# Kingdom Family

**V2.0**TW Kill

# God Is Light



1 John 1:5

# God Is Love



1 John 4:8 & 4:16

# God Is Life



"I am the way and the truth and the life. John 14: 6

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# **Dedication Page**

#### Dedication

Kingdom Family is dedicated to my parents, who introduced me to Jesus, "YOU MUST BE A FRIEND TO HAVE A FRIEND"

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR OF FIRST JOHN

This title represents the roles of God and the implications toward the saints made by John. This letter was to set truthful things straight then, from a radical heretical assault on the church by horrible corrupted church leaders. The Apostle John was met with false teaching, a politically correct revisionism that denied that Jesus actually came in the flesh, and denied He did actually atone for our sins. It appears Satan didn't waste any time infiltrating the church, falsifying factors, denying people direct access to God, to keep them under legal bondage.

First John was reported to rebuke Satan and His lies of Gnosticism and Docetism. Of course Satan tried to go after the two most important factors that Jesus accomplished;

- 1. virgin birth perfection to carry His Fathers blood that qualified Him for atonement
- 2. atonement that reconciled all humanity directly to God, breaking Satan's power

How do you prove the truth? By an eyewitness verbal and written report for all to see, read, and to then really know the truth. Judging from John's work here, Jesus had John stepping up and countering the satanic strategy being used within the church at that time.

John also addresses some other interesting factors;

- Christ's atonement was sufficient to reconcile God to mankind, and all humanity to each other, in complete unity, where we care for one another, not be at war
- Christ Himself is now advocating for all humanity now, on the throne
- Christianity has direct fellowship with God, unencumbered by human mediation
- Christianity has fellowship with one another, in unity, without divisiveness
- Christianity works within agape love, purity, holiness, obedience, and faith

#### ABOUT THE REPORTER

In 1990 I began to activate my faith with the intent to replicate Jesus' works, which, at that time I had very little knowledge of. Since then I have witnessed hundreds of miracles manifested by Jesus and Holy Spirit. I'm not the original "Mr. Nobody". I'm just one of many who are about our Fathers business, delivering solutions to those assigned to us, and reporting results.

I'm forwarding to as many who will embrace these simple practices to participate in Jesus' model. Instead of the lecture or conference model, and the endless repetition of denominational rhetoric, I'm relaying real truths downloaded from Holy Spirit, supported by scripture, to connect each to their own personal classroom. In this direct model, btw the same one Jesus used, freedom is retrieved, spirits and souls are edified, and new destinations are begun. Why a Holy Spirit classroom? A personal tutorial for each individual offers as fast or slow of a turn around as you desire. Also instant feedback!

Meditation is a highly touted model today by many experts. I'm taking it up to marinating, a deeper intentional time of devotion where Holy Spirit can have His way with us. Marinating is the act of

cleansing and preparing something (this time us), by the application of soaking in the Word, led by Holy Spirit with dialogue. As we marinate, the desired exchange is that we identify and overcome any deeper issues, and extract the fruit of the Spirit. Whatever your destination, blessings and success to you! TW Kill

#### THE FIRST BOOK OF JOHN COMMENTARY

God is light; God is love; and God is life. John is enjoying a delightful fellowship with the God of light, love, and life, and he desperately desires that we would enjoy the same fellowship.

God is light. Therefore, to engage in fellowship with Him we must walk in light and not in darkness. As we walk in the light, we will regularly confess our sins, allowing the blood of Christ to continually cleanse us. Christ will act as our defense attorney before the Father. Proof of our "walk in the light" will be keeping the commandments of God and replacing any hatred we have toward our brother with love. Two major roadblocks to hinder this walk will be falling in love with the world and falling for the alluring lies of false teachers.

God is love. Since we are His children we must walk in love. In fact, John says that if we do not love, we do not know God. Additionally, our love needs to be practical. Love is more than just words, it is actions. Love is giving, not getting. Biblical love is unconditional in its nature. It is an "in spite of" love. Christ's love fulfilled those qualities and when that brand of love characterizes us, we will be free of self-condemnation and experience confidence before God.

God is life. Those who fellowship with Him must possess His quality of life. Spiritual life begins with spiritual birth. Spiritual birth occurs through faith in Jesus Christ. Faith in Jesus Christ infuses us with God's life—eternal life. Therefore, one who walks in fellowship with God will walk in light, love, and life. *Thomas Nelson Open Bible Commentary* 

#### WHY THESE VERSIONS WERE SELECTED

The New International Version, New Living Version, Matthew Henry Commentary (written in 1706) and Thomas Nelson Open Bible Commentary were chosen because of their ability to relay the message God has given through John. One Bible teacher recommends; "Eat the hay and spit out the sticks". In other words, not everything is going to be for everybody, so take whatever you can and let it nourish you. Enjoy Kingdom Family and pass it on to others and be blessed!

#### God Is Ever-Cresting & Never Resting!

God is always absolute and never resting, is always everywhere, with power and answers for us. God is an awesome God, continuing to communicate to us in His revelation, inspiration and illumination to feed us and grow us up. This work of edification, exhortation and equipping is to help us renew, mature and be conformed to Jesus. We can till the soil of our hearts, plant and fertilize the seed, uproot the "old stumps" but it is God who gives us this "Zoe life" to grow up and produce fruit of the Spirit to be a light and to demonstrate Him to others.

- ➤ He must increase, but I must decrease. John 3:30, NASB.
- ➤ God also predestined saints to become conformed to the image of Jesus, Rom 8:29 NASB.
- ➤ Don't be conformed to this world; be transformed by the renewing of your mind, Rom 12:2, NASB.
- Saints grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, Ephesians 4:15, NASB.
- Saints plant and other saints water, but God causes the growth.1 Corinthians 3:6,7, NASB.

#### REASON - REGENERATION & RENEWAL PROCESS

This report was designed to facilitate growth toward overcoming and doing the natural and supernatural works of God. It's not meant for casual entertainment reading. I hope this process is immediately accretive, and adds benefits to you. I've witnessed that there are many "scores" that need to be settled within our heart, which can only be reached and settled by Holy Spirit, and by our intentional effort to slowly meditate on His truth. This time of meditation truly has the ability to marinate deeply into our mind and spirit, to relieve us of any blockages and help us grow, if and when we are attentive with application. Even though we are Brand New Creations in Christ, as saints, regeneration is the effort exerted to mortify carnality and edify our divine nature.

