

Shadow Mountain Women Summer Study 2021

The book of First John

WEEK 5: First John Chapter 5

STUDY REMINDERS:

To enrich your study, use a hard copy Bible or print out the chapter so you can underline, circle, write down a note, etc.

As you read and/or listen to this chapter, do so slowly, thinking, praying to understand, to remember what you read, Pray for Christ-like change in your life.

STUDY GUIDE (bookmark) **before you read the chapter:**

1. **Prepare**

- a. Humbly pray before and after you read asking the Holy Spirit to guide you.
- b. Decide what to observe before reading.

2. **Read it** – OBSERVE and learn from:

- a. The people and places
- b. Key words and repeating words/phrases
- c. Statements about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit
- d. The main points, what is being said and why?
- e. What can I apply to my life?

3. **Think it** – **MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE** A daily mini-memory verse (1-5 words) OR a weekly verse(s).

4. **Think it** – **MEDITATE on the WORD**, what it's saying, why. Pray to live more and more Christ-like.

5. **Talk it** - Be intentional to talk about it with family, friends, a group, etc. and **LIVE IT!**

Building Blocks

1. John wrote this book to believers but wanted them to be confident that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that faith in Him ensures eternal life (Vs. 11-13). Verses 6-8 give witness to Him: Water (His baptism), blood (shed on the cross), and the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of truth). Because there was and is continued anti-Jesus Christ "messaging." John wrote this book to believers that through Him we are to discern truth and discern those who do not want to listen and learn about who Jesus is (4:6, 5:20).
2. Faith in Jesus is evidenced by loving God, abiding in Him, which means reacting to others and life His way (vs. 1-3). As believers, we can be victorious overcomers of the world's ways (vs. 4-5).
3. This chapter connects three amazing truths for those who abide in Christ:
 - Eternal life is assured (vs. 13).
 - We have confidence that God hears us (vs. 14).
 - We are assured victory over sin through Christ, who always wins against the enemy's worldly ways (vs 18-20).

Reading Tips

1. Reading from other versions such as the Amplified version (AMP) and the New Living Translation (NLT), can enrich understanding.
2. Keywords and repeating phrases can build your meditation ability, tying together what the Word says and means. For example:
From NKJV: Know...Love...His commands...overcome the world...confidence...life [instead of] sin and death ...pray... believe Jesus is the Son of God...He hears... understanding...Him who is true...
3. The last verse of this chapter may seem a little unusual, but read it carefully, particularly in other versions, and expand your understanding of idols.

Read and Think Questions

Use actual words from the chapter as much as possible to answer these questions.

1. Verse 13 is a crucial verse for the book of 1st John. What are the main points of this verse?
 - Why is this verse still crucial to believers?
2. Verses 3 and 4 refer to **God's commands** and **overcoming the world**. How are these connected for believers?
3. 1 John 4:21 summarizes God's commandments, to love God and others. 1 John 5:3 states God's commands aren't burdensome to believers. Thus, for non-believers, following God's commands is burdensome. Why?
 - But honestly, even as a believer, following God's guidance can feel burdensome. Why?
4. Verse 9 contrasts two type of witness. What are they?
 - Re-read vs. 9-13. What are we to learn?
5. This book speaks of many familiar Christian principles such as fellowship, the fullness of joy, faith, sin, confession, abiding in Christ, eternal life, keeping God's commands, love. Yet this chapter concludes with a somewhat surprise statement: "keep yourselves from idols". But it is an essential principle of our faith. Why?

Review and think about 1John Chapter 5. Choose a verse(s) you can think about, perhaps a mini-memory verse that can prompt recall and meditation of what you read. Meditate on this chapter. These are steps to applying God's love, "That your joy may full" (I John 1:4). **Now, prayerfully evaluate what are you to work on, apply, do? Be sure to talk about this and live it out.**

Thank you for joining us in this study. It is our prayer that you will continue staying in the Word and sense more confidence reading and meditating in quiet time, on your own.

Shadow Mountain Women's Ministries www.shadowmountain.org/women