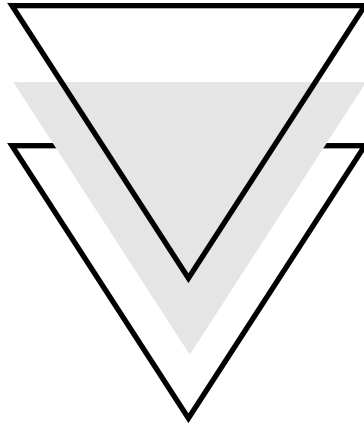




**1 JOHN**



# 1 JOHN

## — OVERVIEW —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

What makes a good friend, a best friend? Why?



## **BACKGROUND**

### **- AUTHOR: JOHN**

*The name John was common in New Testament times. The Greek name is Ioannes, derived from the Hebrew Yohanan, which literally means, "Jehovah is gracious." John was a disciple of Jesus (Mark 1:19) And most likely the author of the last gospel and three letters that now bear his name. If, as suggested by Jn. 19:25/Mrk. 15:40, Jesus and John were cousins.*

Look up the following verses to begin becoming acquainted with John. What do they reveal about him (good, bad and ugly)?

Matthew 4:18-22

Luke 9:52-56

Mark 10:35-37

Why do you think John would describe himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved"? (ie John 13:23, 19:26)

### **- DATE/TIME: EPHEBUS A.D. 85-90**

*The letter does not specify when and where it was written from; however, it is generally believed that John wrote the letter late in life while imprisoned in Ephesus. These deductions stem from content in John's letter compared with historical markers, ie unmentioned persecution under Emperor Domitian, language about church and synagogue. (For more info see Irving Jensen, Survey of the New Testament, p.466) John wrote three epistles (1,2, 3 John) the book of Revelation and his gospel account. These were the last five books of the New Testament to be written.*

As one of the last books to be written, what might you expect to see in John's letter? Why?

### **- AUDIENCE: ASIA MINOR**

*The receivers of 1 John were likely from Asia Minor (present day Turkey) and probably believers for a long time. The lack of Old Testament references and warnings regarding idols lead to the conclusion that the readers were not of Jewish background.*

What do the following verses reveal about John's relationship with his readers?

2:7; 3:11; 4:1; 4:4,7;

# **GET FAMILIAR**

## **- BROWSE:**

Flip through the pages of 1 John in your Bible. Read the section titles and skim for words that stick out to you. Move quickly, you're looking for highlights and what jumps off the page.

Do you sense any themes or key words? Anything else stick out to you?

## **- FIRST READ:**

Read the entire letter in one sitting. Read without stopping and look for themes, repetition and general highlights.

What did you notice during this read?

## **- VIDEO BREAK:**

Search youtube for the "Bible Project" video on 1 John (it also includes 2,3 John). Add notes below:

## **- SECOND READ:**

- Read again more slowly on the following pages and Assign paragraph titles in the left column.
- As you read, look for and color code repeated words and phrases.
  - o **Look especially for: Light, Love and Fellowship**
- Give a simple title to the book (try to use picturesque words from the text)
- Choose a key verse. Is there one that summarizes the letter, or carries key themes?
- Fill out the chart at the beginning to track your findings

**1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — **2** the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— **3** that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. **4** And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

**5** This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. **6** If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. **8** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**2** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.**2** He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. **3** And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. **4** Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, **5** but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: **6** whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

**7** Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. **8** At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. **9** Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. **10** Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. **11** But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

**12**

I am writing to you, little children,  
because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

**13**

I am writing to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.  
I am writing to you, young men,  
because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, children,  
because you know the Father.

**14**

I write to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.  
I write to you, young men,  
because you are strong,  
and the word of God abides in you,  
and you have overcome the evil one.

**15** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **17** And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

**18** Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. **19** They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. **20** But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. **21** I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. **22** Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. **23** No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. **24** Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. **25** And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.

**26** I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. **27** But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.

**28** And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. **29** If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

**3** **1** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2** Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. **3** And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

**4** Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. **5** You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. **6** No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. **7** Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. **8** Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. **9** No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. **10** By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

**11** For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. **12** We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. **13** Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. **14** We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. **15** Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

**16** By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **17** But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? **18** Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

**19** By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; **20** for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. **21** Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; **22** and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. **23** And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. **24** Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

**4** Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2** By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, **3** and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. **4** Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. **5** They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. **6** We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

**7** Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. **8** Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. **9** In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **11** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **12** No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

**13** By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **14** And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. **15** Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. **16** So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. **17** By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. **21** And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother

**5** 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?



**6** This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. **7** For there are three that testify: **8** the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. **9** If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. **10** Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. **11** And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **12** Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**13** I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. **14** And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. **15** And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

**16** If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God[a] will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. **17** All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