Regeneration is shown in righteousness (1 Jn 2:29–3:10), and righteousness is manifested in love (1 Jn 3:10–23). The practical expression of love results in assurance before God and answered prayers because the believer is walking in God's commandments to believe in Christ and love one another. Daily, worldly cares, problems, situations and interests can lead us away from God's light, love and life. Daily review of God's Word guarantees regeneration of God's light, love and life. "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." Rom 10:17.

Regeneration defined: To reform spiritually or morally, to form, construct, or create a new, to give new life or energy to; revitalize, to undergo spiritual conversion or rebirth; reform.

It has been reported widely that for new knowledge to take effect, multiple impressions, repeated review and meditation are required. First review of data has 10% retention, second review can earn 30% retention and a third review can earn up to 80% retention. Note that God's fourth pillar of Divine Nature is perseverance; "and in your self-control, perseverance". (2 Peter 1:6)

# **Love Test**

- 1. Take the love test....
- 2. Place your name on each line.
- 3. Then answer the question, True or False

--- You're the only one who will know! ---

You're the only one who will know!	
 Is Patient	True Or False
 Is Kind	True Or False
 Is Not Envious	True Or False
 Is Not Boastful	True Or False
 Is Not Arrogant	True Or False
 Is Not Rude	True Or False
 Does Not Insist On Own Way	True Or False
 Is Not Irritable Resentful	True Or False
 Does Not Rejoice In Wrongdoing	True Or False
 Rejoices In The Truth	True Or False
 Bears All Things	True Or False
 Believes All Things	True Or False
 Hopes All Things	True Or False
 Endures All Things	True Or False
 Never Ends or Quits	True Or False

#### WHAT LOVE IS NOT & WHAT LOVE IS

- Love Is Patient
- Love Is Kind

- Love Is Not Envious
- Love Is Not Boastful
- Love Is Not Arrogant
- Love Is Not Rude
- Love Does Not Insist On Its Own Way
- Love Is Not Irritable Or Resentful
- Love Does Not Rejoice In Wrongdoing
- Love Rejoices In The Truth
- Love Bears All Things
- Love Believes All Things
- Love Hopes All Things
- Love Endures All Things
- Love Never Ends

#### LOVE SCRIPTURES

- ➤ 'Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but <u>love your neighbour</u> as yourself. I am the LORD." Leviticus 19:18, NIV.
- "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."
  Deuteronomy 6:5, NIV.
- because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in." Proverbs 3:12, NIV.
- "I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me." Proverbs 8:17, NIV.
- > "A friend loves at all times," Proverbs 17:17, NIV.
- ➤ "Hate evil, <u>love good</u>; maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the LORD God Almighty will have mercy on the remnant of Joseph." Amos 5:15, NIV.
- ➤ "But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you," Matthew 5:44, NIV.
- ➤ 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" Matthew 22:39, NIV.
- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16, NIV.
- ➤ "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for <u>God loves</u> a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV.
- ➤ "and <u>live a life of love</u>, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:2, NIV.

# 1 John Chapter One

# Pre-Chapter Quiz

What are the conditions for fellowship with God?

1.  $\underline{\mathbf{W}}$  \_ \_ in the \_ \_ \_ \_ (1:7), have fellowship with \_ \_ \_ \_ . (1:7)

2. <u>C</u>\_\_\_\_\_ our\_\_\_\_. (1:9)



This epistle is a discourse upon the principles of Christianity, in doctrine and practice. The design appears to be, to refute and guard against erroneous and unholy tenets, principles, and practices, especially such as would lower the Godhead of Christ, and the reality and power of his sufferings and death, as an atoning sacrifice; and against the assertion that believers being saved by grace, are not required to obey the commandments. This epistle also stirs up all who profess to know God, to have communion with him, and to believe in him, and that they walk in holiness, not in sin, showing that a mere outward profession is nothing, without the evidence of a holy life and conduct. It also helps forward and excites real Christians to communion with God and the Lord Jesus Christ, to constancy in the true faith, and to purity of life. *Matthew Henry Commentary 1706* 



#### FULL CIRCLE CHRISTIANITY

John joins the concepts he has presented into a circular chain of six links that begins with love for the brethren (4:20–5:17):

- 1. Love for believers is the inseparable product of love for God (4:20–5:1).
- 2. Love for God arises out of obedience to His commandments (5:2,3).
- 3. Obedience to God is a result of faith in His son (5:4, 5).
- 4. This faith in Jesus, who was the Christ not only at His baptism (the water), but also at His Death (the blood; 5:6–8).
- 5. The divine witness to the person of Christ is worthy of complete belief (5:9–13).
- 6. This belief produces confident access to God in prayer (5:14–17).

Since intercessory prayer is a manifestation of love for others, the chain has come full circle.



#### 1 JOHN CHAPTER ONE • INTRODUCTION

The apostle prefaces his epistle to believers in general, with evident testimonies to Christ, for promoting their happiness and joy. (1-4) The necessity of a life of holiness, in order to commune with God, is shown. (5-10)

1. That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched-this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

- 2. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.
- 3. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.
- 4. We write this to make our joy complete. NIV

1 The one who existed from the beginning is the one we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is Jesus Christ, the Word of life. 2 This one who is life from God was shown to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and announce to you that he is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then he was shown to us. 3 We are telling you about what we ourselves have actually seen and heard, so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We are writing these things so that our joy will be complete. NLV

MHC 1-4 That essential Good, that uncreated Excellence, which had been from the beginning, from eternity, as equal with the Father, and which at length appeared in human nature for the salvation of sinners, was the great subject concerning which the apostle wrote to his brethren. The apostles had seen Him while they witnessed his wisdom and holiness, his miracles, and love and mercy, during some years, till they saw him crucified for sinners, and afterwards risen from the dead. They touched him, so as to have full proof of his resurrection. This Divine Person, the Word of life, the Word of God, appeared in human nature, that he might be the Author and Giver of eternal life to mankind, through the redemption of his blood, and the influence of his new-creating Spirit. The apostles declared what they had seen and heard, that believers might share their comforts and everlasting advantages. They had free access to God the Father. They had a happy experience of the truth in their souls, and showed its excellence in their lives. This communion of believers with the Father and the Son, is begun and kept up by the influences of the Holy Spirit. The benefits Christ bestows, are not like the scanty possessions of the world, causing jealousies in others; but the joy and happiness of communion with God is all-sufficient, so that any number may partake of it; and all who are warranted to say, that truly their fellowship is with the Father, will desire to lead others to partake of the same blessedness.

