3-17

MAIN POINT

Our obedience is rooted in our love for God. That love overflows into love for each other and a rejection of the love of the world.

INTRODUCTION

How do you teach your kids/grandkids obedience?

How should our love for God overflow into our obedience and love for others?

STUDY AND DISCUSSION

Is our obedience a desire for God to be satisfied with us or is it an overflow of our satisfaction in Him?

Read 1 John 2:3-6

- 1. How does John say we come to know God in v.3?**
- 2. What "commands" is John referring to?**
- 3. In v.4, what does John mean when he says God's love is perfected in us when we keep His word?**
- 4. According to v.5-6, how can we know we are "in Him"?**

Read John 15:1-8

- 5. What does it practically look like to walk as Jesus walked?**

- 6. How can we encourage each other daily in this?**

Embrace Radical Love for Each Other

Read 1 John 2:7-11

- 7. According to v.7, what is the old command John is referring to?**

- 8. What do you think John means by the "new command"?**

- 9. Read John 13:34-35 and ask again "What is the new command?"**

- 10. According to v.11, what does it mean to "walk in darkness"?**

- 11. How can we help those walking in darkness?**

- 12. What practical ways to we exhibit radical love for each other?**

Reject the Love of the World

Read 1 John 2:15-17

- 13. What does John mean when he says "the world" in v.15?**

14. What three things are of the world in v.16?

15. According to v.17 that is the problem with falling in love with the world?

16. According to Galatians 6:14, what should be our only boast?

APPLICATION

Ask God to give you a new found delight in His word and obeying it.

How can we pursue love in a church made up of so many diverse people?

How can we help each other not fall in love with the things of this world?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 4
ABIDING IN CHRIST IN AN ANTI-CHRIST CULTURE
1 JOHN 2:18-27

MAIN POINT

To define the term “antichrist” and how it is used in two different ways in this passage, and to discuss the characteristics of “antichrist”. Also to encourage each other with the words of John about remaining in Christ and what he means by that, and how that helps us deal with and defeat the spirit of antichrist both in the church and in the world.

INTRODUCTION

Why don't we often think about supernatural things?

Before we get started, how might you define something that is "anti-christ"?

STUDY AND DISCUSSION:

The difference between "Antichrist and anti-Christ".

Read 1 John 2:18

- 1. Why does John refer to his readers as "Children"?**
- 2. What is the "last hour" John mentions in v.18?**
- 3. How does the presence of "antichrists", false teachers, remind us that we are in the last days?**

- 4. What are some modern day false teachings that are opposed to Christ and the gospel?**

Three Characteristics of "antichrists" or false teachings

Read 1 John 2:19; 22-23

- 5. How would you explain John's phrase in v.19, "they went out from us, but they did not belong to us"?**
- 6. According to v.22, what does the "antichrists" deny?**

Read John 10:25-30

- 7. How does Jesus refer to those who refuse to believe in these verses?**
- 8. How do true believers respond to the voice of Jesus?**
- 9. Why is it important for every believer to be able to identify false teaching?**
- 10. What is the danger in false teaching for the church?**

Three Characteristics of True Believers

Read 1 John 2:20-21; 24-27

- 11. What does John mean in v.20 when he says "all of you have knowledge"?**

12. What does it mean to have "anointing from the Holy One"?

13. According to these verses, what does it mean to remain or abide in the gospel?

Read Jude 3

14. What does Jude say about the origin of the gospel message here?

15. What does he mean by "contending for the faith"?

16. How do we daily abide in Christ?

17. How does this help us combat false teaching?

APPLICATION:

How can I better identify false teaching?

Am I daily abiding in Christ and in His word?

Who in my life has fallen for false teaching and how can I help them?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 5
HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS
1 JOHN 2:28-3:3

MAIN POINT

To examine the nature of the hope that we have in Christ Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

How would you define hope?

What are some things you have hoped for or are hoping for?

STUDY AND DISCUSSION:

Hope Gives Us Boldness to Stand Unashamed

Read 1 John 2:28

- 1. According to this verse, what is the purpose of remaining in Christ?**
- 2. What does it mean to have boldness at His coming?**
- 3. What do you hope for most in Christ's return?**
- 4. In what ways might we struggle with having boldness "before Him"?**

Hope Frees Us to Pursue Righteousness.

