



Week 14 Study Guide

Read the text: 1 John 5:1-5

5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. 4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Study the Text

- Make some observations...what jumps out to you? What are key words/phrases? Any repeated words? How does this passage fit within the larger context? What questions does this passage raise?
- John uses the language of being born of God again. What does John mean by this?
- How is this passage helpful as a summary of what John has said so far?
- One sign of a genuine believer is faith in Jesus as the Christ and the Son of God. What does John mean by those titles?
- A test of genuine faith is the love test: do I love others, especially other Christians. How does John make that point here? What does he mean by verse 2 (it seems that he has mixed the order of his words. John says that “we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commands”)?
- How is it true that we love others best when we love God and obey His commands?
- How is obedience to God’s commands a sign that we love God?
- What does John mean that God’s commands are not burdensome?
- Consider your approach to the commands of God. Do you see them as a blessing or a burden? What commands do you struggle with most?
- John loves this theme of overcomers. What does it mean that Christians are overcomers? Consider this passage along with the following passages: 1 John 2:12-14, 1 John 4:1-6, Romans 8:31-39, Revelation 2:7-11, Revelation 3:5-12, 1 Corinthians 15:50-58.

- What does John mean when he uses the word “the world?” Remember what we talked about earlier in the series 1 John 2:15-17.
- What does it mean then to overcome the world? How does that fit within the context of what John is saying?
- How is it encouraging to consider that Christians are people who overcome? How does change how you face each day?

Prayer

- Praise God for His victory
- Confess your sin
- Pray specifically for each other to experience victory over daily struggles

Mission

- Too many of us don't talk about Jesus with others because we are afraid. A major victory would be for us to share our faith. Where can you look for an opportunity to share with someone about Jesus this week?