#### THE CONDITION FOR FELLOWSHIP • LIVING IN THE LIGHT

- 5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.
- 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.
- But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

- 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His word has no place in our lives. NIV

5 This is the message he has given us to announce to you: God is light and there is no darkness in him at all. 6 So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness. We are not living in the truth. 7 But if we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ is, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from every sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts. NLV

1:9 **Confession** One of the most remarkable chapters in the Old Testament is Psalm 51. This Psalm contains the actual words of confession uttered by King David after his great sins of adultery and murder (2 Sam. 11).

This prayer can serve as a pattern to the Christian when he is guilty of sin in his life today.

- a) David begins his prayer by freely admitting his sin (Ps. 51:3, 4). This honesty is vital in our confession. God will graciously forgive all our sins, but not on account of our excuses.
- b) He then displays real sorrow over his sin (Ps. 51:1 7). Paul writes (2 Cor. 7:10) that the main characteristic of true confession is godly sorrow.
- c) He asks God's forgiveness (Ps. 51:1, 7-9).
- d) He believes that God has heard him and will restore him (Ps. 51:12-15).

In the New Testament the most important single verse concerning confession is First John 1:9. In essence John tells us the means of forgiveness and cleansing is the blood of Christ, while the method of this forgiveness and cleansing is the confession of the Christian.

Like David, we must admit our sin, regret the actions of our sin, plead the blood of Christ, and believe that God has indeed done what He promised, namely, to cleanse us from sin and restore us to fellowship and service. *Open Bible Thomas Nelson Commentary* 

MHC 5-10 A message from the Lord Jesus, the Word of life, the eternal Word, we should all gladly receive. The great God should be represented to this dark world, as pure and perfect light. As this is the nature of God, his doctrines and precepts must be such. And as his perfect happiness cannot be separated from his perfect holiness, so our happiness will be in proportion to our being made holy. To walk in darkness, is to live and act against religion. God holds no heavenly fellowship or intercourse with unholy souls. There is no truth in their profession; their practice shows its folly and falsehood. The eternal Life, the eternal Son, put on flesh and blood, and died to wash us from our sins in his own blood, and procures for us the sacred influences by which sin is to be subdued more and more, till it is quite done away. While the necessity of a holy walk is insisted upon, as the effect and evidence of the knowledge of God in Christ Jesus, the opposite error of self-righteous pride is guarded against with equal care. All who walk near to God, in holiness and righteousness, are sensible that their best days and duties are mixed with sin. God has given testimony to the sinfulness of the world, by providing a sufficient, effectual Sacrifice for sin, needed in all ages; and the sinfulness of believers themselves is shown, by requiring them continually to confess their sins, and to apply by faith to the blood of that Sacrifice. Let us plead guilty before God, be humble, and willing to know the worst of our case. Let us honestly confess all our sins in their full extent, relying wholly on his mercy and truth through the

righteousness of Christ, for a free and full forgiveness, and our deliverance from the power and practice of sin.

## RECAP POINTS Q & A & RETENTION SECTION

This exercise is to reaffirm the main points of this chapter and develop our spiritual esteem.

Who did John and others hear, see, touch and proclaim to us? Why did John proclaim and write what they saw and heard? What is God?	Vs 3 & 4
If we walk in the light, who do we have fellowship with?  How do we deceive ourselves?	Vs 6 & 7 Vs 8
When we confess sin, does God forgive us and purify us from all unrighteousness?	
Q & A Fill-In The Answers Consider making copies of the Q&A sections before you mark them. Practice makes perfect. Recommend 3 X's.	
"That which was from the, which we have, which we have with our	,
which we have at and our hands havethis we proclaim concerning the Word	of life."
1 John 1:1, NIV.	
"This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is; in him there is no at" 1 John 1:5, NIV.	
" we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we and do live by the	
1 John 1:6, NIV.	
"But we walk in the, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with, and	d the blood
of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from	
"If we claim to be without, we ourselves and the truth is not in" 1 John 1:8, NIV.	
" we our sins, he is faithful and just and will us our and purify us from	om
unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9, NIV.	

And as his perfect happiness cannot be separated from his perfect holiness, so o happiness will be in proportion
to our being m holy. MHC 5-10
God holds no heavenly f or intercourse with u souls. MHC 5-10
s is to be s more and more, till it is quite d away. MHC 5-10
$\underline{A}_{}$ who walk near to $\underline{G}_{}$ , in holiness and righteousness, are sensible that their best days and duties are
<u>m</u> with sin. MHC 5-10

#### PRAYER AND PRO-ACTIVE GUIDANCE

Father, I thank you for John who proclaimed and testified of Jesus. He declares to me he has seen and heard Jesus so that I have fellowship with You, Jesus, Holy Spirit, and other believers. In declaring this, John's joy was completed, as mine is as I declare to others. Father, You are light, my light and I claim fellowship with You and I walk in Your light and have fellowship with many others, because Jesus' blood purifies me from all sin. I do not claim to be without sin. I confess my sins and You are faithful to forgive all my unrighteousness and sins. Your word is active in my life. I choose You. Amen

# 1 John Chapter Two

### Pre-Chapter Quiz

What are other conditions for fellowship with God?	
1. We know that we have come to him if we His commands. (2:3)	
2. Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one: <u>L</u> <u>one-</u>	(2:7-14)
3 you know that everyone who $\underline{d}$ what is $\underline{r}$ has been $\underline{b}$ of Him. (2:29)	

The apostle directs to the atonement of Christ for help against sinful infirmities. (1,2) The effects of saving knowledge in producing obedience, and love to the brethren. (3-11) Christians are addressed as little children, young men, and fathers. (12-14) All are cautioned against the love of this world, and against errors. (15-23) They are encouraged to stand fast in faith and holiness. (24-29)

- 1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
- 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and <u>not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.</u> NIV

1 My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if you do sin, there is someone to plead for you before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who pleases God completely. 2 He is the sacrifice for our sins. He takes away not only our sins but the sins of all the world. NLV

MHC 1,2 We have an Advocate with the Father; one who has undertaken, and is fully able, to plead in behalf of everyone who applies for pardon and salvation in his name, depending on his pleading for them. He is "Jesus," the Saviour, and "Christ," the Messiah, the Anointed. He alone is "the Righteous One," who received his nature pure from sin, and as our Surety perfectly obeyed the law of God, and so fulfilled all righteousness. All men, in every land, and through successive generations, are invited to come to God through this all-sufficient atonement, and by this new and living way. The gospel, when rightly understood and received, sets the heart against all sin, and stops the allowed practice of it; at the same time it gives blessed relief to the wounded consciences of those who have sinned.

#### OBEDIENCE TO HIS COMMANDMENTS

- We know that we have come to know him if we obey His commands.
- 4 The man who says, "I know Him," but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
- 5 But if anyone obeys His word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in Him:
- 6 Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did.

