

Joyful Life Bible Studies

I John 5:1-5

Lesson 19

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review I John 4:13-21. In what way does knowing God indwells you and you dwell in Him give you *assurance* and *confidence*?
 - a. Write Isaiah 41:10 phrase by phrase. Memorize it if possible.
 - 1) Explain the phrase. *I AM with you* by I John 4:13-16.
 - 2) Why are *fear* and *trust in God* incompatible?
2. Share how I John 4:13-21 makes a difference in your life today.
3. Note and mark the paragraph divisions in I John 5:1-5 and write the key thought of each using the word most repeated in each paragraph:
 - a. I John 5:1-3
 - b. I John 5:4, 5
4. The territory we will be covering this week (I John 5:1-5) will seem somewhat familiar to you as John succinctly summarizes the teaching of I John 1-4. He links loving God, loving others, and obedience to His commands with living the victorious Christian life. This lesson compels us to recognize the relationship between knowledge and practical application of it in our daily walk. Begin the lesson today with a prayer expressing your desires as you study His Word. Write your prayer here.

*Just tell me what to do
and I will do it, Lord.
As long as I live, I'll wholeheartedly obey.
-Psalm 119:33, 34 TLB*

SECOND DAY: Read I John 5:1-3

1. Compare the following version of I John 5:1 with the KJV: *Everyone who believes Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves His children as well.* Print from I John 5:1a what you must *believe* to be *born of God*.

a. *Christ* means the anointed of God, the *Messiah*. Who did Jesus say He was? John 4:25, 26

Challenge: Why is it necessary to *believe* Jesus is the Christ?

2. Notice the way John weaves the family together in I John 5:1b. If we love the Father whom will we also love?

a. There's no room for sibling rivalry in the family of God. To what degree did Jesus say we are to love others in Matthew 22:(37, 38) 39?

b. What do the following verses teach you about love for others?

- Romans 5:5 {
- 1) Romans 12:10
 - 2) Romans 13:8, 9
 - 3) Romans 13:10
- John 15:5c {
- 4) Galatians 5:13c
 - 5) Ephesians 4:2(3)
 - 6) Ephesians 5:2

7) Take time to ponder these verses. Think about your *love for others* in relationship to these verses. Share an insight on love you've gained through these scriptures. We cannot do this in our own strength!

(a.) Always remember the Source of this love. Refresh your memory by writing the phrases under the scripture references at the left of the bracket in 2b.

*How good and pleasant is the sight
When Christians make it their delight
To dwell in blest accord;
The Lord commands His blessing there
And they that walk in love shall share,
The fragrance of His Word outpoured.
-Psalm 1:13 selected*

THIRD DAY: Read I John 5:2, 3

1. According to I John 5:2, 3a how do we *know* that we love the children of God?
 - a. What does *keep* mean in relationship to *His commandments*?

2. Record what I John 5:3b says about *His commandments*.
 - a. Define the word *grievous* from other versions or a dictionary.

 - b. View I John 5:3b In the light of Matthew 11:30. What does it say?

 - c. Why might the commandments seem *grievous* to some?

3. Thoughtfully print the first phrase of I John 5:3.
 - a. Obviously, from this verse, our *love for God* and *obedience* to His commandments (His will made known to us) cannot be separated. Why is keeping His commands proof that we love Him?
 - 1) When believers KNOW their God, Who He is and what He is, it would be utter folly not to obey His commands. *Behold* our God by inscribing words or phrases from the following passages:
 - (a.) I Chronicles 29: 11, 12

 - (b.) Isaiah 40:(9c) 12-18

 - (c.) Jeremiah 10:10, 12, 13

 - i.) Jeremiah 29:11

 - 2) In what way does *knowing Who He is* fortify your desire to *keep His commandments*?

4. Share an instance, if possible, from your life in which you experienced God's enabling power helping you to obey His command to *love His children*.

FOURTH DAY:

Read I John 5:4, 5

1. The reason the Christian does not find the commands of God *grievous* is because he has been given the *power to overcome the world*. See this in I John 5:4, 5. Write what these verses reveal about *overcoming the world*:
 - a. verse 4a
 - b. verse 4b
 - c. verse 5
2. The *world* here refers to the *world* system which is in opposition to God and ruled by Satan. Define the word *overcome*.
 - a. With this in mind write the phrase *overcometh the world* in your own words.
3. The word *whatsoever* in I John 5:4a is translated elsewhere *everyone*. Who *overcometh the world* according to this verse?
 - a. Answer this same question from I John 5:5.
 - b. What is the source or means whereby we *overcome the world*? I John 5:4b

1) Faith in Whom? I John 5:5b

4. Until a person has faith *in the Son of God, the spirit of the world will remain supreme in his soul no matter how pious he may seem or try to be*. Why does John insist that we believe that *Jesus is the Son of God*? (I John 5:11, 12) Answer in your own words.
 - a. How is the power of sin, the spell, broken when we are born of God? Support your answer with scriptures.