Read 1 John 2:29

- 5. What does it mean to practice righteousness?**

- 6. How would explain being "born of God" to someone who is lost?**

Hope in God's Love That Has Saved Us

Read 1 John 3:1

- 7. What did your earthly father mean to you?**

- 8. In what ways were you proud to be his child?**

- 9. According to John, why does the world "not know us" as God's children?**

- 10. How does knowing God is your Father help you in hard times and give you hope?**

Hope That We Will One Day Be with Christ and Like Christ

Read 1 John 3:2

- 11. According to this verse, what hasn't been revealed yet?**

- 12. What do think John means when he says we will be like Christ when we see Him?**

Read 1 Corinthians 15:43-44

13. How does Paul describe the resurrection body?

14. What do you look forward to most about your resurrection body?

Hope that Causes Us to Walk in Purity

Read 1 John 3:3

15. What does the word "pure" mean?

Read Philippians 2:12-15

16. What is our role in pursuing purity?

17. What is God's role?

APPLICATION

What may be holding back your hope?

How can my hope fuel my daily devotion to God?

What do I need to confess to God so I might be able to walk in purity?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 6
WHY CHRIST CAME
1 JOHN 3:4-10

MAIN POINT

To examine why Christ came to earth.

INTRODUCTION

Why is it important to remind ourselves often of why Christ came the first time?

Read 1 John 3:4

How does John define "sin" in this verse?

STUDY AND DISCUSSION:

To Defeat Sin on the Cross

Read 1 John 3:5-6

- 1. How did Christ "take away sins"?**
- 2. What do you think in v. 6 John means when he says "everyone who has been born of God does not sin"?**

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21

- 3. What do we gain by Christ taking on our sin on the cross? What does that mean for us?**

To Destroy the Works of Satan

Read 1 John 3:7-8

- 4. Who does John identify those who practice habitual sin with in v. 8?**

- 5. So what works of the Devil did Christ destroy?**

Read Genesis 3:14-15

- 6. What was God's curse on the serpent?**

- 7. What would come and ultimately defeat that serpent one day?**

- 8. How does the reality of Satan's defeat motivate us in pursuing righteousness?**

To Impart a Distinguishing Love

Read 1 John 3:9-10

- 9. In verse 9, why does John say that a true believer's life can't be defined by habitual sin?**

- 10. How should our love for each other distinguish us from the world?**

Read John 15:9-17

- 11. What does this love look like?**

APPLICATION

Christ has defeated your two greatest enemies. How does that motivate you daily?

How can we encourage each other with these truths?

How does Christ imparting a distinguishing love in his people help unify the church?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 7
LIVE LOVE: TRUTH IN ACTION
1 JOHN 3:10-18

MAIN POINT

The essence of true love is a love for the truth of God that leads to right actions and deeds.

INTRODUCTION

How do you respond to stress or crisis?

What or who do you turn to during those times to ease that stress?

UNDERSTANDING

Love's Message Has Been Declared from the Beginning

Read 1 John 3:10-11

- 1. What is the message that the church had heard from the beginning?**
- 2. Why does God have to "command" love?**

John's message of love is not unique to John. It's all over Scripture.

Read Romans 12:10, Galatians 5:13, and 1 Peter 1:22

- 3. When was a time in your life when the supernatural love of God was on display?**

4. How can we promote this kind of love in our church/groups?

Love's Absence is Hatred Leading to Death

Read 1 John 3:12-15

5. According to v.12, why did Cain murder Abel?

6. How does that explain the reality of the world's hatred for the things and people of God?

Read Matthew 5:21-22

7. How does Jesus define murder?

8. How can we encourage each other as we deal with hatred from the world?

Love's Evidence is Sacrificial Living

Read 1 John 3:16-18

9. According to John, what is the evidence that God's love is in us?

10. What does sacrificial living look like?

Read James 2:15-17

11. What hinders us from this type of sacrificial living and giving?

12. What ways can we practically make evident the sacrificial love we have for each other?

APPLICATION

Is there any hatred or bitterness in my heart I need to repent of in order to love like Jesus has called us to?

