

NOTES

1 John

So We May Know

Lisa Morris

1 John: So We May Know

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471 Defeated Creek Road

Centerville, TN, 37033

www.conformingtothetruth.com

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1 John: So We May Know

Book Title

Why and How We Study the Scriptures

It is essential for every Christian to know why we study the Scriptures and how to study. Teachers and preachers of God's word are vitally important to us. They are God-given and equipped to teach and preach. However, you and I must learn to study the word of God for ourselves. Peter explains that we should be able to give an account of the hope that is within us. (1 Peter 3:15) Our hope is in Christ Jesus, the gospel of truth. We must grow in our knowledge of God and what He has done through His Son. This maturity comes through the study of God's word. I learned a long time ago that I must own my faith. I cannot live off of someone else's. Neither can you.

I mentioned earlier there are preachers and teachers of God's word. Our generation is not lacking in this area. However, all of the teachers and preachers we are exposed to are not preaching and teaching a true gospel. We are warned over and over in the word of God to watch out for false teachers and to test the spirits to see if they are from God. Without a working knowledge of God's Word, how can you and I know what is truth and what is false? We cannot!

The Attributes of the Bible

Before we get into how we study, I think we would be wise to look at the attributes of the Bible. I encounter many people who say they believe every word of the Bible but in reality have no idea what the Bible teaches let alone what the Bible teaches about itself.

The Bible is the breathed out an inspired word of God. It is GOD'S WORD. The Bible is the revelation of what God teaches about who He is and His gospel.

There are several attributes of the Bible that we need to know and keep in mind as we read and study. Without the conviction of these truths, we can and will waver in our security of God's Word.

1) **God's word is infallible, without mistakes.** The bible is without any errors and is perfect because it is just that, God's Word. Psalm 19:7 says of itself, "*The Law of the LORD is perfect.*" It goes without saying that if God is perfect then His word, Our Bible, is excellent.

2) **God's Word is Inerrant.** Inerrant means the Bible is incapable of being wrong. Every word of God is pure and true. Psalm 12:6, "*The words of the LORD are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times.*"

3) **God's Word is complete.** Many believe that God still gives revelation today. They do not believe that the 66 books we have are complete. However, the book of Revelation ends with a testimony of its completeness and warning. Revelation 22:18-19, "*I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book: and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of prophecy, God will take away his part in the tree of life from the holy city, which are written in this book.*"

4) **God's Word is Our Final Authority.** "*The LORD has spoken.*" Isaiah 1:2. You and I can ask questions of the Bible. We can discuss the meanings of the Bible. But we must never question the Bible nor discuss whether or not it is true.

5) **God's Word is Sufficient.** God's word is enough, and it is adequate. Peter teaches that God has given us everything we need for life and for godliness. 2 Peter 1:3.

The word of God is sufficient for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation. *Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the words of Christ.*

2 Timothy 3:15, Romans 10:17. The Word of God is sufficient for growing in maturity. God's word is alive and active and able (Hebrews 4:12) it is profitable for reproof, correction, and training in righteousness.

How We Study the Bible.

This bible study is written to take you through each verse and chapter of the book in which you are studying. Its approach is not to ask what does the text mean to me but rather what does the text say? You will not find fluff nor words that pet the flesh and make you feel good about yourself. It will, however, build you up in the truth and knowledge of God and His word.

We will use four steps of reading and studying the Bible.

Prayer: Commit this study to prayer. Proverbs 3:2 says, "If you cry for discernment, lift your voice for understanding, then you will discern the fear of the Lord and discover the knowledge of God. Crying and raising our voices to God is prayer. It is humbling ourselves before the God of the universe recognizing our need and guidance from Him. If we call to Him He tells us He will answer and tell us great and unsearchable things we do not know! Jeremiah 33:3. The Lord gives wisdom and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Observation: Observing the text is the act of noting and recording facts and events. Not only will you be answering questions from the book you will also be reading the text of God's word many times. Observation answers the

question, “What does the text say?” The process of reading the book and answering questions from the text is going to be work on your part. Some days more work than others. There are times when reading a short devotion is acceptable, but it cannot be our only food. You dear sister are equipped with a teacher, the Holy Spirit of God, that will teach and bring you to the knowledge of the truth. Dig deep into God’s word and never be afraid.

Interpretation: Interpretation answers the question, “What does the text mean?” After reading the text several times and answering the study questions, you will understand what God meant and be able to explain it. (A side note: there are times that we will not have a complete understanding of the passage we are studying. Rely on the guidance and teaching of the Holy Spirit. Do not get discouraged. Continue to pray and ask for wisdom. God will give it to you in His timing.)

Coming to accurate interpretation involves several steps: Reading the text, answering the study questions which also include, cross-referencing and word studies. Once you have taken these steps, you will be ready for accurate application.

Application: After observation, interpretation, and continual prayer you are ready to ask the question, “How does the meaning of this passage apply to me?” “What does God want me to do with what I have learned?” The answer to these two questions is quite simple! God wants you to know Him, to glorify Him, and enjoy Him forever. He also desires a changed life. Discovering the Truths of God’s Word and applying them accurately does not happen overnight. Learning requires a lifetime of study and discipline.

How to Use This Study?

You are encouraged to work through your lesson consistently. I recommend studying a few questions a day. Do not try to work through a complete lesson in one sitting. You will be overwhelmed and not retain all you need to know. This study is written for you to do on your own. However, you could gather a few friends and study together. Decide if you want to answer all of the questions or pick the ones you feel beneficial for your group.

Materials Needed for this study:

- Your own workbook
- Pens/Pencils
- Three Ring Binder
- Bible: The NASB Translation or translation of your choice.
Please Note, the NASB translation was used to write this study. If you use a different translation be aware, the wording may be a little different.
- Strong's Exhaustive Concordance and or Vines Word Study.
You can also find good Word Study sites on the internet.
blueletterbible.org is a great site.

Commentaries: Commentaries are good resources. However, it is not recommended that you use one during your study. Remember a commentary is man's interpretation of what the text is teaching. Learn on your own before reading what others have learned.

The NASB translation was used in the writing of this study. It was chosen because of its faithfulness to the original text.

1 John: Lesson 1

So That We May Know

1 John 1:1-10

What We Have Seen and Heard We Proclaim to You

John was an eyewitness to the word of life, Jesus Christ. He touched him, he saw Him, he looked at Him, and he unashamedly proclaimed Him. In straightforward and precise terms, John writes so that we may know that we are in Christ. In the book of James, James listed the characteristics of genuine faith, and John follows suit in this epistle, listing one aspect after another of the true child of God. There are no mincing of words. He gets straight to the point.