**18** We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

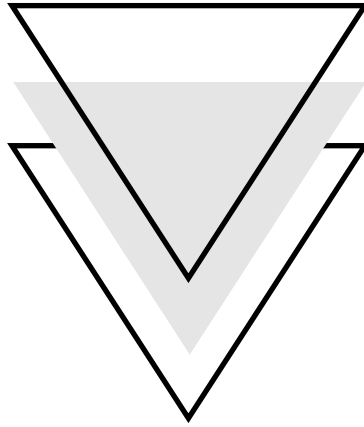
**19** We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

**20** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. **21** Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

*This chart can serve as a resource to quickly review key points from the book*

Title:	Author:	Date:	Purpose:
Key Verse:	Recipient(s):		
Visual Summary: How would you illustrate the book?			Other Notes:





# 1 JOHN 1

## — LIGHT —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

Describe what it's like to walk around a dark room at night?

How does it compare to the walking while it's light?

*Marking the text is one key step  
you'll do every week during study.  
Try these two this week and watch  
for more next week.*

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

# OBSERVATIONS

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

*This is the key to Bible study, slowing down to see what the author is saying.*

*This week make one observation for every verse. Writing down even simple observations can help you see the text with new eyes. One observation is given for you as an example*

1- John is not alone in his experiences (“we”)

# QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

*Think with curiosity as you read the Scriptures. Asking questions will help you gain deeper understanding. Come up with a question for each verse.*

1- what is the “word of life”?

# FELLOWSHIP

WITH GOD & WITH OTHERS

*Use this space each week to make notes about this key component of 1 John*

## SUMMARY & CONNECTION TO THE WHOLE

*Put into your own words what John is saying in this chapter. Then connect the current segment to the book as a whole.*

## DEFINE KEY WORDS

*Try using an english dictionary to define words that seem important to understanding the text. Can you find any verses in the Bible that define them? What are the opposite of each? Use a resource like Blue Letter Bible online to see what the Greek word is.*

## KEY VERSE

*You'll be given a key verse from the passage each week. Spend some time thinking about this verse and try to come up with 10 observations and 5 questions about it.*

**7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

*Each week you'll answer one provided question and work on one question of your own.*

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
<p><i>What are some implications that "God is light"?</i></p>		
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

*Cross Referencing is using other passages of Scripture that are similar in content to shed light on what you are studying. Read this and note similar concerns in Jesus' teaching*

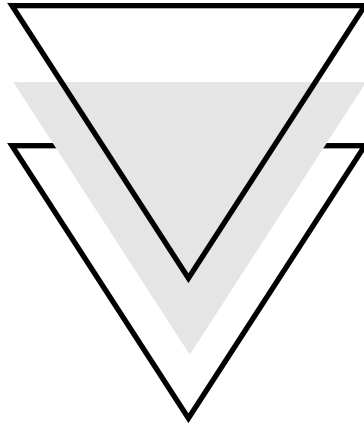


For Reflection:

*Checkout: [streetlightsbible.com/sl-film](http://streetlightsbible.com/sl-film)  
“I am the Light of the World” video*

## APPLICATION

*This is a chance to put into practice something God has brought to your mind this week. How does he want you to trust him?*



# 1 JOHN 2

## — ABIDE —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

Where is a place you feel comfortable, at ease...at home?

What makes it that way?

*This week add the skill of color coding repeated (or similar) words.*

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.**2** He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. **3** And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. **4** Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, **5** but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:**6** whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

**7** Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. **8** At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. **9** Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. **10** Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. **11** But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

**12** I am writing to you, little children,  
because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

**13** I am writing to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young men,  
because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, children,  
because you know the Father.

**14** I write to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men,  
because you are strong,  
and the word of God abides in you,  
and you have overcome the evil one.

**15** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **17** And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

**18** Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

**19** They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. **20** But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. **21** I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. **22** Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. **23** No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. **24** Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. **25** And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.

**26** I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. **27** But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.

# OBSERVATIONS

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

*Sometimes it helps to think with a lens as you make observations. Make two observations for each category below*

WHO

WHAT

WHEN

WHERE

WHY

HOW

# QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

# FELLOWSHIP

WITH GOD & WITH OTHERS

## SUMMARY & CONNECTION TO THE WHOLE

### DEFINE KEY WORDS

### KEY VERSE

By this we may know that we are in him:

**6** whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
<i>What does it mean to abide in Christ?</i>		
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages
	<i>John 15:1-17</i>	

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

For Reflection:

*Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see.  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need Thy presence every passing hour.  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like Thyself my guide and strength can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.*

*I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless,  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes.  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

**"Abide With Me" Henry Francis Lyte, 1847**

## APPLICATION

**S.P.E.A.K.** is one way to consider applying God's word to your life. After all, it is his voice! Consider making an application in one of the following areas:

**S**in to avoid, confess or make right

**P**romise to trust God for

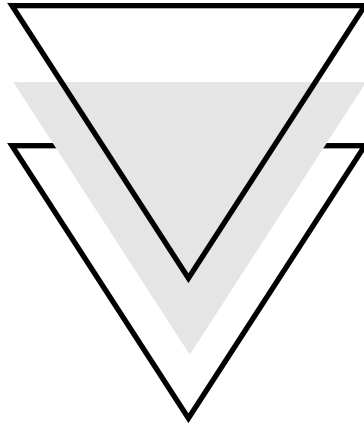
**E**motion that is stirred up, consider why

**A**ction to take

**K**ingdom character to grow in







# 1 JOHN 3

## — CHILDREN —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

Who have you seen love their kids really well? What have you noticed about them?