Is there anything I am holding on to that I need to lay down to live more sacrificially for the sake of the gospel?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 8
THE LIFE-GIVING BENEFITS OF LOVE
S1 JOHN 3:19-24

MAIN POINT

God, through love, gives us life. This lesson examines three aspects of the life-giving benefits of God's love to the restless human heart.

INTRODUCTION

Why shouldn't we just "follow our hearts"? What is the danger in that?

What does Jeremiah 17:9 and Matthew 12:34 reveal about our hearts?

UNDERSTANDING

Let's review the three aspects of the life-giving benefits of God's love

God's Love Assures Us of Our Salvation

Read 1 John 3:19-20

- 1. What does John mean by "belong to the truth"? (see v. 18)**
- 2. According to John what does our hearts/consciences do to us sometimes?**
- 3. In what ways does our hearts condemn us? What does that mean?**

Read Romans 8:1

- 4. What assurance does this verse offer our hearts?**
- 5. What promises of God help assure you of your salvation?**
- 6. Why is assurance of salvation so important for our daily lives?**

God's Love Gives Us Confidence in Prayer

Read 1 John 3:21-22

- 7. According to this passage, what is the prerequisite to receiving "whatever we ask" of Him?**
- 8. What does it mean to pray to God "confidently"?**
- 9. If this is true, then why is prayer so neglected in our daily devotion?**
- 10. How can we make prayer a priority daily?**
- 11. What daily practices help enhance your prayer life? (meaning posture, time of day, place, etc.)**

God's Love Provides the Loving Reassurance of His Holy Spirit

Read 1 John 3:23-24

12. What does John say we have been commanded to do in v.23?

13. What does God promise to do for those that keep those commands?

14. What does it mean for God to remain in us?

15. How do we "remain in Him"?

16. In what ways does it encourage you to know that God has chosen to abide in you by His Spirit?

APPLICATION

How can you help a fellow believer who may be suffering from a doubting conscience and struggles accepting assurance of their salvation?

What is needed in your prayer life in order for it to be more confident?

How can you make abiding in Christ a daily habit?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 9
STANDING FIRM IN THE TRUTH
1 JOHN 4:1-6

MAIN POINT

Realizing the reality of spiritual darkness and learning to stand firm on the truth of God's word.

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever experienced a spiritually dark time or know someone deceived by a message of false hope?

As a reminder from a previous lesson, what is the "spirit of antichrist" in the world?

How does this spirit of deception affect the church?

UNDERSTANDING

In this lesson we will examine 3 actions we must take in order to stand firm in the truth.

We Test Every Spirit (v.1)

Read 1 John 4:1

- 1. By what means do we "test the spirits"?**
- 2. What are some characteristics of "false prophets"?**

Read Acts 17:10-15

- 3. How do these verses describe the Bereans?**

- 4. How did they receive Paul's message?**

- 5. What does this teach us about testing the spirits?**

- 6. What harm is caused to the church when we fail to "test the spirits" as we are commanded?**

- 7. How do you maintain a discerning spirit in your own life?**

We Affirm A Better Confession (v.2-3)

Read 1 John 4:2-3

- 8. According to John, how do we "know the Spirit of God"?**

- 9. Why is confessing "Jesus Christ has come in the flesh" so important to our faith?**

Examples of early church creeds and confessions:

"He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory" - 1 Timothy 3:16

"...maranatha that is , Lord come" 1 Corinthians 16:2

"Jesus is Lord"- recorded in Romans 10:9

“that Christ died for our sins according to Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures” - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

10. What confessions or Scriptures did you memorize early in life that have helped you "test the spirits" later in life?

11. How can we promote right confessions in our homes? Our church?

12. Why have so many people strayed from the use of catechisms and confessions to teach children truth?

We Trust a Greater Spirit (v.4-6)

Read 1 John 4:4-6

13. Who have we conquered according to v.4?

14. How have we conquered them?

15. In what ways does the Holy Spirit aid us in "testing the spirits"?

16. How can we daily conquer the false messages of the world?

17. In what ways are we already conquerors? How does that truth help us combat false teaching?

18. What should we do if we see a brother or sister being led astray by a false message?

APPLICATION

Are you daily in God's word so that you might more accurately "test the spirits"?