1. Read 1 John 1:1-10. According to 1 John 1:4, what is the author's purpose in writing this letter?
2. According to 1 John 5:13, to whom is John writing?
3. Scattered through this little book, we find seven more places where the author gives his purpose for writing this letter. Read the following Scripture references and record the author's purpose in writing by each reference.

1 John 2:1-

1 John 2:12-

1 John 2:13-

1 John 2:14-

1 John 2:21-

1 John 2:26-

1 John 5:13-

4. As you read the book of 1 John, you will be introduced to false teachings and heresies that inevitably enter the church. All heresy is brought in by men who do not know the true eternal Christ. In John's opening words, he tells his readers of his personal experiences with Christ. Read 1 John 1:1-2 and record what John says about his first-hand knowledge of Christ.
5. What does John teach us about Christ in his opening statement? Read the following Scripture references and record what you learn.

Read 1 John 1:1 with John 1:1-4-

Read 1 John 1:2 with John 1:14-

6. We learn in 1 John 1:2, the life was manifested. What does John mean when he says the life, eternal life, Christ, was manifested? Look up the word manifested in your word study tools and record its definition.

Manifested: Strong's Reference # 5319-

Christ, Who was in the beginning with God, became manifest as a human man and appeared not only to John but many. John ensures his readers know Christ existed with God and was not a created being. The Scriptures teach that Christ is God. The One Who is, Who was, and Who is to come. Revelation 1:8. John sets up his authority as one who can testify about Christ and refute those who claim they are in Christ but are not.

7. The Apostles who saw Christ, touched Christ, and heard the teachings of Christ were not the only ones who could have fellowship with Christ and the Father. What reason does John give in 1 John 1:3, for testifying and proclaiming Christ?

8. Those who hear and believe the message proclaimed also have fellowship with Christ, the Father, and one another. What does 1 John 1:3 mean by fellowship? Look up the word in your word study tools and record the definition.

Fellowship: Strong's Reference # 2842-

9. Look up the following Scripture references that relate to a believer's fellowship with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Record any insights you may see.

1 Corinthians 1:9-

2 Corinthians 13:14-

1 John 1:6-

1 John 1:7-

10. Read John 17:11 with John 17:20-26. Record what these texts teach about fellowship between the Christian and God, Christ, and other believers.

11. Fellowship is sharing something each believer has in common with each other. What do we fellowship around? What do we have in common? What is our confession? Read Philemon 1:6, 1 Timothy 3:16, and 1 John 1:3.

12. Because John is writing to believers to test and affirm their salvation, he starts this epistle with his testimony of meeting and knowing the true eternal life-giving Christ. His motive is not only to rebuke the heretics who disrupt the church but to direct the true believer to the fullness of joy through our common fellowship with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Look up the word joy in your word study tools and record its meaning.

Joy: Strong's Reference # 5479-

13. Joy is inner happiness, peace in the heart that remains no matter the circumstances. Its foundation is knowing the true, unchanging goodness and grace of God given to us through Jesus Christ. Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. It grows and remains as we press into Christ and the truths we learn through the Word, prayer, and the working of God through our sanctification.

Read the following Scripture references that directs us to rejoice in the Lord. Record any insight you may glean from these verses.

Psalms 32:11-

Psalms 64:10-

Psalm 68: 3-

Philippians 4:4-

14. According to 1 John 1:5, what message did John and the Apostles hear from Christ and announce to the church?

15. Jesus announces that God is Light and He contrasts it with the dark. Read what James writes in James 1:17. Record what is taught about God in this verse.

16. God is absolutely perfect and nothing exists in His character that has an effect upon His truth and holiness. Read the following Scripture references and record what is taught about the perfection of God.

Deuteronomy 32:4-

2 Samuel 22:3-

Psalm 19:7-11-

Psalm 25:8-

Matthew 5:48-

17. In the Bible darkness is associated with error or falsehood, evil, sin or wrongdoing. Read the following Scripture references and record what they teach about darkness.

Acts 26:18-

Romans 13:11-14-

Ephesians 5:11-

1 Thessalonians 4:8-

18. What is the warning and truth which John gives in 1 John 1:6?

19. Read Colossians 1:13. Record what this verse teaches about the true believer.

20. The true believer has been rescued from the domain of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of God, transferred into the kingdom of Light. How does John describe the man or woman who practices walking in the darkness?

21. What does James say is the characteristic of one with genuine faith? Read James 1:22-25.

22. What is the walk of a true believer, according to 1 John 1:7?

23. What does the blood of Jesus continually do, according to 1 John 1:7?

24. What does 1 John 1:8 say about those who claim they have no sin?

25. According to 1 John 1:9, what is an indication of genuine salvation?
26. What does it mean to confess our sin? Look up the word confess in your word study tools and record the definition.

Confess: Strong's Reference # 3670-

27. What does God do when we continually confess our sin, according to 1 John 1:9?
28. What do we learn about the character of God in 1 John 1:9?

A continual confession of sin is characteristic of a true believer. However, John's focus in this passage is not confessing every single sin. I do not think we know or see every sin we think or commit. The focus is a life marked by acknowledging the sin that still dwells in us and confessing that sin before the God of Light.

29. When someone says they do not sin what are they saying about God, according to 1 John 1:10?
30. When someone says they do not sin what are they revealing about themselves, according to 1 John 1:10?
31. Read what the Apostle Paul says about himself in Romans 7:14-24. Summarize what Paul is saying about sin.
32. If we confess our sin, who will set us free and what is the outcome? Read Romans 7:25-8:2.

33. This simple yet deep epistle is calling us to make sure we are truly in Christ. Read the following Scripture references and record what they are teaching.

Philippians 2:12-

2 Peter 1:10-

1 John: Lesson 2

So That We May Know

1 John 2:1-17

My Little Children I am Writing to You So That You May Not Sin

John uses the term, My little children, to address those who are born of God, those who are true followers of Christ. He uses the word "my " to show affection for those who share in a common faith and also addresses them as children as a warning. As a child of God there are requirements that distinguish us from the world. God sets forth commandments that you and I must strive to obey. He lovingly calls us to listen with our hearts and minds as a father who is teaching and training his own children. Let us heed the warnings and as little children believe, trust, and obey our Father who is in heaven.

1. Read 1 John 1-11.

John is writing these things so that we know what sin is before God. This brings up the importance of reading and studying the word of God. For without it we are ignorant and vulnerable against the schemes of the devil, ignorant of the capabilities of our own flesh, and ignorant of God and His commands. We learned in 1 John 1:8-11, that sin is universal. Everyone sins, even true confessing believers. John is pulling together the importance of striving against sin, the importance of confession when we do, knowing God's commands, and understanding we have forgiveness.

2. What reason does John give for writing to the believer in 1 John 2:1?

3. John is calling the believer to obedience and not sin. In this letter he is carefully laying out what sin is and calling the believer to examine his or her heart to see if our walk lines up with the word of God. Let's stop here for a minute.

