

WINTER SERMON SERIES

# 1 JOHN

LIGHT & LOVE

**LIFE**  
**GROUPS**

WEEK 10 • MAR 10

THE DARKENSS

IS PASSING

AWAY

**NORTHSHORE'S COMPELLING STATEMENT:** Hope changes everything.

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**ICE BREAKER:** The sign on the trail reads, “Extreme rattlesnake habitat. Proceed with caution.” Do you keep going or turn around?

## **BACKGROUND**

In John’s closing remarks, chapter 5 contains a testimony for Christ. If the letters and the stories were not enough, John shows that Jesus was their Savior and the Son of God coming by water and blood for their salvation. The reference to water is connected to water purification and baptism. The blood is linked to the temple sacrifice. The mention of water and blood together in Christ also signifies His death on the cross, and the soldier piercing His side (John 19:34). Anyone who believes this testimony has Christ and salvation.

Progressing further we see in verse 13 a mirror of the message given in chapter 1, verse 4. Our joy is complete through the gift of eternal life. Within this righteous life God hears and answers our prayers. John mentions praying for our brothers in sin, that God will give them life. A sacrifice was no longer needed for their sin. Jesus was the sacrifice that gave everyone who accepts Him the direct connection through prayer. This link between prayer, forgiveness, and healing is also seen in James 5:15. We are called to live a righteous life in Jesus, living in His wisdom and understanding.

## **REVIEW**

What was meaningful from the above context or the sermon from last Sunday?



**KEY VERSE:** 1 John 5:12

*Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

**READ:** 1 John 5:6-20



**HEAD LEVEL:** These questions help us to examine what the Word tells us.

1. What does 1 John 5:10b say regarding the person who does not believe God's testimony?
  - a. What testimony has God given (1 John 5:11)?
  - b. Who has eternal life? Who does not have eternal life (1 John 5:12)?
2. From 1 John 5:14, what confidence do we have? From the same verse, what is the qualification for God to hear our requests?

**DEEPER DISCOVERY**

- For John, "hearing" does not mean simply to be listened to, but to be heard favorably. From James 4:2-3, what are some of the reasons a person may not receive what they pray for?
  - The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. From Matthew 6:9-13, list what Jesus asked for.
3. From each of the following verses, of what encouraging truth does John remind us?

a. 1 John 5:18	d. 1 John 5:20b
b. 1 John 5:19	e. 1 John 5:20c
c. 1 John 5:20a	



**HEART LEVEL:** These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.

1. What are we directed to do in 1 John 5:16? What will be the result? What does this mean? How do you think this could be put into practice?
2. What is the *sin that leads to death* (v. 16b)? Why shouldn't we pray for that?



**HANDS LEVEL:** These questions help us commit to a next step and live it out in our everyday lives.

1. In this letter John gave many warnings, taught many deep truths, and gave much encouragement. Share with the group what you have learned or what has been most meaningful.
2. How do you pray *according to his will* (v. 14)? What prayer can we join you in today?



**MEMORY VERSE:** 1 John 5:14

*And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.*

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

(Please remember that these requests are confidential and need to stay within the group.)