

Study 7

Read 1 John 5:1-10

I. The test of belief (1)

Discussion Questions

- Who is born of God?
- What does the word “born” mean in this context?
- In a Jewish mind, what/who were they expecting the Messiah to be?
- What were His characteristics and what would he do?
- What does verse 1 tell us about the relationship between loving God and loving others?

II. Loving God is obeying and will result in loving others (2-3)

Discussion Questions

- How can you tell if you are loving others?
- What are some of His commands which apply to loving others? (If in a group, go around the table and list them one by one.)
- Why does John equate love with obedience?
- What is the relationship between these two principles?
- What marks would you give yourself if you were to do a self-exam on this?
- Do you feel that God’s commands are a burden?
- Why or why not?
- Why would someone feel that they are a burden?

- Have you ever heard anyone express this sentiment?

III. Believers are conquerors (4-5)

Discussion Questions

- In what way do believers conquer the world?
- Is this a solicitation to fight a holy war like the Muslims do?
- How does a believer conquer the world?
- How can faith accomplish this?
- Considering the fact that the world has never been primarily Christian and that even now it seems to be growing more sinful, how can this verse be understood?

IV. The Spirit, water and the blood (6-8)

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean that Jesus came by water and blood?
- How did the Spirit testify about Christ?
- Why was testimony/evidence important?
- Isn't faith enough?
- How did the water and blood testify about Christ?

V. God testifies about His Son. (9-10)

Discussion Questions

- What men testified about Christ?
- Is their witness reliable?

- Whose testimony is even more powerful?
- How did God testify about Christ?
- What does it mean that the one who believes in Christ has the testimony in himself?
- Can we make any applications from the fact that God used so many ways to testify/prove Christ is the Messiah?
- How can you offer testimony to the people you know about this?