

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Lesson 1: 1 John 1:1 – 2:10

Date: October 23, 2021

Facilitator: Mike Calhoun & *Chuck Ruffin*

- 1. In verses 1-3, John opens with a reference to a tangible experience shared among he and the apostles. Explain the importance of the testimony and who or what John is referencing.**

- 2. John uses the term, “the life” in verse #2. What is he referring to and why do you think he uses this term?**

- 3. Contrast *walking in the light* vs *walking in darkness*.**

- 4. Read verses #8 and #10. Explain the difference in the person who says: “I am without sin” and the person who says: “I have not sinned.” Are they the same? Why or why not?**

- 5. How can we be purified from all unrighteousness? (#10)**

- 6. What is the evidence that God’s word is not in us?**

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Lesson 2: 1 John 2: 11 -27

Date: October 23, 2021

Facilitator: Jackie Glenn

- 1. In verse 2:11, why does the text say “the one who hates his brother has blinded eyes”? What does this mean?**

- 2. John declares in verses 12-14, he is writing to (a) little children (b) fathers and (c) young men. Explain the distinctions in each of these 3 stages of spiritual growths in God’s family.**
 - A. Little Children**
 - B. Fathers**
 - C. Young men**

- 2. Why are we warned against loving the world in verse 15? In what ways might you be guilty of loving the world?**

- 3. Verse 18 talks about “antichrist”. What are some of the characteristics of anti-christ?**

- 4. What is being referred to in verse 20 when it says “you have an anointing from the Holy One”?**

- 5. Does v #27 mean that we do not need Christian schooling because the Holy Spirit will teach us- yes or no?**

- 6. Keeping in mind the earlier concern that many ‘anti-christs’ are coming, read v. 26 and make a connection between 26 & 27. What new insight do you get?**



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Lesson 3: 1 John 2:28 – 3:10

Date: October 30, 2021

Facilitator: Rev. Sanders

- 1. What teachings does John list that will help prepare us for the return of Christ? (V. 28) Is there danger for believers if we don't embrace these teachings? Why or why not?**
- 2. What does it mean to be *born of God*? Will we still sin? If so, will we still be recognized as being born of God? What fruit should the newborn Christian bear? (1John 2:29; 3:6; Gal 5:22-23)**
- 3. Briefly expound on the love of God listed in 1 John 3:1-3. Are you encouraged by these promises? Briefly explain.**
- 4. Define the two key words used in 1 John 3:4 that describe the "sin nature" birthed in the Garden of Eden. State the *consequence* and *conquest* of *Sin*. (Romans 6:23; Rev 1:17-18)**
- 5. Briefly explain the "new-birth" in Christ and its impact on the Christian life. Will Christians always live out righteousness? Why or why not? (1John 3:9)**
- 6. How can we help others experience a spiritual birth in Christ? (Roman's Road to Salvation – Romans 3:10; 23, 5:8; 6:23; 10:9-10, 13)**
- 7. How are you maturing in spiritual growth in Jesus Christ? What areas do you feel are lacking?**

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Lesson 4: 1 John 3:11 – 3:27

Date: November 6, 2021

Facilitator: *Gloria Debnam*

- 1. The text commands us to LOVE one another. It also tells us NOT to be like whom? Why?**

- 2. How should our love for one another be manifested? (v. 16-18) Also see 1 Corinth 13.**

- 3. What must we do in order to receive what we ask of God? (v. 22) If we seek to follow HIS commands, will our requests conflict with HIS precepts for our lives?**

- 4. Why might it be hard to follow God’s commandments? If you had to guess, which one of the 10 commandments (Exodus 20:2-17) are most easily broken by believers? Why?**

- 5. As believers, should we expect non-believers to hate us? (v. 13) How might this show up in our interactions with non-believers?**

- 6. Explain what the scripture means in v. 14 by the statement “...we have passed from death to life.”**

- 7. What does it mean to abide in CHRIST? (ref. v 24) Can you rely on personal will power to keep God’s commandments? Where does your help come from?**

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Lesson 5: 1 John 4:1 - 21

Date: November 13, 2021

Facilitator: *Mike Calhoun*

- 1. In verses 1-3 John directs his readers to not believe every spirit, but instead to test the spirit. What does it mean to test the spirit? How can we tell if they are true or false spirits?**

- 2. How do believers in Christ know they can overcome spirits that may come against them? (verse 4 -5)**

- 3. There is an song and a scripture (John 13:35) that says that others will know us by our love. In verses 7-8 what is the connection between God and love that John discusses?**

- 4. How does John say in his letter that God shows his love for us? How should a Christian show the love of God? (verse 9 -13) How can we as Christians show God that we love Him?**

- 5. Explain what John is referring to in v.18 – “Perfect love casts out fear.”**

- 6. In verses 19 -21 John speaks more about love. What does he say about those who say they love God, but not their brothers? How is it that we are able to follow the commandment to love others?**



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Lesson 6: 1 John 5:1 - 21

Date: October 23, 2021

Facilitator: *Rev. Sanders & Gloria Debnam*

- 1. What non-burdensome commands, studied earlier, does John repeat for regenerated believers? (1 John 5:3;4:7; and John 14:15) Who are the overcomers? (1 John 5:4-5 & 2:14)**
- 2. Who are the three infallible witnesses who refuted the false teachers and testified that Jesus is both Christ and Son of God? How do these witnesses testify to Christ's divinity?**
- 3. What is the testimony (gift) God has given to us? Briefly describe eternal life in your own words & give a key reference.**
- 4. How can we have confidence that God will hear us when we make requests in prayer?(14-15)
Can we know that our requests align with God's will? (Matt 7:7-8; John 14:13-14)**
- 5. Under what conditions in verse #16 does John suggest that believers pray for fellow- believers?
What are sins that lead to death? Give an example.**
- 6. If we are 'born of Christ,' what is our eternal security? (18-20)**
- 7. John leaves us with a warning about idols. What are some idols in your life and how are you dealing with them?**