

GNCOMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

SERMON SERIES: "1ST JOHN"

SERMON TITLE: "THE LAVISH LIFE"

DATE PREACHED: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7TH 2018

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✿ SERMON IN A SENTENCE:

"Being in the royal family has significant perks."

(use the questions you want to use, ignore the ones you don't want to use, and add any that you think would be good)


WARM UP QUESTIONS:

- 🗨️ Jeff Bezos, Amazon CEO, is the worlds richest person, with a net worth of 160 Billion Dollars. What do you think life would be like if you were one of his three children?
- 🗨️ With the question above in mind, how much greater would it be if you could be one of God's children? What are the implications of being a son or daughter of the KING OF KINGS?
- 🗨️ Do you think the wide spread lack of good fathers in this world has done more harm to the image of God as our Heavenly Father, or do you think it is making people hungrier than ever for a perfect father figure only found in God?




♦ Facilitator NOTE: As you prepare ahead of time, look through the passages/ questions below to help yourself prioritize the things that you definitely want to cover with the time you have available. You likely will not be able to cover all this material. Try to keep the studies to around an hour for the kids/kids-helpers sake.

1 John 3:1 — "1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"





- 🗨️ How have you seen or experienced the love that God has lavished on us?
- 🗨️ If you've given your life and allegiance to Jesus, have you truly internalized and accepted the fact that you are a child of God, and son or daughter of the KING OF KINGS?

 How does the story of the “Lost Son” (Prodigal Son) in **Luke 15:11-24** resonate in your own heart as a child of God?



1 John 3:1c — “**1c** The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.”

-  What do you think this sentence and statement means?
-  Why do you think we act surprised, hurt, scared when people we interact with reject Jesus or us (the Jesus in us)?
-  How does **Romans 8:17** shed light on this verse (1c)?



1 John 3:2 — “**2** Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”

-  What will be the main differences between what we are now and what we will be “when Christ appears”?
-  What goes through your head when it tells us that we will be like Jesus when He appears and that we will see Him as He is?
-  As children of God, how should our lives NOW be like that of our heavenly Father incarnate, Jesus?
-  Read **1 John 2:5b-6** “**5b** This is how we know we are in Him:
6 Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did.” - - What does this look like?

1 John 3:3 — “**3** All who have this hope in Him purify themselves, just as He is pure.”

-  What “hope” is John referring to?
-  How does this “hope” help to “purify” us, just as Jesus is pure?

1 John 2:28-29 — “**28** And now, dear children, continue in Him, so that when He appears we may be confident and unashamed before Him at His coming. **29** If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of Him.”

-  How does being called a child of God help give you great confidence at the idea of Jesus' second coming (judgement day)?
-  How should being a child of God effect our actions and behavior (righteousness) now in this life on earth?

TAKE THIS HOME WITH YOU "TAKEAWAY":

- ☀ How does your life reflect being a child of God?
- ☀ What will you work to change now that being a child of God is in the forefront of your mind? Who can you talk to about the changes you are hoping to see in your life?

❖ Close in prayer.

MATCHING THEME IDEAS FOR THE KID'S LESSON:


- I'd encourage a worship time if possible (youtube works great {Lifetree Kids}).
- Ask them if they have any things in their life that they need Jesus' help with, and then pray for the requests of the group.
- And feel free to ask any of the kids if they'd like to say a prayer for the group.

▶ Read **1 John 3:1** — "1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

Ask the kiddos questions like:

- What do you think it would be like to be a child of a King?
- What do you think it would be like to be a child of the King of Kings, God?
- Do you think that God loves you? How much does He love you? (have them show you with their arms how big God's love is for you).

Activity:

-  Act out a royal throne room scene where someone is playing the part of the King of Kings, God. Everyone else are children of the king. Show how the King of Kings loves them.