3 And how can we be sure that we belong to him? By obeying his commandments. 4 If someone says, "I belong to God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and does not live in the truth. 5 But those who obey God's word really do love him. That is the way to know whether or not we live in him. 6 Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Christ did.

MHC 3-11 What knowledge of Christ can that be, which sees not that he is most worthy of our entire obedience? And a disobedient life shows there is neither religion nor honesty in the professor. The love of God is perfected in him that keeps his commandments. God's grace in him attains its true mark, and produces its sovereign effect as far as may be in this world, and this is man's regeneration; though never absolutely perfect here. Yet this observing Christ's commands, has holiness and excellency which, if universal, would make the earth resemble heaven itself. The command to love one another had been in force from the beginning of the world; but it might be called a new command as given to Christians. It was new in them, as their situation was new in respect of its motives, rules, and obligations. And those who walk in hatred and enmity to believers remain in a dark state. Christian love teaches us to value our brother's soul, and to dread everything hurtful to his purity and peace.

Where spiritual darkness dwells, in mind, the judgment, and the conscience will be darkened, and will mistake the way to heavenly life. These things demand serious self-examination; and earnest prayer, that God would show us what we are, and whither we are going.

#### LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER

- Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard.
- 8 Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in Him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.
- 9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness.
- 10 Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble.
- 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.
- 12 I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of His name.
- 13 I write to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father.
- 14 I write to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one. NIV

7 Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment, for it is an old one you have always had, right from the beginning. This commandment--to love one another--is the same message you heard before. 8 Yet it is also new. This commandment is true in Christ and is true among you, because the darkness is disappearing and the true light is already shining. 9 If anyone says, "I am living in the light," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is still living in darkness. 10 Anyone who loves other Christians is living in the light and does not cause anyone to stumble. 11 Anyone who hates a Christian brother or sister is

living and walking in darkness. Such a person is lost, having been blinded by the darkness. 12 I am writing to you, my dear children, because your sins have been forgiven because of Jesus. 13 I am writing to you who are mature because you know Christ, the one who is from the beginning. I am writing to you who are young because you have won your battle with Satan. 14 I have written to you, children, because you have known the Father. I have written to you who are mature because you know Christ, the one who is from the beginning. NLV EXT 1# = I have written to you who are young because you are strong with God's word living in your hearts, and you have won your battle with Satan. NLV

MHC 12-14 As Christians have their peculiar states, so they have peculiar duties; but there are precepts and obedience common to all, particularly <u>mutual love</u>, and <u>contempt of the world</u>. The youngest sincere disciple is pardoned: the communion of saints is attended with the forgiveness of sins. Those of the longest standing in Christ's school need further advice and instruction. Even fathers must be written unto, and preached unto; none are too old to learn. But especially young men in Christ Jesus, though they are arrived at strength of spirit and sound sense, and have successfully <u>resisted first trials</u> and temptations, breaking off bad habits and connexions, and entered in at the strait gate of true <u>conversion</u>. The different descriptions of Christians are again addressed. Children in Christ know that God is their Father; it is wisdom. Those advanced believers, who know Him that was from the beginning, before this world was made, may well be led thereby to give up this world. It will be the glory of young persons to be strong in Christ, and his grace. By the word of God they overcome the wicked one.

### LOVE OF THE WORLD

- 15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him
  - You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Jam 4:4
- 16 For everything in the world--the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does--comes not from the Father but from the world.
- 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.
- 15 Stop loving this evil world and all that it offers you, for when you love the world, you show that you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16 For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions. These are not from the Father. They are from this evil world. 17 And this world is fading away, along with everything it craves. But if you do the will of God, you will live forever. NLV
- 2:15 **Temptation by the World**—The term world does not always refer to the universe as created by God. It often is used to describe the community of sinful humanity that possesses a spirit of rebellion against God (1 John 5:19). Because of its opposition to God, the world values those things which are contrary to God's will: "the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life" (1 John 2:16). Its temptations to the believer are thus twofold: lust for the sensual and pride in mastery of his own life.

The attraction of the world is amplified by Satan who is head of its system. He is called the "ruler of this world" (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11), and the whole world is said to be under his power (1 John 5:19). Some of the tragic effects that love of the world will produce in the believer's life are:

- a) A turning away from the Lord's work and other believers (2 Tim. 4:10);
- b) Alienation from God (James 4:4)
- c) Corrupting sins (2 Pet.1 :4; 1 John 2:15-17)
- d) Deception by false teachers (1 John 4:1, 2 John 7).

The solution to the love of the world is to have a greater love for the Father (1 John 2:15). The Christian who seeks daily to please God in everything and who strives for spiritual growth through prayer, study of God's Word and witnessing need not fall prey to the temptations of the world. *Open Bible Thomas Nelson Commentary* 

MHC 15-17 The things of the world may be desired and possessed for the uses and purposes which God intended, and they are to be used by his grace, and to his glory; but believers must not seek or value them for those purposes to which sin abuses them. The world draws the heart from God; and the more the love of the world prevails, the more the love of God decays.

The things of the world are classed according to the three ruling inclinations of depraved nature.

- 1. The lust of the flesh, of the body: wrong desires of the heart, the appetite of indulging all things that excite and inflame sensual pleasures.
- 2. The lust of the eyes: the eyes are delighted with riches and rich possessions; this is the lust of covetousness.
- 3. The pride of life: a vain man craves the grandeur and pomp of a vain-glorious life; this includes thirst after honour and applause. The things of the world quickly fade and die away; desire itself will ere long fail and cease, but holy affection is not like the lust that passes away.

The love of God shall never fail. Many vain efforts have been made to evade the force of this passage by limitations, distinctions, or exceptions. Many have tried to show how far we may be carnally-minded, and love the world; but the plain meaning of these verses cannot easily be mistaken. Unless this victory over the world is begun in the heart, a man has no root in himself, but will fall away, or at most remain an unfruitful professor. Yet these vanities are so alluring to the corruption in our hearts, that without constant watching and prayer, we cannot escape the world, or obtain victory over the god and prince of it.

#### SPIRIT OF THE ANTICHRIST

- 18 Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour.
- 19 They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.
- 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.
- 21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth.
- 22 Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist--he denies the Father and the Son.
- 23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

18 Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know

that the end of the world has come. 19 These people left our churches because they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left us, it proved that they do not belong with us. 20 But you are not like that, for the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and all of you know the truth. 21 So I am writing to you not because you don't know the truth but because you know the difference between truth and falsehood. 22 And who is the great liar? The one who says that Jesus is

not the Christ. Such people are antichrists, for they have denied the Father and the Son. 23 Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father either. But anyone who confesses the Son has the Father also.