What is one thing you can do this week to better prepare yourself against false messages?

How can you help promote healthy discernment in your home? the church?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 10
CELEBRATE JESUS, TRUE LOVE INCARNATE
S1 JOHN 4:7-19

MAIN POINT

To discuss the incarnation of Christ, who is love, and the implications of the incarnation for us.

INTRODUCTION

In what ways does your family acknowledge or celebrate the incarnation of God in Christ?

Why is the incarnation important for Christian doctrine?

UNDERSTANDING

Word Study:

Agapao (agape): Greek word used 21 times in these 13 verses.

- Means "love, affection, or benevolence". Often used to describe the deep love God has for his people and for His Son.

Let's now discuss how God's *agapao* love for us was manifested in Christ and what are the implications for us.

True Love's Origin

Read 1 John 4:7-8

- 1. According to John, where is love from?**

- 2. What does John mean when he says "God is love"?**

True Love's Revelation (v.9)

Read 1 John 4:9

- 3. How was God's love revealed to us?**

- 4. What does John mean when he says "so that we might live through Him"? How do we live through Christ?**

Read Hebrews 1:3

- 5. In what ways is Christ the "exact expression of God's nature"?**

- 6. In what other ways has God revealed his love to us?**

True Love's Demonstration (v.10-12)

Read 1 John 4:10-12

- 7. According to John, what is the primary way God demonstrated his love for us?**

- 8. Why is the atoning sacrifice of Jesus the greatest demonstration of God's love?**

Read 2 Corinthians 5:19

- 9. How did God reconcile the world to Himself?**

10. What does it mean to you that because we are in Christ, God no longer holds our trespasses against us?

11. In what ways specifically is God's love made complete by our love for each other?

12. What does our love for each other demonstrate to the world about God?

True Love's Implications (v.13-19)

Read 1 John 4:13-19

13. How is the Holy Spirit in us evidence of God's love?

14. How does God's love give us confidence in the day of judgment according to v.17?

15. What is the connection between love and fear in v.18?

16. How does it help us face life knowing we don't have to fear final judgment?

17. How can we best display our confidence and fearlessness to the lost?

18. Can you think of any other implications of God's love for you?

APPLICATION

How can you display the agapao love of God to others this week?

Have you take time to thank God for displaying his love for us by sending Christ?

Are you or someone you know having doubts about their salvation? how can you use this passage to help reassure them (yourself)?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 11
WALK IN LOVING OBEDIENCE
S1 JOHN 4:20-5:5

MAIN POINT

Loving God means loving each other and obeying His word, and ultimately God's love helps us overcome the world.

INTRODUCTION

What does it mean to love the Lord with "all your strength"?

What are some things you've had to overcome in this life?

How did God help you through that?

UNDERSTANDING

The Apostle John in this passage lays out three concrete actions that demonstrate our love for God.

Loving God Means Loving Each Other (v.20-21, 5:1)

Read 1 John 4:20-21

- 1. What is the reasoning John gives in v.20 as to why if a person fails to love their brothers and sisters in Christ they also do not love God?**
- 2. According to v.21 what is the command John is referring to?**
- 3. Why do you think God has to command us to love each other?**

Read 1 John 5:1

- 4. What is the belief that all true Christians share in common according to this verse?**

- 5. How do we actively and practically demonstrate love for brothers and sisters in Christ?**

Loving God Means Obeying His Word (5:2-3)

- 6. What are God's commands to us that we are to obey?**

- 7. How does our obedience demonstrate our love for each other?**

- 8. According to v.3, how should we as Christians view the commands of God?**

Read Matthew 11:28-30

- 9. What does Jesus mean when he says his yoke is easy and his burden light?**

- 10. How do you regularly remind yourself of God's commands?**

Loving God Means Conquering (Overcoming) the World (v.4-5)

Read 1 John 5:4-5

- 11. What does it mean to "conquer" or "overcome" the world?**

- 12. How have we conquered the world?**

13. How does knowing that in Christ you have overcome the world help you better understand what it means to be in the world and not of it?

APPLICATION

If your love for God on display in the way you love your brothers and sisters in Christ?

What hinders you most in your obedience to the word of God?