It is important that we look at what the word sin means. You may be thinking that is an elementary principle, or one we should already know. You would be right but it is always good to be reminded. 1 John 3:4 gives a perfect definition of sin. Look up 1 John 3:4 and record how it defines sin.

4. Now look up the word sin in your word study tools and record the Greek definition.

Sin: Strong's reference # 264-

5. Look up the following Scripture references that teach about sin. Record next to each verse what they are telling those to whom they are spoken.

Psalm 4:4-

Ezekiel 3:21-

John 5:14-

Romans 6:15-

1 Corinthians 15:34-

Titus 2:11-12-

1 Peter 1:15-19-

6. Sin is a refusal to submit to God's Law. When you and I sin we are basically saying I am going to do what I want. We are showing pride, arrogance and a lack of belief in God. We are also trampling under our feet the finished work of Christ on the cross. John has in mind this very truth. He is stopping us, calling us to think about God, what Christ accomplished on the cross, and to whom we belong . He is writing these things so that we may not sin. But, what about when we do?

Look at 1 John 2:1 and record what comfort John gives.

7. What is an advocate? Look up the word in your word study tools and record its meaning.

Advocate: Strong's reference # 3875-

8. Who is our advocate, our helper, the one who intercedes for the believer who sins, according to 1 John 2:1?

9. John not only tells us Christ is our advocate, how does he describe Him in 1 John 2:1?

Read the Amplified version of 1 John 2:1, "My little children (believers, dear ones), I am writing you these things so that you will not sin *and* violate God's law. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate [who will intercede for us] with the Father: Jesus Christ the righteous [the upright, the just One, who conforms to the Father's will in every way—purpose, thought, and action]."

10. What do we learn about Christ in 1 John 2:2?

11. Because Christ is the righteous one, the upright One, the just One, the One who conforms perfectly to the will of God in every way He is able to be the propitiation for our sins and not only ours but for those of the whole world. Look up the following Scripture references and record what they teach about Christ and Him being our propitiation.

Romans 3:25-

Hebrews 2:17-

1 John 4:10-

12. Look up the word propitiation in your word study tools and record its meaning.

Propitiation: Strong's Reference # 2434-

After reading the above scriptures about sin and learning the definition of propitiation, what should our attitude be toward sinning?

A true believer should never think just because Christ appeased God by the sacrifice of Himself we can go on sinning. These truths should cause us to pause and consider before we step into sin. However, we are going to sin. There is no such thing as sinless perfection. That truth should not give us cause to throw up our hands and give in or give up. Because when we sin we have an advocate with the Father.

13. Read Romans 7:14-25 with hope and thankfulness. Record what you learn about the law, sin, God's grace and mercy from His written word.

14. Why does John say, Christ died not only for our sins but for the sins of the whole world?

We need to be careful that we do not fall into the camp that believes in universal salvation. Meaning, in the end everyone will be saved regardless. This is a heresy and taught nowhere in the scriptures. The Scriptures teach that those who are saved are the ones who repent and believe in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin. John 5:24. Because of the gravity of our sin and the great power of Christ's atoning sacrifice, John is showing us that Christ's sacrifice extends to the whole world. It is good enough and powerful enough to save the entire world but only those who believe are saved. Forgiveness of sin is offered to every tribe and nation but again only those who believe will be saved.

What do we learn about salvation from the following Scripture references?

John 1:29-

John 3:16-

John 6:51-

1 Timothy 2:6-

Hebrews 2:9-

1 John 4:14-

15. Look up the following Scripture references that show how salvation is obtained.

Luke 24:46-47-

John 1:12-13-

John 3:16, 36-

John 20:31-

Romans 10:8-9.

16. According to 1 John 2:3, how do we know we know God?

17. In 1 John 2:4, how does John describe those who do not keep God's commandments?

18. A true believer, those who are born again, display a habit of obedience. What does 1 John 2:5 say about those who keep God's word?

If there is in our hearts a true love for God and an effort, a desire to be obedient to God, we can know we are in Him and have true fellowship with Him.

19. To be in Christ is to have fellowship not only with Christ but with God Himself. Read 1 John 1:3. We cannot have one without the other. It is important for us to know there is only one way to have fellowship with God. Read John 14:6 with 1 John 5:20 and record what these verses teach.

20. If we say we abide in Christ and have fellowship with God through Christ, what should be the practice of our life? Read 1 John 2:6?

21. Read Matthew 22:34-40. According to Matthew 22:37, what is the greatest commandment?

22. According to Matthew 22:39, what is the second greatest commandment?

23. In 1 John 2:1-6, John lays out a definition of the first and greatest commandment and how a true believer responds to it. According to 1 John 2:10 how does a true believer respond to the second greatest commandment?

24. Read 1 John 2:7-11. In verse 7 John reminds the readers of what they had heard from the beginning concerning love when the gospel was preached to them. In this sense the command was old, it had been heard. Now John says, I am giving you a new commandment. He is elevating or bringing more light to the command to love your brothers and sisters in Christ. First he uses Christ as the ultimate example. Re-read verse 8 and notice he says, the new commandment is true in Christ. What does he mean, it is true in Christ? Let's look at a few Scripture references that will help shed light on what John is teaching in this passage. Record what you learn after each reference.

John 13:34-35-

John 10:15-

Philippians 2:3-8-

25. Christ showed, personified the love instructed in the second greatest commandment to love your neighbor as yourself. Record other ways Christ showed His love for and to you. I will give a starting place! Ephesians 5:2.

26. Read 1 John 2:8 again. The new commandment is true in Christ and also in us, the believer. If you are truly in Christ the command to love your brother is possible in all circumstances. How? Read Romans 5:5 and 1 John 4:19. Record what these verses are teaching.

27. In 1 John 2 verses 8-10 we see the word LIGHT referenced three times in the NASB Translation. This is referring to Christ. He is the true perfect Light of love, manifesting the love of God. He is the Light of the world. John 8:12. Read the following Scripture references, record what they teach and notice the light of love.

1 John 1:5-

John 9:5-

Matthew 5:14-

The word darkness in verse 8 is referring to the darkness that is in the world manifested by hate, greed, and selfishness what we call spiritual darkness. Where Christ the LIGHT shines through us in our sphere of influence, that darkness is exposed. Love exposes the darkness. The commandment of love has come true in Christ and is coming true in us.

How are you manifesting love to those in your sphere of influence?

28. Read 1 John 2:9-11. According to verse 10 who is in the Light or in Christ? What constitutes his lifestyle?

29. Describe the man in 1 John 2:9 and 11.

30. Read the following Scriptures references and record what they teach about the talker in verse 9.

1 John 3:10-

1 John 3:15-

1 John 4:20-

31. In question 28, the man in darkness was referred to as “a talker.” He is characterized this way because his words do not match his walk. Where is the man living according to 1 John 2:11? Read Also John 12:35.