MHC 18-23 Every man is an antichrist, who denies the Person, or any of the offices of Christ; and in denying the Son, he denies the Father also, and has no part in his favour while he rejects his great salvation. Let this prophecy that seducers would rise in the Christian world, keep us from being seduced. The church knows not well who are its true members, and who are not, but thus true Christians were proved, and rendered more watchful and humble. True Christians are anointed ones; their names expresses this: they are anointed with grace, with gifts and spiritual privileges, by the Holy Spirit of grace. The great and most hurtful lies that the father of lies spreads in the world, usually are falsehoods and errors relating to the person of Christ. The unction from the Holy One, alone can keep us from delusions. While we judge favourably of all who trust in Christ as the Divine Saviour, and obey his word, and seek to live in union with them, let us pity and pray for those who deny the Godhead of Christ, or his atonement, and the new-creating work of the Holy Ghost. Let us protest against such antichristian doctrine, and keep from them as much as we may.

#### PURITY OF LIFE

- 24 See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.
- 25 And this is what He promised us--even eternal life.
- 26 I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray.
- 27 As for you, the anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as His anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit--just as it has taught you, remain in Him.
- 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. NIV

24 So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will continue to live in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. 25 And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us. 26 I have written these things to you because you need to be aware of those who want to lead you astray. 27 But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you all things, and what he teaches is true--it is not a lie. So continue in what he has taught you, and continue to live in Christ. 28 And now, dear children, continue to live in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage

and not shrink back from him in shame. 29 Since we know that God is always right, we also know that all who do what is right are his children. NLV

MHC 24-29 The truth of Christ, abiding in us, is a means to sever from sin, and unites us to the Son of God. John 15:3 & 4\*. What value should we put upon gospel truth! Thereby the promise of eternal life is made sure. The promise God makes, is suitable to his own greatness, power, and goodness; it is eternal life. The Spirit of truth will not lie; and he teaches all things in the present dispensation, all things necessary to our knowledge of God in Christ, and their glory in the gospel. The apostle repeats the kind words, "little children;" which denotes his affection. He would persuade by love. Gospel privileges oblige to gospel duties; and those anointed by the Lord Jesus abide with him. The new spiritual nature is from the Lord Christ. He that is constant to the practice of religion in trying times, shows that he is born from above, from the Lord Christ. Then, let us beware of holding the truth in unrighteousness, remembering that those only are born of God, who bear his holy image, and walk in his most righteous ways.

\*"You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me." John 15:3,4, NIV.

#### RECAP POINTS Q & A & RETENTION SECTION

This exercise is to reaffirm the main points of this chapter and develop our spiritual esteem.

Vs 1
Vs 2
Vs 3 - 6
Vs 7
Vs 8
Vs 9 - 11
Vs 12 -14
Vs 15 - 17
Vs 18
Vs 19
Vs 20 –21
Vs 22 - 23
Vs 24 - 26
Vs 27
Vs 28
Vs 29

#### Q & A Fill-In The Answers

Consider making copies of the Q&A sections before you mark them. Practice makes perfect. Recommend 3 X's.

"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will \_ \_ \_ sin. But if anybody \_ \_ \_ \_ sin, we have one who speaks

to the Father in our \_ \_ \_ \_-Jesus Christ, the Righteous One." 1 John 2:1, NIV.

"He is the	sacrifice for our	, and not only for	but also for the sins of the	ne world."
1 John 2:2, NIV.				
"_ know that	_ have come to him	n if we his	" 1 John 2:3, NIV.	
But if o	obeys His , God's _	is truly made con	nplete in him. This is how we	: we are
Him 1 John 2	2:5, NIV.			
" who _	to be in the ligh	t but hates his brother is	still in the" 1	I John 2:9, NIV.
"love	es his brother lives in the _	, and there is no	thing in him to make him $\_$ $\_$	" 2:10
"But	hates his brother is in the	and walk	ss around in the	; he does not
know where he is	going, because the	has blinded hir	m." 1 John 2:11, NIV.	
"Do not th	e world or i	in the world anyone	loves the world, the love of	the is
not in him." 1 Joh	n 2:15, NIV.			
"For everything in	the worldthe	of sinful man, the _	of his eyes and the	of what
he has and does-	comes from the Fa	ther but from the	" 1 John 2:16, NIV.	
"They out	from us, but they did not r	eally to us. F	or if they had	to us, they would
have	with us; but their	showed that none of	them to us."	1 John 2:19, NIV.
But you have rece	eived the Spirit, an	d he lives yo	u, so you don't need	to teach you
what is true. For t	the Spirit you	things, and what h	e teaches is it is n	ot a lie. So continue
in what he has	you, and continue	e to in Christ. Jo	ohn 2:27, NLV.	
Since we know th	nat God is always right, we	also know that wh	o what is are h	is children. 29 NLV
The gospel, wher	n understood	and received, the	e heart against all , and	d the
allowed practice of	of it; at the same time it giv	ves blessed to	the wounded consciences	of those who have
MHC	1-2			

The love of God is	in him that	his commandments.	MHC 3-11	
Where spiritual	_ dwells, in mind, the judg	ment, and the conscie	nce will be	, and will
mistake the way to	life. These things d_	serious <u>s</u>	examination; and	earnest prayer,
that God would show us $\underline{\mathbf{w}}$ _	we are, and whither w	e are g MHC 3	3-11	
The things of the world are of	classed according to the thr	ree ruling inclinations o	of depraved nature.	
1. The lust of the flesh, of	the body: wrong desires of	the <u>h</u> , the appe	etite of indulging all t	hings that excite
and inflame $\underline{s}$ ple	easures.			
2. The lust of the eyes: the	e eyes are delighted with r	and rich poss	essions; this is the <u>l</u>	of
covetousness.				
3. The pride of life: a vain	man craves the grandeur a	nd p of a vain-glo	orious life; this includ	des <u>t</u>
after honour and applause.	The things of the w	quickly fade and die av	way; desire itself wil	l ere long fail and
cease, but holy affection is r	not like the lust that passes	away. MHC 15-17		
Unless this victory over the	world is begun in the h	, a man has no <u>r</u> _	in himself, but w	rill <u>f</u> away, or
at most remain an unfruitful	p Yet these	e vanities are so allurir	ng to the corruption i	n our hearts, that
without constant watching a	nd prayer, we cannot escap	be the world, or obtain	<u>v</u> over th	e god and prince
of it. MHC 15-17				
Every man is an <u>a</u>	, who denies the Pe	rson, or $\underline{a}$ of the of	fices of Christ; and i	n denying the Son,
he denies the Father also, a	nd has <u>n</u> _ part in his favou	ır while he rejects his g	great <u>s</u>	18-23
The <u>t</u> of Christ, <u>a</u>	in us, is a <u>m</u>	_ to <u>s</u> from sin,	and unites us to the	<u>S</u> of <u>G</u> ,
MHC 24-29				
Gospel po	blige to gospel d;	and those anointed by	the Lord Jesus <u>a</u> _	with him.
MHC 24-29				