How can you daily practice overcoming the world?

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 12
DEFEND THE CERTAIN TESTIMONY THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST
1 JOHN 5:6-12

MAIN POINT.

To discuss 6 witnesses that bear testimony that Jesus was the Christ.

INTRODUCTION

What is a witness?

Why is a witness so valuable when it comes to providing reliable testimony?

UNDERSTANDING

There are 3 groupings of witnesses listed in this passage

The Water, the Blood, and the Spirit (v.6-8)

Read 1 John 5:6-8

- 1. What do you think John means by "water" and "blood"?**
- 2. What is it about the Spirit that John points out that makes His testimony trustworthy?**
- 3. What is the significance of 3 witnesses mentioned in v.7? (Hint: read Deut. 17:6)**

Read Matthew 3:13-17

- 4. What was unique about the baptism of Jesus?**
- 5. What is it about this event that bears testimony to who He is?**
- 6. In what ways does our baptism testify to the truth of who Jesus is?**
- 7. How does it testify to what He has done for us?**
- 8. In your own words, what is atonement?**

Read Matthew 27:50-54

- 9. What miraculous and supernatural events happened soon after Jesus died?**
- 10. What is the significance of those events and how do they bear testimony to who Jesus is?**
- 11. How would you explain the words of the centurion in v.54?**

The Witness of the Father and the Believer (v.9-10)

Read 1 John 5:9-10

- 12. In what ways is God's testimony the greatest and most powerful testimony about Jesus?**
- 13. How does a believer bear testimony within himself of Jesus?**

14. What does John say about the unbeliever in this passage?

15. In what ways specifically has God testified to the truth of His Son?

16. In what other ways do we testify to the truth of who Jesus is?

The Witness of Eternal Life (v.11-12)

Read 1 John 5:11-12

17. When you think about life eternal, what comes to mind?

18. How does this truth of eternal punishment give urgency to sharing the gospel?

APPLICATION

How can you better prepare yourself to be a better witness for Jesus?

Who do you need to bear testimony about Jesus to this week?

Spend some time this week thanking God for the gift of Jesus, His Spirit, and eternal life this week.

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UNFAILING LOVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES- SESSION 13
WHAT WE CAN KNOW
1 JOHN 5:13-21

MAIN POINT

To discuss five certainties that we can know as believers and children of God.

INTRODUCTION

What does it mean to know God?

How is it possible that we can know God?

UNDERSTANDING

There are 5 certainties we can know from this passage.

1. We Can Know We Have Eternal Life (v.13)

Read 1 John 5:13

- 1. How would you describe the nature of eternal life to someone?**
- 2. Why is it important that God gives us assurance of eternal life?**
- 3. What about eternal life in Heaven are you most looking forward to?**

2. We Can Know That God Answers Prayer (v.14-17)

Read 1 John 5:14-17

- 4. According to verse 14, how should we ask things of God?**

5. What does it mean to ask according to His will?

6. How can you know God's will?

7. According to v.16-17, how should we pray for those in sin?

Read Romans 12:1-2

8. What is discernment?

9. According to this passage, how can we discern the will of God?

10. What is a "sin that leads to death"?

11. How can we make intercession more a priority in our prayer life?

3. We Can Know We Can Overcome Sin (v.18)

Read 1 John 5:18

12. What does John mean when he says those born of God "do not sin"?

13. How does God help us overcome sin and protect us according to this verse?

4. We Can Know We Belong to God (v.19)

Read 1 John 5:19

14. What does it mean to be of God, to belong to Him?

15. How does knowing you belong to God help you with struggles in this life?

5. We Can Know Jesus, the True One (v.20)

Read 1 John 5:20

16. According to this verse, what has Jesus, the Son, given us?

17. What does John mean when he says we are "in the True One"?

18. What does it mean to you that you have come to know Jesus?

19. What other certainties can you think of that God has given His people?

Read 1 John 5:21 to conclude

20. Why this warning at the end?

21. Why must we be on guard against idols?

22. What do our idols look like?

APPLICATION

How can you intercede for someone you love caught in sin this week?

What can you do daily to help you overcome your own sin?

What idols have you erected in your heart that need to be torn down?