32. Does the man in darkness know where he is going? Why? Read 1 John 2:11 again for your answer.

33. Read James 1:22-25. What is the command in verse 22?

John writes this book so that we may know whether we are truly in Christ, so we will know if we are in the household of God, His family. What a grace from God! As you have walked through some of these commands and markers of a believer in 1 John you may walk away doubting your salvation or fall into a place of being guilty of disobedience. I am not implying that being disobedient is proper or good but if you find yourself in either place of doubting or disobedience, praise God, because He is revealing truth to you. Do not run but place yourself at the feet of Christ in confession and repentance.

34. In the beginning of 1 John 2, John is bold in his explanation of sin. As it should be. There is no room for fluff when it comes to sin. However, after John so boldly exposes and brings to light the truths from God, he now brings the believer some encouragement by reminding them why he is writing and telling them to remember what he wrote in the past. Read 1 John 2:12-14. What family titles does John use as he addresses the church in 1 John 2:12-14?
35. John uses two different words for children in 1 John 2:12-13. In verse 12 John is using the term little children to refer to all of the believers as a born again group of people who are in fellowship with God, Christ, and one another. What do we learn about them in 1 John 2:12?
36. Why are their sins forgiven, according to 1 John 2:12?
37. After addressing the church body as a whole in 1 John 2:12, John now turns to address the differing maturity levels of the believers who make up the church body. In 1 John 2:13-14, John addresses the fathers, perhaps older but especially more mature in their walk with Christ. What reason is given for John's writing to them in these verses?
38. Next, John turns to the young men, less mature than the fathers but more mature than when they first believed. What reason is given for John writing to them in 1 John 2:13-14?
39. Finally, he turns to the children, the newest believers. What does he say to this group in 1 John 2:13?

40. Where are you in your walk with Christ? Have you been walking with the Lord for many years, perhaps only a few years, or are you a new believer? Why would it be important and essential for any believer to possess the characteristics John records?

Read the following Scripture references and record what you learn.

Psalms 119:9-11-

John 16:33-

1 Corinthians 16:13-

Ephesians 6:10-12-

1 Peter 1:22-25-

1 John 4:4; 5:4-5-

41. Read 1 John 2:15-17. What do these verses teach us about the world?

42. What command does John give to the believers in 1 John 2:15?

43. What does John say about those who love the world?

44. No one can serve two masters; for he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. Matthew 6:24. Re-read Matthew 6:24, 1 John, 2:15 with James 4:4. Record what these verses teach about the world and the consequences of not loving God.
45. Who is the god of this world according to 2 Corinthians 4:4? What will happen to him in the end according to John 12:31?
46. According to 1 John 2:17, what will happen to the world and its lusts?
47. Because we are little children, what are some ways we can turn from the ways of the world? Read Matthew 6:33, Romans 12:2, and Philippians 1:27.
48. How long will the one who does the will of God live? Read Matthew 7:21 and 1 John 2:17.
49. How does God desire you to respond to what you learned in these passages of Scripture?

1 John: Lesson 3

So That We May Know

1 John 2:18-29

I Am Writing to You Concerning Those Who Are Trying to Deceive You

It takes knowledge and discernment for the child of God to know and recognize deception. In this passage, John warns and describes the ones who are TRYING to deceive the true child of God. Can a true child of God be deceived? Can they be carried away by the wiles of the devil and his workers of iniquity? In this lesson, we will go through 1 John and answer these questions.

1. First, read 1 John 2:18-29 to understand what John is saying.
2. We learned in the last lesson that the god of this world and his world system will end. But we also know Christ will rule and reign over His kingdom for eternity. If we abide in Him and He in us, we will live forever with Him in His kingdom. However, while we live in our temporary home, there will be deception and a war for our affection and devotion. Keep this in mind as we strive to learn what John is teaching and urging in this passage. Who does John address in 1 John 2:18, and what had they heard?

3. John warned the church that the "ANTICHRIST" was coming. This warning refers to the end-time figure that will eventually come according to God's final plan. John does not go into great detail about this figure, nor will we in this study. However, it would be helpful to know something about him. Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-10 and record the teaching on this person.

4. What else does John tell the children in 1 John 2:18?

5. John uses the words the last hour in this section as a metaphor or figure of speech to describe the time in which he lives. We can also say this is the last hour. The clock is ticking, and then the end will come. Look at the following Scripture references and record what they teach about the last hour or the last days.

2 Timothy 3:1-

Hebrews 1:2-

James 5:3-

1 Peter 1:20-

2 Peter 3:3-

6. In these last days there will be many antichrists and false teachers waging war against Christ and His followers. What do we learn about the many antichrists from 1 John 2:19, 22-23, and 1 John 4:3.

7. What is the contrast or difference between those in 1 John 2:19 and those in 1 John 2:20?

8. What is the believer's assurance in 1 John 2:20?

9. What do we learn about our anointing according to the following verses?

2 Corinthians 1:21-22-

1 John 2:20-

1 John 2:27-

10. There is a Spirit of truth and a spirit of error. In 1 John 2:20, John says we have an anointing and we all know. What do we know according to 1 John 2:21?

11. Read what Jesus tells His disciples in John 16:13. What do you learn from this verse?

12. Why did John write to the church, according to 1 John 2:21?

13. How encouraging and assuring that we know the truth if we are in Christ. John tells us that no lie is of the truth. He has gone to great lengths to expose and explain the lies. How important is it that we trust what God says in His word?

14. What is our instruction, according to 1 John 2:24?

15. What is the outcome of our obedience, according to 1 John 2:24?

16. When we walk in obedience, what promises does God give us? (1 John 2:25)

17. What is John's final instruction in 1 John 2:28?

18. What can the believer know, according to 1 John 2:29?

19. Can we have confidence when Christ returns for His Bride? How can we have this confidence not only when He returns but today? Record what you have studied and read so far that will secure your confidence.

20. Is there anything you need to confess and repent of? Do that now! Rest in knowing you have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

1 John: Lesson 4

So That We May Know

1 John 3:1-10

See How Great a Love the Father Has Bestowed

We have been blessed beyond measure. The Father of heaven and earth gave us a gift of honor. My mind cannot understand the gift much less the honor that comes with God's gift of salvation. When I say I cannot understand, I do not mean intellectually. I understand the words but only by the grace of God do you and I understand its implications. Ask the Lord to help you see and understand these marvelous truths tucked away in 1 John 3:1-10. Also ask to see areas in your life that need conformed to the truths He reveals!

1. Read 1 John 2:29 through 1 John 3:1-10.
2. Who practices righteousness, according to 1 John 2:29?
3. What connection can we make between 1 John 2:29 and 1 John 3:1?
4. What is the evidence one is born of God? John uses the phrase, "born of God," 7 times in this letter and, "Born of Him," two times. Look up each reference and record what it says about being born of God.