Do you feel like you were loved well by your parents? Why/Why not?

**28** And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. **29** If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

*One more to watch for. Connecting words (but, and, because, if, etc) are invaluable. Circle them.*

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2** Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. **3** And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

**4** Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. **5** You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. **6** No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. **7** Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. **8** Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. **9** No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. **10** By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

**11** For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. **12** We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. **13** Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. **14** We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. **15** Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

**16** By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **17** But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? **18** Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

**19** By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; **20** for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. **21** Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; **22** and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. **23** And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. **24** Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us

# OBSERVATIONS

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

# QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

# FELLOWSHIP

WITH GOD & WITH OTHERS

## SUMMARY & CONNECTION TO THE WHOLE

### DEFINE KEY WORDS

### KEY VERSE

**1** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

*Try looking at this verse in multiple translations. Message, Amplified, NIV are good ones to see more depth*

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
<p><i>What things are implied in being children of God?</i></p>		
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

*“What is a Christian? The richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father.”*  
- J.I. Packer

**APPLICATION**





# 1 JOHN 4

## — LOVE —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

How would people on your campus define love?

Would you define it any differently? How so?



**1** Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2** By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, **3** and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. **4** Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. **5** They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. **6** We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

**7** Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. **8** Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. **9** In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **11** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **12** No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

**13** By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **14** And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. **15** Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. **16** So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. **17** By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. **21** And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

# OBSERVATIONS

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

# QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

# FELLOWSHIP

WITH GOD & WITH OTHERS

## SUMMARY & CONNECTION TO THE WHOLE

### DEFINE KEY WORDS

### KEY VERSE

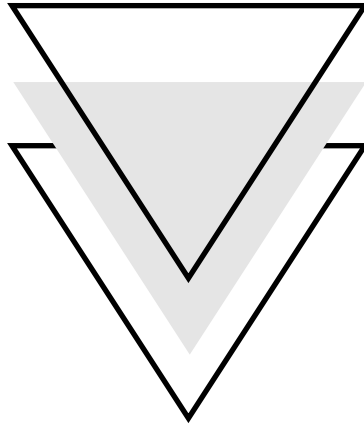
**16** So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
<p><i>How does God define love?</i>  <i>Show love?</i>  <i>Ask us to show love?</i></p>		
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages



# APPLICATION



# 1 JOHN 5

## — KNOW —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

What are 5 things you are absolutely certain of?

**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?

**6** This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. **7** For there are three that testify: **8** the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. **9** If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. **10** Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. **11** And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **12** Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**13** I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. **14** And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. **15** And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

**16** If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. **17** All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

**18** We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

**19** We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

**20** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. **21** Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

# OBSERVATIONS

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

# QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

# FELLOWSHIP

WITH GOD & WITH OTHERS



## SUMMARY & CONNECTION TO THE WHOLE

### DEFINE KEY WORDS

### KEY VERSE

**13** I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

Question	Verses from passage	Notes
<p><i>What gives assurance that you have eternal life?</i></p> <p><i>(some consider v13 a summary verse for 1 John)</i></p>		
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

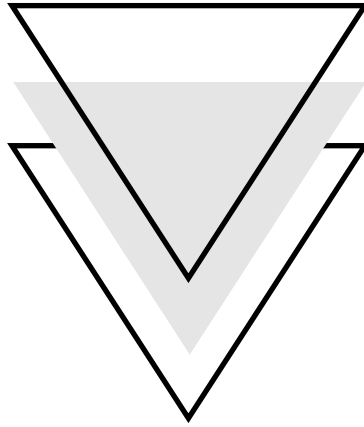
Question	Verses from passage	Notes
Answer	Cross References	Notes from Cross Reference Passages

*“The enemy’s desire...is to make the believer think that they’re fighting ‘for’ a victory, versus ‘from’ a victory. ”*

*- Eric Mason*

**APPLICATION**





# 1 JOHN

## — REVIEW —

### **FOR STARTERS...**

Before flipping through your study, what is the one thing you will never forget about 1 John?

# TO REMEMBER

Now, flip through your study and write down the key things you want to remember from this study.

# APPLICATIONS

Review your applications. Can you see change in your life after this study?

# SUMMARIZE

Create a final summary of the letter. Something that can help you remember the contents and main points.

Choose what works for you: a written paragraph? A picture? An acronym? A poem? A flow chart?