



1 John: Awakened to Love Derrick Shields “He Won’t Relent” 11/20/22

Key Verses: 1 John 5:6-21

Points to Consider:

- 5:6-13: The Father has testified— through three witnesses— that he has made eternal life available to humanity, which is in his Son, Jesus Christ, and which is given to believers.
- 5:14-15: Knowing that God will hear us and answer us when we pray according to his will, we can speak freely before him. → Pray God’s word.
- 5:16-17: We are to pray for brothers and sisters who are struggling with sin, and God will give them life.
- 5:18-20: God’s children are freed from sin, aligned with God and not the “world” that stands opposed to God, and conscious of and confident in their relationship with God.
- 5:21: We are implored to guard against idolatry— the result of anything (e.g., money, career, safety, pleasure) taking the place of Jesus Christ and receiving our worship.

Discussion Prompts:

- What does it mean that God has testified that he has given us eternal life in his Son through *three witnesses* (i.e., the water, blood, and Spirit)?
- To what degree does your prayer life suggest that you truly believe that God hears and answers prayer that accords with his will?
- Why might God not answer prayers that do *not* accord with his will?
- How can we better pray according to God’s will?
- Can you share a story of answered prayer concerning a sister or a brother who was struggling with sin?
- Which struggling brother or sister could you intercede for this week?
- What idols do you most need to guard against? How?