Born of Him-1 John 2:29-

Born of God- (2 times)1 John 3:9-

Born of God- 1 John 4:7-

Born of God-1 John 5:1-

Born of Him-1 John 5:1-

Born of God- 1 John 5:4-

Born of God- 1 John 5:18-

5. Being born of God comes with the Father's great love being bestowed on us! Think about that statement! Think about that truth! Let's take a step back for a moment and remember who we were before God bestowed His great love on us. Read the following Scripture references that show us who we were and how God once viewed us.

Jeremiah 17:9-

John 8:34-

Romans 3:18-23

Ephesians 2:1-3-

Titus 3:3-

6. How does He view you now?

7. Notice the phrase, and such we are, in 1 John 3:1. This phrase not only refers to our title as children of God but reflects the reality of our true condition. We are known by God, loved by God, protected by God. What does 1 John 3:1 say about the world's relationship with us?
8. Why does the world not know us, according to 1 John 3:1?
9. What is true of us, according to 1 John 3:2?
10. We are right now in this moment children of God. But we live in a now and not yet stage. What do we know according to 1 John 3:2? What do we not know according to this same verse?
11. Paul says this in 1 Corinthians 13:12, “ For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. While we wait for our day of glorification and the glorious day of the return of Christ how do we live? Find your answer in 1 John 3:3.
12. Where do we place our hope?
13. We know where to place our hope but it may be helpful to have a good understanding of the Biblical definition of hope. The world defines hope in a much different way than the believer. Define hope. Strong’s Reference Number: 1680-
14. A hope that is fixed on Him does what, according to 1 John 3:3?
15. Look at what Paul says in Romans 5:5 about hope. Let this truth make its way deep into your heart and mind!

16. As children of God we are already pure in God's eyes because of the shed blood of His Son Jesus Christ. So what does John mean in 1 John 3:4 when he says, "everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as Christ is pure?"
17. Because we are children of God our passions and desires change from wanting to please ourselves to delighting in and pleasing God and how He desires us to live. We still live here on this earth but we need to discipline ourselves to godliness and live for the life to come. What are some practical ways we purify ourselves?
18. What does practice mean according to 1 John 3:4? Look up the word in your word study tools and record the meaning.
- Practices: Strong's Reference # 4160-
19. As we enter this next section in 1 John 3, it is very important to know and understand what John is teaching about practice. Keep the definition in mind and review often if needed. Who is John addressing in 1 John 3:4? What is their practice, or way of life, according to this same verse?
20. Those who practice sin or those who live in sin, also practice lawlessness. Define the term lawlessness. Strong's Reference # 458-
21. What do we know according to 1 John 3:5?

22. Those who abide in Christ do not do what, according to 1 John 3:6? Remember the definition of practice when answering this question.
23. Do those who live according to the flesh, or live in sin, know Christ or have they seen Christ?
24. What warning and concern does John give and show in 1 John 3:7?
25. What truths does he remind us of in 1 John 3:7?
26. Notice that John says, the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous (Christ). Connect this phrase with what John said in 1 John 2:29. What is the connection?
27. What does it mean to be righteous? Look up and define the word. Strong's Reference # 1343-
28. What do we learn about the person in 1 John 3:8?
29. For what purpose did Christ appear according to 1 John 3:8?
30. There are other passages of Scripture that speak about the appearance of Christ. He not only appeared to destroy Satan He appeared to shed His blood for the sins of His people. Read the following scripture references and record what they teach about His appearing.

Romans 5: 8-10-

Philippians 2:4-11-

Hebrews 5:8-9-

31. In this section John is defining or giving us a contrast of those who abide in Christ with those who do not abide in Christ. In a column below, record on one side the characteristics of the righteous (Abiders in Christ) and on the other record the characteristics of those who practice sin (Abiders in Satan). Use this section of Scripture but also go back through the book listing what you already learned.

33. Can anyone who is truly born of God make a habitual practice of sin? 1 John 3:9?

34. How is it possible that a true believer cannot continually live in habitual sin, according to 1 John 3:9?

35. What does John make perfectly clear in 1 John 3:10?

36. What two truths does he use to make this point?

37. What a glorious freeing truth for the child of God. God has not left us to ourselves but is ever present with us and in us. God's seed abides in those born of Him. Before we leave this section look up and define seed. Strong's reference # 4690-

38. Read 1 Peter 2:23-25. What does verse 23 teach us about God's seed?

1 John: Lesson 5

So That We May Know

1 John 3:11-24

We Know Love By This

How do we know what true biblical love is? Is it possible to have a proper understanding and practice of love? In a world that defines love by its ideas and emotions, it is easy for the child of God to misunderstand true biblical love. The good news is that God has given us His word and example of love. In this week's lesson, you will learn to know and understand how God defines love. Pray and ask God to open your heart to understanding to practice His love correctly!

1. Read 1 John 3:11-24 before you begin answering the questions.
2. Re-read 1 John 3:10. What two characteristics prove we are children of God?
3. What message has the children of God heard from the beginning? Read 1 John 3:11.

From the beginning of John's ministry, he proclaimed the message of love. He declared that the love of God came through Christ to us. Once again, he emphasizes that true believers should love one another through practicing righteousness. In 1 John 3:12, John gives an example of what true love is not. What example does he give?

4. How does John describe the heart of Cain?

5. Read the following Scripture references to gather more information about Cain. Record what you learn.

Genesis 4:1-16-

Hebrews 11:4-

Jude 1:11-

6. How is Abels heart described in 1 John 3:12?
7. Read Genesis 4:4 with Hebrews 11:4 and record what you learn about Abel.
8. The examples of Cain and Abel are used in this section to give us a vivid picture of evilness and righteousness. What warning does 1 John 3:13 give the believer? How are we to respond?
9. According to 1 John 3:14, how do we know we have passed out of death into life?
10. One mark of a true believer is love for the brethren. Read the following Scripture references that speak to the importance of loving the brethren.

Psalm 133:1-3-

Hebrews 13:1-

Romans 12:10-

11. The one who does not abide in love abides in what? Read 1 John 3:14.
12. How does 1 John 3:15 describe a hater?
13. What does John make sure we know in 1 John 3:15?
14. Who is the prime example of showing true love? Read 1 John 3:16 with John 3:16.
Record any insights you learn from these Scriptures.
15. How do we know love according to 1 John 3:16?
16. Before we move into the next set of verses lets stop and define love as John uses it.
Strong Reference # 26-
17. How do we follow in Christ's footsteps, according to 1 John 3:16?

18. What does John mean when he says we should lay down our lives for the brethren? What should be the attitude of our heart? Start with 1 John 3:17, read the following scripture references, and record what they teach.

