

11/18 – Overcome Study Guide

1 John 5:1-5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. 2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. 3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Sermon in a sentence: OPEN yourself to OBEY, and you will OVERCOME.

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

- What have been some of the most impactful moments so far from the series of 1 John?
- Why do so many people choose to never believe, or are walking away from belief that Jesus is the Christ?
 - Is the problem them, us, or a mixture? Why?
- Ask people to share about the time that believing in Jesus went from head knowledge to an understanding from the heart. OR if they still don't believe that, what are some of the big unanswered questions or things keeping them from that belief?
 - From this experience, what changed in your life? Was it immediate? How are you still being changed/transformed?

2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands.

- Why is God so concerned that we are 'loving His children'?
- When you think of commands, what comes to mind?
- Why does "commands" sometimes have a negative connotation?

3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

- Why can his commands seem like a burden at times?
- If His commands feel like a burden, does it mean we don't believe in Jesus?
- What does he mean by world, and why does God want us to overcome it?
- What are some moments in your life where you've "overcome" the world (been lifted from anxiety, stress, addiction, etc.)? What steps did you take to overcome? What are things in your life right now that you've can't overcome?

5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

- What is so important about overcoming the world?
- Why is belief such an important element to this passage?
- What are some things the group can be praying for, and how can we walk with you?