#### PRAYER AND PRO-ACTIVE GUIDANCE

Father I don't want to practice sin. But if I do fall, Jesus speaks to the You in my defense. Jesus is my atoning sacrifice for all my sins and even those of the whole world. Thank you Jesus. I exercise my right to obey Your commands, to know You and to be made complete in You as I live in You. I choose to love Your bride, live in Your light and become an overcomer. I seek Your face and do not love anything in this world.; no craving, no lust, no boasting. I plan on deploying Your plan for my life and will not leave. My anointing from Holy Spirit teaches me about all things regarding You. Jesus' words remain in me. I will not be led astray. I know that Jesus is righteous and everyone who does right is born of him.

# **1 John Chapter Three**

Pre-Chapter Quiz	
What are characteristics of Godly	y fellowship?
1. Practice of <u>r</u>	(3:4-12)
2. Love one another in D & T _	(3:13-24 section header)
	,

The apostle admires the love of God in making believers his children. (1,2) The purifying influence of the hope of seeing Christ, and the danger of pretending to this, and living in sin. (3-10) Love to the brethren is the character of real Christians. (11-15) That love described by its actings. (16-21) The advantage of faith, love, and obedience. (22-24)

#### LIVING AS CHILDREN OF GOD

- 1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
- 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 He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.
- 3 Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. NIV
- 1 See how very much our heavenly Father loves us, for he allows us to be called his children, and we really are! But the people who belong to this world don't know God, so they don't understand that we are his children. 2 Yes, dear friends, we are already God's children, and we can't even imagine what we will be like when Christ returns. But we do know that when he comes we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. 3 And all who believe this will keep themselves pure, just as Christ is pure. NLV
- 3:2 **Placed into God's Family**—In a general sense all men and women are the offspring of God in that He is the Creator (Acts 17:28, 29). This relationship, however, is not sufficient to offset the penalty of sin. Therefore, for a sinful person to become a child of God, a miraculous transformation must take place. The Bible refers to this change as being "born again" (John 3:3). When an individual places his faith in Christ as Savior, he is born again into a new, spiritual family relationship with God (Gal 3:26). He gains God as Father (Eph. 4:6) and other Christians as brothers and sisters (Heb.3:1). It is significant to note that the term "love of the brethren," which Christians are commanded to have for each other (Heb.13:1), is never used in the Greek language to refer to loving others as though they were your brothers. Rather, it is always used of loving those who actually are your brothers. So it is in the Christian faith: we actually are brothers and sisters with other Christians.

Not only are Christians the children of God by spiritual birth; they are adopted as well (Eph.1:5). This figure implies a dramatic transformation of status from slave to son (Gal. 4:1-5). One is no longer

in bondage to the master but becomes a free son possessing all the rights and privileges of sonship. One of these benefits is the right to call God Abba, an affectionate term meaning "father" (Rom. 8:15). This marvelous relationship carries responsibilities with it, as well as privileges. Everyone who has the hope of having his sonship perfected someday is presently purifying his own life. Since he bears the family relationship to God, he must also exhibit the family character. *Open Bible Thomas Nelson Commentary* 

MHC 1,2 Little does the world know of the happiness of the real followers of Christ. Little does the world think that these poor, humble, despised ones, are favourites of God, and will dwell in heaven. Let the followers of Christ be content with hard fare here, since they are in a land of strangers, where their Lord was so badly treated before them. The sons of God must walk by faith, and live by hope. They may well wait in faith, hope, and earnest desire, for the revelation of the Lord Jesus. The sons of God will be known, and be made manifest by likeness to their Head. They shall be transformed into the same image, by their view of him.

#### PRACTICE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- 4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.
- 5 But you know that He appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in Him is no sin.
- 6 No one who lives in Him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen Him or known Him.
- 7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as He is righteous.
- 8 He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.
- No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.
- 10 This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

4 Those who sin are opposed to the law of God, for all sin opposes the law of God. 5 And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, for there is no sin in him. 6 So if we continue to live in him, we won't sin either. But those who keep on sinning have never known him or understood who he is. 7 Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it is because they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. 8 But when people keep on sinning, it shows they belong to the Devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy these works of the Devil. 9 Those who have been born into God's family do not sin, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they have been born of God. 10 So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the Devil. Anyone who does not obey God's commands and does not love other Christians does not belong to God. NLV

MHC 3-10 The sons of God know that their Lord is of purer eyes than to allow anything unholy and impure to dwell with him. It is the hope of hypocrites, not of the sons of God, that makes allowance for gratifying impure desires and lusts. May we be followers of him as his dear children, thus show our sense of his unspeakable mercy, and express that obedient, grateful, humble mind which becomes us. Sin is the rejecting the Divine law. In him, that is, in Christ, was no sin. All the sinless weaknesses that

were consequences of the fall, he took; that is, all those infirmities of mind or body which subject man to suffering, and expose him to temptation. But our moral infirmities, our proneness to sin, he had not. He that abides in Christ, continues not in the practice of sin.

Renouncing sin is the great proof of spiritual union with, continuance in, and saving knowledge of the Lord Christ. Beware of self-deceit. He that doeth righteousness is righteous, and to be a follower of Christ, shows an interest by faith in his obedience and sufferings. But a man cannot act like the devil, and at the same time be a disciple of Christ Jesus. Let us not serve or indulge what the Son of God came to destroy. To be born of God is to be inwardly renewed by the power of the Spirit of God. Renewing grace is an abiding principle. Religion is not an art, a matter of dexterity and skill, but a new nature. And the regenerate person cannot sin as he did before he was born of God, and as others do who are not born again. There is that light in his mind, which shows him the evil and malignity of sin. There is that bias upon his heart, which disposes him to loathe and hate sin. There is the spiritual principle that opposes sinful acts. And there is repentance for sin, if committed. It goes against him to sin with forethought.