Matthew 25: 34-40-

Romans 12:9-16-

Philippians 2:2-5-

James 2:14-17-

19. In 1 John 3:18 John summarizes what we learned in verses 16-17. How does a christian act in love, according to verse 18?

20. True love is supernatural, self-sacrificing, and selfless, exhibited by deeds and truth. Sometimes, we can perform deeds or acts in the flesh instead of walking in the Spirit and loving from pure motives. Re-read 1 John 3:18, Jeremiah 17:9, and 1 Corinthians 13:1. Record what each verse tells us about our hearts and love.

21. 1 John 3:11-17 is a test of true love for the brethren. We will know by our love for the brethren if we genuinely have a relationship with God through Christ. As you have read and studied, conviction floods your heart, and you are fully aware of your failure to love as God loves and commands us to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. Read 1 John 3:19-20 and record how John reassures our hearts.

22. Read 1 John 3:21. What does John say about our hearts in connection with God?

23. We are assured we are of the truth by our actions and convictions when our motives are less than godly. But there is another way we can be assured as well. God's love for us is unconditional. We can have confidence that we are secure and loved if we are in Christ. Read the following scripture references and record what you learn about God and His promises.

Romans 5:8-

Romans 8:1-

Ephesians 2:4-6-

1 John 4:10-

Assurance before God comes with conviction. Conviction is followed by repentance and repentance is followed by confidence.

24. Read 1 John 3:21-22. When God comforts our unsettled hearts, what is the outcome according to verse 22?

25. What a comfort to know God hears our prayers. But there are conditions. What is the condition of answered prayer according to 1 John 3:22?

26. Conditions are assurance. They keep us close to the One Who loves us unconditionally. They keep us on the narrow path. They govern us to know we are in Christ. How do the following verses assure our hearts before God?

Psalm 119:57-60-

Matthew 7:21-

John 9:31-

1 John 2:3-

27. We must remember the context of the passage we are studying with the context of all the scriptures. We can confidently come before God in prayer with a sincere heart, but we cannot ask for anything and everything and expect God to give it to us. Read 1 John 5:14. What is the condition of answered prayer?

28. What commands are given in 1 John 3:23?

29. Believing in Jesus is the gospel message of truth, but it is also necessary for answered prayer. Following true belief is obedience. What is the believer's assurance we learn in 1 John 3:24?

1 John: Lesson 6

So That We May Know

1 John 4:1-6

Testing the Spirits to Know

Do you take everything at face value? Do you believe everything someone says or search the Scriptures to find out? The Holy Spirit is not the only spirit active in the world. In this section of Scripture, John pulls back the curtain to reveal another spirit at work. Believers need to be aware of the difference between the spirit of the antichrist and the Spirit of God.

1. 1 John 3:24 leaves us with an assurance that Christ abides in us. What is the assurance?
2. God gives every believer His Spirit for assurance, teaching, and training. What warning does John give to the beloved in 1 John 4:1?
3. Record the warnings given in the following Scripture references. Note also who was speaking.

Matthew 7:15-16-

Matthew 24:4-5-

Romans 16: 18-

2 Peter 2:1-

4. Instead of believing every spirit, what does John instruct us to do in 1 John 4:1? Read what Paul says in 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

5. When John uses the word “spirit” in 1 John 4:1, he is referring to spiritual claims made by false prophets. *1 John 4:3*. This can apply to anyone claiming to be a believer. We can know whether they speak from the Spirit of truth or the spirit of error. Notice John specified that every spirit from God *confesses* that Jesus has come in the flesh. Anyone can use words, but not everyone truly confesses. Look up the word *confesses* and record its meaning as used by John in this context. Strong’s reference # 3670-

6. According to 1 John 4:2-3, how can we test whether a spirit is from God or from the spirit of antichrist ?

7. How important and vital is knowing and believing that Jesus came in the flesh? One of the foundation stones of our faith is Jesus being fully God and fully man. We believe it by faith based on the teachings in Scripture. First, we learn its importance from 1 John 4:2. God sends His Spirit to teach us this truth. Look at the following scripture references, record what they say, and teach about Christ’s humanity and deity.

John 1:1-

John 1:14-

John 8:58-

John 10:30-

Philippians 2:6-8-

1 Timothy 2:5-

8. The antichrist is coming, but the spirit of the antichrist is already here (1 John 4:3). We must be alert and in a posture of testing when it comes to our faith. The scriptures warn us over and over about false prophets, wolves in sheep's clothing. John instructs us to test. Paul instructs us to be on the alert. Jude instructs us to contend earnestly for the faith. Read 1 Corinthians 16:13 with the book of Jude. Record any insight you gain.

9. What comfort does John give to the beloved in 1 John 4:4?

10. We are overcomers because Jesus defeated and overcame the world through His life, death, burial, and resurrection. He overcame so we can overcome and know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. The Spirit of truth is in us. How does John describe this truth in 1 John 4:4?

11. Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. The Spirit of God is our protector against error. How does He protect us, and what is our part in this process? The Holy Spirit protects us through the word of God. We are responsible for reading and studying the word to know the truth from error. What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 teach us about the word of God?

12. How encouraged and secure we can be, knowing that through the power of the Holy Spirit living in and directing us, we can overcome the power in the world. Read John 14:16-17 with John 14:26 and record Jesus's promise in these verses.

13. How does John describe, *them*, the false prophets mentioned in verses 1-5, in 1 John 4:5?

14. Who listens to them, according to 1 John 4:5?

15. In contrast to *them*, how are *we* described in 1 John 4:6?

16. What is one way John tells us we can know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error in 1 John 4:6?

17. In light of what you have learned in these few verses, what response does God want from us? Is there anything you need to do or confess after working through this text?

1 John: Lesson 7

So That We May Know

1 John 4:7-14

Those Who are Loved, Let Us Love

1. In this section of Scripture John returns to the theme of loving one another. Re-read 1 John 3:23-24 with 1 John 7-14.
2. What is John's call to the beloved, in 1 John 4:7?
3. Where does love originate, according to 1 John 4:7?
4. What do we learn about the one who loves in 1 John 4:7?
5. What contrast or difference do we see in the people in 1 John 4:8 and 1 John 4:7?
6. God did not love us in word only but in an act of sacrificial love. Read 1 John 3:18 with 1 John 4:9. How did God show His love toward us 1 John 4:9?

7. Everything we are called to do Christ did before us and for us that we might have the ultimate example. What reason is given in 1 John 4:9, as to why Christ was sent into the world?

8. Christ was sent into the world that we might live through Him. What exactly is John saying in this statement? Read the following Scripture references as you put together your answer.