*He breaks the power of cancelled sin
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.*

C. Wesley

FIFTH DAY: Read I John 5:4.5

1. What did Jesus reveal about *overcoming the world* in John 16:33b?
 - a. How did *He* overcome *the world*? see Colossians 2:14, 15
 - 1) *Faith* in Jesus the Son of God makes us one with Him and fills us with His Spirit Who enables us to be overcomers too. How does that cause you to be *of good cheer* today?
2. We recognize there is a severe conflict between the *world* (system) and the Christian. The enemy wages war against us to depress, defeat, and destroy us. Briefly describe the enemies and the warfare from Ephesians 6:12.
 - a. How do the following scriptures encourage you as an *overcomer*?
 - 1) Romans 8:37
 - 2) II Corinthians 2:14a
3. Why might a person professing to be a Christian not experience this victory over the world? I John 2:15, 16; James 4:4 Use other versions if you desire. Answer in your own words.
 - a. We must face reality in our life. Where the spirit of the world or love of the world governs the life, there will be no overcoming victory experienced in the life. Explain why this is so.
4. We know from I John 3:4, 5 that we experience the overcoming power that causes us to be victorious over the world through *faith*. in Jesus, the incarnate Son of God. How does our *faith* also enable us to triumph over the world's self-centered, unloving lifestyle?

Challenge: Contemplate and summarize the victories and blessings of the *overcomers* through the following references:

- a. Revelation 2:1-7
- b. Revelation 2:8-11
- c. Revelation 2:12-17

- d. Revelation 2:18-29
 - e. Revelation 3:1-6
 - f. Revelation 3:7-13
 - g. Revelation 3:14-22
 - h. Consider the phrase *he that hath an ear, let him hear*. What did you hear the Spirit say to you about the *overcoming life*?
5. It is manifestly evident John wanted us to *know* and *understand* the victory we have in Christ over the *world*. If you sense the world trying to seduce or defeat you, how will I John 5:4, 5 help you maintain the victory?

*We've been made more than conquerors
overcomers in this life.
We've been made victorious
through the blood of Jesus Christ.
-Grein.*

SIXTH DAY: Review I John 5: 1-5

1. All kinds of books have been written about families, what they are, relationships within them, and how to improve them. God's book teaches us how His family is to function. Christians are all a part of God's family. What is the qualification for birth into His family? I John 5:1a

Challenge: The word *believeth* appears twice in this I John 5:1-5 passage. Record each of these. What is the difference between the two?

- a. What is the importance of both?
2. How does one's being *born again* affect his relationship to the Father and to his siblings?
- a. Why do you think obedience (keeping His commandments) is entwined with love for God and His children?

Personal: Do you find His command to love fellow Christians grievous (difficult, burdensome)? Why or why not? Be totally honest.

3. Explain why a Christian sometimes finds God's commandments *grievous*, or difficult to obey. See Galatians 5:17
 - a. What remedy is given in Galatians 5:16?
 - b. In what way does your recognition of our awesome, glorious God of love eliminate any erroneous opinion that His commands are grievous?
 - c. Why might people who are not born again view the commands of God as *grievous* or *burdensome*?
4. Define the phrase *overcometh the world*.
 - a. In what way has I John 5:4, 5 ministered to you about *overcoming the world*?

Optional: What picture comes into mind when you think about these verses? (I John 5:4, 5)

- b. *The world's power supply is cut off at the cross. We are no more under the dominion (rule) of sin. Look at the victory that overcometh the world in relationship to Romans 6:(9) 11, 14a. What do you see?*

1) View Galatians 2:20 In the light of the cross. Write this verse phrase by phrase.

(a.) How does this verse amplify the truth of I John 5:4, 5?

5. How will you appropriate the truths in this lesson to your life?

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in His strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own:
To him that overcometh, a crown of life shall be:
He with the King of glory shall reign eternally.
George Duffield*