The children of God and the children of the devil have their distinct characters. The seed of the serpent are known by neglect of religion, and by their hating real Christians. He only is righteous before God, as a justified believer, who is taught and disposed to righteousness by the Holy Spirit. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil. May all professors of the gospel lay these truths to heart, and try themselves by them.

#### LOVE ONE ANOTHER IN DEED AND TRUTH

- 11 This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.
- 12 Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. NIV
- 13 Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you.
- ➤ "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. (John 15:18, NASB).
- ➤ "But they have done this in order that the word may be fulfilled that is written in their Law, 'THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.' (John 15:25, NASB).
- 14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.
- > "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. (John 5:24, NIV).
- 15 Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in Him. ""You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca,' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell." Matthew 5:21,22, NIV.

11 This is the message we have heard from the beginning: We should love one another. 12 We must not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? Because Cain had been doing what was evil, and his brother had been doing what was right. 13 So don't be surprised, dear brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. 14 If we love our Christian brothers and sisters, it proves that we have passed from death to eternal life. But a person who has no love is still dead. 15 Anyone who hates another Christian is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don't have eternal life within them.

MHC 11-15 We should love the Lord Jesus, value his love, and therefore love all our brethren in Christ. This love is the special fruit of our faith, and a certain sign of our being born again. But none who rightly know the heart of man, can wonder at the contempt and enmity of ungodly people against the children of God. We know that we are passed from death to life: we may know it by the evidences of our faith in Christ, of which love to our brethren is one. It is not zeal for a party in the common religion, or affection for those who are of the same name and sentiments with ourselves. The life of grace in the heart of a regenerate person, is the beginning and first principle of a life of glory, whereof they must be destitute who hate their brother in their hearts.

#### THE MYSTERY OF DIVINE LOVE

- 16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.
- 17 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?
- 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.
- 19 This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in His presence
- 20 whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything.
- 21 Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God

16 We know what real love is because Christ gave up his life for us. And so we also ought to give up our lives for our Christian brothers and sisters. 17 But if anyone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need and refuses to help--how can God's love be in that person? 18 Dear children, let us stop just saying we love each other; let us really show it by our actions. 19 It is by our actions that we know we are living in the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before the Lord, 20 even if our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21 Dear friends, if our conscience is clear, we can come to God with bold confidence.

MHC 16-21 Here is the condescension, the miracle, the mystery of Divine love, that God would redeem the church with his own blood. Surely we should love those whom God has loved, and so loved. The Holy Spirit, grieved at selfishness, will leave the selfish heart without comfort, and full of darkness and terror. By what can it be known that a man has a true sense of the love of Christ for perishing sinners, or that the love of God has been planted in his heart by the Holy Spirit, if the love of the world and its good overcomes the feelings of compassion to a perishing brother? Every instance of this selfishness must weaken the evidences of a man's conversion; when habitual and allowed, it must decide against him. If conscience condemn us in known sin, or the neglect of known duty, God does so too. Let conscience therefore be well-informed, be heard, and diligently attended to.

#### ASK WHAT YOU WOULD

- 22 and receive from Him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases Him.
- 23 And this is His command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us.
- 24 Those who obey His commands live in Him, and He in them. And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us. NIV

22 And we will receive whatever we request because we obey him and do the things that please him. 23 And this is his commandment: We must believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as he commanded us. 24 Those who obey God's commandments live in fellowship with him, and he with them. And we know he lives in us because the Holy Spirit lives in us.NLV

3:24 Witness of the Spirit—While it is true that one need not always feel spiritual to have new life in Christ, nevertheless, feelings and emotions do play a vital role in our salvation. Both Paul (Rom. 8:16) and John (1 John 3:24) inform us we can experience that inner witness of the Holy Spirit to our spirit. What does this mean? It means we can enjoy the quiet confidence given by the Spirit that we have indeed passed from death unto life (John 5:24). It means we can now approach the mighty Creator of the vast universe and refer to Him as Abba, Father (Rom. 8:15). Abba is a very personal and intimate term for one's father. Prior to Pentecost only Christ had used the title for God (Mark 14:36). It is almost akin to our modern title daddy or papa. It not only means we can approach the throne of grace with a holy boldness (Heb. 4: 16), but we can also experience the blessing of knowing that the Father will hear and answer our prayers (1 John 3:22). *Open Bible Thomas Nelson Commentary* 

MHC 22-24 When believers had confidence towards God, through the Spirit of adoption, and by faith in the great High Priest, they might ask what they would of their reconciled Father. They would receive it, if good for them. And as good-will to men was proclaimed from heaven, so good-will to men, particularly to the brethren, must be in the hearts of those who go to God and heaven. He who thus follows Christ, dwells in Him as his ark, refuge, and rest, and in the Father through him. This union between Christ and the souls of believers, is by the Spirit he has given them. A man may believe that God is gracious before he knows it; yet when faith has laid hold on the promises, it sets reason to work. This Spirit of God works a change; in all true Christians it changes from the power of Satan to the power of God. Consider, believer, how it changes thy heart. Dost not thou long for peace with God? Wouldst thou not forego all the world for it? No profit, pleasure, or preferment shall hinder thee from following Christ. This salvation is built upon Divine testimony, even the Spirit of God.

#### RECAP POINTS Q & A & RETENTION SECTION

This exercise is to reaffirm the main points of this chapter and develop your spiritual esteem.

What does the Father call us and why doesn't the world recognize us?	Vs 1 - 2
Must all the children of God keep themselves pure?	Vs 3
What do people do who oppose the law of God?	Vs 4
What did Jesus take away from us?	Vs 5
Do those who keep the practice of sinning really know Jesus?	Vs 6 - 9
How do we really know who the children of God and the children of the devil are?	Vs 10
What is the original message?	Vs 11 - 12
Should we be surprised that the world hates us?	Vs 13
When do we pass from death to life?	Vs 14 -15
How do we know what love is?	Vs 16
What type of truth and action should we love with?	Vs 17 - 18
Do my actions let me know I am living in the truth?	Vs 19 - 22
What specifically is God' command?	Vs 23 – 24