1 John 5:11-

Romans 6:11-14-

Galatians 2:20-

Colossians 3:3-4-

1 Thessalonians 5:10-

9. Christ not only died that we might live eternally with Him but that we might live abundantly in Him, now, today. Belief and trust in the promises of God through Christ is the foundation for daily abundant living. Read John 10:10 and 1 Corinthians 2:9 and record what you learn from these verses.

10. How would your life be different if you walked daily in these truths?

11. According to 1 John 4:10, who loved first? What was the result of this love?

12. God sent His one and only Son to be the propitiation for our sins. What a big word the NASB uses in 1 John 4:11. You looked up this word in Lesson 2, Question 12. Look it up again and record what you learn about God's act of love. Strong's Reference # 2434-

13. Propitiation is an act of God, not man, to satisfy His anger toward our sins. He has made it possible for you and me to be forgiven. What love! His satisfaction is not only in the death of Christ but also in the life of Christ. Read what Joshua Bell said about Christ's propitiation.

“So dead Jesus offers sacrifice for sin. The living Jesus at the right hand of God offers spiritual life to those who walk in faith. Two aspects of His ongoing eternal work. God is satisfied with Christ's death. The shedding of His blood. God is also satisfied with His life at His right hand. Everyone stops at the forgiveness part of the propitiation. No one moves into the dynamics of the impartation of life by faith in the resurrected blood to those that are forgiven. Christ is all and all. He is our death and our life. The place where in life or death we find the presence of Yahweh.” – Joshua Bell

14. What should be our response to God's abundant love towards us, according to 1 John 4:11?

15. What is the foundation of our obedience to love one another, according to 1 John 4:11?

16. In 1 John 4:12, John states no one has seen God at any time. We do know Moses saw only the back of God. Exodus 33:18-23. What does God use to show who He is and that although unseen, we know His presence in our lives, according to 1 John 4:12?

17. If we love one another, God not only abides in us but His love is perfected in us. What does John mean by this statement? Look up perfected and record its meaning. Strong's Reference # 5048-

18. God's love in us is His complete, mature, love in need of nothing. God's perfect love abides in us, if we are truly regenerated. You and I are in need of sanctification to grow in our love for God and others. He has given us His perfect love, and grows us into more loving people. Review 1 John 4:7-12 and record how God manifested His perfect love and how we are assured His love abides in us. How are these truths being manifested in your life?

19. What gift has God given His children to assure them of genuine saving faith, in 1 John 4:13?

20. What testimony does John remind the church of in 1 John 4:14?

21. What comfort does this testimony give to the hearts of the church? How does it give you hope and assurance as you walk out your faith? Remember these truths from 2 Corinthians 5:6-9.
- 22.

1 John: Lesson 8

So That We May Know

1 John 4:15-21

Confidence in the Day of Judgment

1. What is a true believer's confession, according to 1 John 4:15?
2. What confidence do we have in our confession, according to 1 John 4:15?
3. In lesson 6, we discussed the importance of knowing and believing that Jesus came in the flesh and that He is Deity, the Son of God. John returns to this vital truth to help give us hope and confidence on the day of judgment. How does God show His love toward us, according to 1 John 4:14?
4. What is true of all believers, according to what John teaches in 1 John 4:16?

5. Knowing and believing are two important characteristics in a believer's life. Look up these phrases and record their meaning.

Come to Know: 1097-

Have Believed: 4100-

6. What did we come to know and believe, according to 1 John 4:16?
7. God does not open our hearts to believe and then abandon us. He continues to work in us through His indwelling Holy Spirit. We come to know the love He has for us through experience. What do we learn about God in verse 16?
8. If we know God is love and believe His love for us, we abide in His love. What does it mean to abide? Look up the meaning and record your findings. Abide: 3306-
9. God's perfect, never-ending love abides in us. When we rest and abide in that perfect love, what is the result, based on what John says in 1 John 4:17?
10. Look up the word confidence and record its meaning. Confidence: 3954-

11. Confidence. A result of believing and continually growing and knowing God through Christ. What confidence can we have, as stated in 1 John 4:17?

12. Our confidence is not placed in us or our abilities. It finds its rest in the love of God brought to us through Christ. Confidence lacks fear. What does perfect love do, according to 1 John 4:18?

13. What is fear associated with, in 1 John 4:18?

14. Can there be times in our walk where there is fear instead of confidence?

15. What could be the cause of our fears?

16. We already know and believe God's love is perfect, lacking in nothing. Ours, however, is not. When we find ourselves doubting and lacking love for others, which is a result of not loving God fully, what do we need to do? Revisit 1 John 1:9 and 1 John 2:1-3.

17. Why do we love based on 1 John 4:19?

18. We can love God only because He loved us first. We can truly love our neighbor, because God first loved us. Can there be hate in our heart toward a brother if God's love abides in us? Read 1 John 4:20.

19. Read 1 John 4:20. What does John call someone who says they love God but hates their brother?

20. What is a liar? Look up the word in your word study tools and record what you learn.
Liar: # 5583-

21. This is not the first time we have encountered the word liar in this small letter. Look up the following references and record what you learn from each verse.

1 John 1:10-

1 John 2:4-

1 John 2:22-

1 John 4:20-

1 John 5:10-

22. According to 1 John 4:20, is it possible to love the unseen(God) if you do not love that which you can see?

23. What commandment have we received from God, recorded for us in 1 John 4:21?

24. How do we know we have come to know God, according to 1 John 2:3?

25. What emphasis does John place on commandments and love in 1 John 2:7-11?

26. What do we learn about God's commandment in 1 John 3:23-24?

27. Are commandments important? As a child of God how are we to react to God's commands? Has He left us without the necessary tools to abide and keep His commandments?

28. What do we learn about God's commandment from 1 John 5:3?

1 John: Lesson 9

So That We May Know

1 John 5:1-12

God has Given Us Eternal Life through His Son

1. Two times in verse 1 we see the term *whoever*. What do we learn about them in 1 John 5:1?

2. What is the natural growth that follows being born of God? John has repeated these truths throughout this book and used them as a test to see if we are truly in Christ. Read the following scripture references and look for the fruit that is present in the life of a true believer.

1 John 1:9-

1 John 2:5-

1 John 2:10-

1 John 2:17-

1 John 2:23-

1 John 2:29-

1 John 3:3-

1 John 3:7-

1 John 3:14-

1 John 3:23-24-

1 John 4:7-

1 John 4:12-

1 John 4:15-

1 John 5:1-

1 John 5:2-

1 John 5:3-

3. How important do you think it is that confession, faith, love, and obedience are present in the life of a believer?

4. Are you encouraged that these truths are dwelt on in this book?
5. How do we know we truly love God, according to 1 John 5:3?
6. Read John 14:15; John 14:21, and John 15:10. Record what you learn from these words of Christ.
7. What do you learn about God's commands from 1 John 5:3?
8. Read Matthew 11:28-30 and record what Jesus teaches that relates to 1 John 5:3.
9. In what ways has God made His commands easy for His children?
10. What does John say is true of every believer in 1 John 5:4?
11. What does it mean to be an overcomer? Look up the word overcomer and record its meaning. Overcomer: 3528-
12. If we are overcomers this assures us that there is a battle. This truth should be an encouragement to us. The words of the Bible have not kept this a secret. Read John 16:33. Record what is taught in this verse.

