

Joyful Life Bible Studies

I JOHN

Lesson 23

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review I John 5:18-21. What is the good news for believers in this paragraph?
 - a. Why is it also important to understand John's last command to believers in terms of today's culture?

2. We are completing our study of I John with a brief review of each paragraph. Look, over your past lessons pertaining to the chapter in the review. If you desire include any information, thoughts, or notes from group discussion or lectures that ministered to you through this I John Study. Record them next to the paragraph they accompany. Try to recall the following background information to this letter:
 - a. When written: Approximately A.D. _____
 - b. Write a brief biographical sketch of John, the author.
 - c. In what city in Asia Minor did John write this letter?
 - 1) What other New Testament books did he write?
 - d. To whom was the letter written?
 - e. Record a few of the purposes for which I John was written.
 - f. Write the key verse of I John.

Challenge: What false teaching or teachers were infiltrating the churches? Answer briefly.

- a. The word *know* is used over twenty-five times in I John. He wanted us to be assured of certain truths. Define the two Greek, words used for *know* and give an example of each from I John.
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3. If you were writing a commentary of I John, what title would you give it?

4. Think for a moment about what you want accomplished spiritually in your life as you do this review. Recall I John 5:14, 15 as you make your requests known by writing them here. Thank Him for the confidence you have when you ask anything according to His will.

*God's Word makes us wise.
Wisdom from God's Word applied
makes a difference in our lives.*

SECOND DAY: Read I John 1

1. Record the key thought of each paragraph:
 - a. I John 1:1-4
 - b. I John 1:5-7
 - c. I John 1:8-10
2. What did you learn about John, the author of this letter, from this chapter?
 - a. How does this authenticate what he reveals about Jesus - especially the reality of the *incarnation*?
3. Briefly record what John 1 reveals about the following:
 - a. God
 - b. Jesus
 - 1) His blood
 - c. Sin
4. How are I John 1:7 and 1:9 inter-related?
5. Scan I John once more. Select one of the following topics dealt with **in** this chapter and share how it ministers to you. Do all if you have time.
 - a. Joy
 - b. Fellowship
 - c. Light
6. Which truth in I John 1 have you found most encouraging at this place in your Christian walk? Why?
7. Recognizing that one of the purposes in John's writing this letter was that you might have *joy* now and eternally, how do the teachings in I John 1 bring you *Joy*?

*True joy comes only as we follow
God's guidelines for living revealed in His Word.*

THIRD DAY: Read I John 2

1. Review I John 2 paragraph by paragraph. Write a brief title that defines the main point of the paragraph. Under each title choose an insight, command, assurance, verse, phrase, or application for your life from the paragraph. You may do more than one of these for each paragraph if you have time.
 - a. I John 2:1, 2
1)
 - b. I John 2:3-6
1)
 - c. I John 2:7-11
1)
 - d. I John 2:12-14
1)
 - e. I John 2:15-17
1)
 - f. I John 2:18, 19
1)
 - g. I John 2:20, 21
1)
 - h. I John 2:22, 23
1)
 - i. I John 2:24, 25
1)
 - j. I John 2:26, 27
1)
 - k. I John 2:28, 29
1)
2. Which of these paragraphs challenges you to a deeper commitment or to greater discernment? Why?

Optional: Do an acrostic of the word *abide*: (A sentence for each letter.)

A

B

I

D

E

*A whole new generation of Christian has come up believing
that it is possible to "accept" Christ without forsaking the world*

FOURTH DAY: Read I John 3

1. Review I John 3:1-3. Do now what I John 3:1a tells us to do. What is your reaction to this love?

a. To what *hope* is I John 3:3 referring?

1) What influence does this *hope* have on your life'?

2. We could title I John 3:4-10: *How to Identify the Children of God and the Children of the Devil*. This paragraph can be summed up in this statement: *The children of God cannot practice a lifestyle of sin. Those who are of the children of the devil cannot practice a lifestyle of righteousness*. Verify this from phrases in this paragraph:

Children of God	Children of the devil

a. When you celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas, what should you always keep in mind? I John 3:8b

3. What do you learn about *love* from I John 3:11-18?

4. Focus on I John. 3:19-24. How is our heart linked with our assurance in I John 3:19-21?

a. What have you learned about assurance in prayer from I John 3:(21) 22, 23?

b. How do you *know* He *abides* in the believer? I John 3:24

c. How does knowing He *abides* in you make a difference in your life on a daily basis?

Our lives are a manifestation of what we think about God.

FIFTH DAY:

Read I John 4

1. Review I John 4:1-6. What is every believer to do? Why?
 - a. How can *we know* the *Spirit of God* from the spirit of error?
 - b. Share an insight or truth from this paragraph that especially speaks to you.
2. Read I John 4:7-12. Give a title to this paragraph that defines its contents.
 - a. What do you learn about the measure of God's love for us?
 - b. Choose a verse or phrase from this paragraph to meditate on. Write it here.
 - 1) Why did you choose this verse or phrase?
 - 2) Is there a particular command in this paragraph for you to obey?
3. Read I John 4:13-16. In what way does this paragraph give you assurance and confidence?
4. Review I John 4:17-21. What do you discover in this paragraph that is relevant to your life today?
 - a. If *perfect love* were put in a boxing ring with *fear*, who would win?
 - b. How is *perfect love* entwined with trust?
 - 1) Why are fear and trust incompatible?

*Fear thou not for I am with thee - I will still thy Pilot be.
Nevermind the tossing billows. Take My hand and trust in Me.*

-selected

SIXTH DAY:

Read I John 5

1. Scan I John 5:1-3. According to these verses, who is *born of God*?
 - a. What do you learn about:
 - 1) loving God
 - 2) loving His children
 - 3) His commandments

2. What do you learn about *overcoming the world* from I John 5:4, 5?
3. What do you learn about God's witness of His Son in I John 5:6-8?
4. Contemplate *eternal life* from the perspective of I John 5:9-12. What do you see?
5. Once more print the key verse of I John and underline John's primary purpose for writing this letter.
6. Refresh your memory of I John 5:14- 17. What do you learn about prayer from these verses?
 - a. In what way do these verses minister to you on a continuing basis?
 - 1) How do they stir you to prayer?
7. Recall from I John 5:18-20 what *we know*.
 - a. What does I John 5:20 say we've been given and why?
 - b. Why is it eternally important to *know* Jesus is the Son of God?
8. Why is it necessary in the 21st century to *guard ourselves from idols*? verse 21
9. Take one last look at I John from this lesson. List a few of the exhortations that are to be embraced and obeyed.
10. In what specific areas and ways have you experienced spiritual progress through the study of I John?

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
When we asunder part. it gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.
John Fawcett*

- Amen -