20. John began this letter proclaiming the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested. 1 John 1:1. He begins with a testimony and will end with testimony proclaiming Jesus is the Son of God and God has given us eternal life through Him. Why all of this testifying? What is the purpose of someone testifying about someone? Read the following Scripture references and record what they teach about the testimony of 2-3 witnesses.

Deuteronomy 17:6-

Deuteronomy 19:15-

Matthew 18:16-

2 Corinthians 13:1-

Hebrews 10:28-

21. How many testify that Jesus is the Son of God mentioned in 1 John 5:7?

22. What three testify, according to 1 John 5:8?

23. What does 1 John 5:8 say about their testimony?

24. Who has the greater testimony, man or God? Read 1 John 5:9.

25. What is the testimony of God recorded in 1 John 5:9?

26. According to 1 John 5:10 who else testifies that Jesus came to live and die and suffer in the place of man?

27. What does 1 John 5:10 say about the one who rejects this testimony?

28. How does John summarize what he has been teaching in 1 John 5:11-12?

29. What a wonderful free gift God has given through His Son Jesus Christ, eternal life. Read the following Scriptures and record what you learn about Christ.

John 3:16-

John 10:10-

John 14:6-

Acts 4:12-

30. What stuck out to you in your study? What truths does God want you to know and treasure from your study in 1 John 5:1-12?

1 John: Lesson 10

So That We May Know

1 John 5:13-21

Confidence in Prayer and Living Our Days

1. Who is John writing to in this letter? Why has he written? 1 John 5:13.
2. We are blessed to know we can confidently trust God's promise of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ. Our confidence does not stop there. John moves on to show us we can be confident when we go to God in prayer. What confidence do we have before God? 1 John 5:14-15?
3. Read what Hebrews 4:16 teaches about prayer and record what you learn.
4. Can we ask anything of God and expect to receive it? Read 1 John 5:14 and record the condition of our prayers.

5. Our prayers are conditioned on God's will. We can and should go to God with freedom and openness in our words and requests but surrender our desires and will to align with God's. How different our prayers might be and how much more confident we can be if we know God answers according to His will. Knowing this truth, how does it change the way you approach God in prayer?

6. 1 John 5:16-17 is met with some interpretational challenges. Because we see in a mirror dimly these verses can cause us to scratch our heads in puzzlement. I pray that the questions you answer will guide you in the right direction. Read 1 John 5:16-17. You can write out the verses if that helps you slow down and take in the verses.

7. Who is John addressing in verse 16?

8. What is the situation presented in 1 John 5:16?

9. What are you or I asked to do in this verse?

10. What will God do in answer to this prayer according to 1 John 5:16?

11. All sin is deserving of death, physical and eternal. 1 John 5:17 tells us all unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not leading to death. What sin does not lead to death? Read 1 John 2:9, Psalm 32:5, Proverbs 28:13, Titus 2:14.

12. Read the following scripture references from 1 John and record what they teach and how they relate to the brother committing sin not leading to death.

1 John 1:7-

1 John 2:1-3-

1 John 2:12-

13. Every believer stands before God with the need to confess their own sin. I cannot continually confess your sins for you before God, nor you mine. However, these verses show the need and command to look after our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is part of the love John has been pressing into our hearts and minds in this entire book. If we love each other we will look not only after physical needs but spiritual needs as well. How does knowing this truth change how we look at our brothers and sisters in Christ? How should we respond after learning this truth?

14. According to John in 1 John 5:16, there is a sin that leads to death. What is the sin that leads to death? Can a true blood-bought believer sin unto death? Can we know if someone is sinning unto death? I believe the Scriptures teach a true believer can sin unto

physical death but not spiritual death. Read the accounts recorded in Acts 5:1-10 and 1 Corinthians 11:17-32. Record what they say concerning the believer.

15. How should we examine our own selves in light of what we just learned from Acts and 1 Corinthians? Read Hebrews 12:16. Record what you learn from this verse about God in relation to His children.

16. How much more should we look after our brothers and sisters in Christ? Can we know when a brother or sister has sinned physically unto death? I do not think so. That is in the secret will of God, but some indicators should make us stop and pause. What is the sin that leads to death? Read Matthew 12:31 with Hebrews 10:26-29. Record what these verses teach about unbelief.

17. Read 1 John 2:22-23 with 1 John 3:4. Are those mentioned in these verses in Christ? Are they covered with the blood of Christ?

18. Those who do not believe in the Son of God, who do not confess they are sinners, are in unbelief and sinning unto eternal death. So, there is a sin that leads to eternal death. Can we know when someone has sinned unto death? There is one way we know. If someone dies and has never received Jesus Christ, they have died an eternal death. Is there a time when God gives someone over to their sins with no way of repentance? Yes! But again, you and I do not know that point in time; it is in the secret counsel of God. Read the account of Esau in Hebrews 12:16-17 and record what this verse says. Note how verse 16 describes Esau.

19. We can also tie the sin unto death mentioned by John with apostasy. Read 1 John 2:19. How does this verse describe the person mentioned?
20. What do we know about the one born of God stated in 1 John 5:18? What do we need to remember when reading this statement? Review 1 John 3:9, 4:7, 5:1, and 5:4.
21. Who protects the one born of God, according to 1 John 5:18?
22. What encouragement to know the children of God are kept. Look up the word keep from 1 John 5:18 and record what you learn about Christ and His protection. Keep: 5083.
23. Now look up the following verses from 1 John that support what you learned from your word study on keep.
- 1 John 2:1-
- 1 John 2:14-
- 1 John 2:20-
- 1 John 3:9-
- 1 john 4:13-

1 John 5:4-

24. Not only do we know Him, know we have eternal life through Him, we are also protected in Him. What other truth do you learn from 1 John 5:20?

25. The whole world system lies in the power of the evil one. Sit on this truth for a minute. Think about the ramifications or effects of this truth. Now read 1 John 5:20. What do you learn about the Son of God from this verse?

26. What has Jesus Christ given to the beloved? 1 John 5:20.

27. Why has He given you understanding? 1 John 5:20.

28. What last instruction does John give in 1 John 5:21?

29. You have completed a deep study in the book of 1 John! Bless you beloved of God. What truths have impacted you the most from your study in 1 John? How has your understanding been challenged? In what ways has your walk with the Lord been altered through your time spent in the word of God?