#### Q & A Fill-In The Answers

Consider making copies of the Q&A sections before you mark them. Practice makes perfect. Recommend 3 X's. "How great is the \_ \_ \_ the Father has \_ \_ \_ on us, that we should be called of God! And that is what we \_\_\_\_! The reason the world does not \_\_\_\_ us is that it did not know him." 1 John 3:1, NIV. who has this in Him himself, just as He is ." 1 John 3:3, NIV. who sins breaks the law; in fact, is lawlessness." 1 John 3:4, NIV. "But you know that he appeared so that he might \_ \_ \_ away our sins. And in him is \_ \_ sin." 1 John 3:5, NIV. "\_\_ one who \_\_\_\_ in him \_\_\_\_ on sinning. No one who \_\_\_\_ to sin has either seen him or known him." 1 John 3:6, NIV. "Dear children, do not let \_\_\_\_ lead you astray. He who \_\_\_ what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous." 1 John 3:7, NIV. "\_\_ who \_ \_ \_ what is \_ \_ \_ \_ is of the \_ \_ \_ \_ , because the devil has been \_ \_ \_ \_ from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to \_\_\_\_\_ the devil's work." 1 John 3:8, NIV. "\_\_ one who is born of God will \_\_\_\_\_ to sin, because God's seed \_\_\_\_ in him; he \_\_\_\_ go on sinning, because he \_\_\_ born of God." 1 John 3:9, NIV. "This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: who does not \_\_ what is \_\_\_\_ is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ ." 1 John 3:10, NIV. "Do not be \_\_\_\_\_, my brothers, if the world \_\_\_\_ you." 1 John 3:13, NIV. "\_\_ know that \_\_ have \_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_ to life, because we \_\_\_ our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in \_ \_ \_ ... 1 John 3:14, NIV. "\_\_\_\_\_ who hates his brother is a \_\_\_\_\_, and you know that no murderer has \_\_\_\_ life in him." 1 John 3:15, NIV.

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ	his life for us. And we ought to our
for our brothers." 1 John 3:16, NIV.	
"If has material and _	his brother in but has no on him, how
can the of God be in him?" 1 John 3:17, NIV.	
"Dear children, let us not with or	but with and in" 1 John 3:18,
NIV.	
Dear children, let us stop just we love eac	h other; let us really show it by our 18 NLV
Dear friends, if our conscience is, we can co	ome to with bold confidence. 1 John 3:21, NLV.
"and from him we ask, be	ecause we his and _ what pleases
him." 1 John 3:22, NIV.	
" who obey His commands in Him, ar	nd He in And this is how we know that He ir
us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us." 1 John 3:24	, NIV.
""You have heard that it was said to the people long	ago, 'Do not m , and anyone who murders will be
subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is	$\underline{a}_{}$ with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again,
anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca,' is answerable	e to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ' $\underline{Y}_{}$ $\underline{f}_{}$ !'
will be in danger of the fire of hell." Matthew 5:21,22,	NIV.
Everyone who has the of having his sonship _	someday is presently his own
life. Open Bible Thomas Nelson Commentary	
It is the hope of $\underline{h}$ , not of the $\underline{s}$	of God, that makes <u>a</u> for g
impure desires and lusts. MHC 3-10	
All the <u>s</u> weaknesses that were <u>c</u>	of the $\underline{f}$ , he took; that is, all those infirmities
of m or b which subject man to suffering, a	and expose him to temptation. MHC 3-10

But a man cannot <u>a</u> _ like the <u>d</u> , and at the same <u>t</u> be a disciple of Christ Jesus. MHC 3-10
Religion is an art, a matter of dexterity and skill, but a new MHC 3-10
And the regenerate person <u>c</u> sin as he did <u>b</u> he was <u>b</u> of God, and as others <u>d</u> who are
n born again. MHC 3-10
The children of God and the children of the devil have their distinct characters. The seed of the serpent are known
by $\underline{n}$ of religion, and by their $\underline{h}$ real Christians. He only is righteous before God, as a justified
believer, who is $\underline{t}$ and $\underline{d}$ to righteousness by the Holy Spirit. In $\underline{t}$ the children of God
$\underline{a}$ manifest, and the children of the devil. May all professors of the gospel lay these truths to heart, and $\underline{t}$
themselves <u>b</u> _ them. MHC 3-10
Both Paul (Rom. 8:16) and John (1 John 3:24) inform us we can experience that of the
Holy Spirit to our What does this mean? It means we can enjoy the quiet given by
the Spirit that we have indeed from unto life (John 5:24). Open Bible Thomas Nelson
Commentary
This Spirit of God $\underline{w}$ a change; in all $\underline{t}$ Christians it changes from the power of $\underline{S}$ to the power of
<u>G</u> MHC 22-24

#### PRAYER AND PRO-ACTIVE GUIDANCE

I am a child of God! Thanks for lavishing me, with your great love. Too bad the world doesn't know You. I purify myself and stay away from temptation and sin. Jesus, thanks for taking away my sins. The reason You appeared was to destroy the devil's work. Now that I am born of God I refrain from sin, because Your seed remains in me. I simply continue to stop practicing sinning. I enjoy loving my brothers and sisters in study, helping and fellowship and know that I have passed from death to life because of this. My material possessions can now help other's as I love with actions and truth, not just words. This then is how I know that I belong to the truth, and how I set my heart at rest in Your presence and have confidence before You and receive from You anything I ask, because I obey Your commands and do what pleases You. I believe in the name of Jesus Christ, love His bride and know that I feel presence of Holy Spirit often. I'm loving it!

# **1 John Chapter Four**

#### Pre-Chapter Quiz

What are other characteristics of	of Godly f	ellowship?
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- 1. Testing the  $S_{-}$  (4:1-6)
- 2. Love as Christ <u>1</u> (4:7-5:3)



Believers cautioned against giving heed to everyone that pretends to the Spirit. (1-6) Brotherly love enforced. (7-21)

#### TESTING THE SPIRITS & DISCERNING FALSE PROPHETS

- 1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- 2 This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,
- 3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.
- 4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.
- 5 They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.
- 6 We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

1 Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. 2 This is the way to find out if they have the Spirit of God: If a prophet acknowledges that Jesus Christ became a human being, that person has the Spirit of God. 3 If a prophet does not acknowledge Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist. You have heard that he is going to come into the world, and he is already here. 4 But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won your fight with these false prophets, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world. 5 These people belong to this world, so they speak from the world's viewpoint, and the world listens to them. 6 But we belong to God; that is why those who know God listen to us. If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception.

**MHC 1-6** Christians who are well acquainted with the Scriptures, may, in humble dependence on Divine teaching, discern those who set forth doctrines according to the apostles, and those who

contradict them. The sum of revealed religion is in the doctrine concerning Christ, his person and office. The false teachers spake of the world according to its maxims and tastes, so as not to offend carnal men. The world approved them, they made rapid progress, and had many followers such as themselves; the world will love its own, and its own will love it. The true doctrine as to the Saviour's person, as leading men from the world to God, is a mark of the spirit of truth in opposition to the spirit of error. The more pure and holy any doctrine is, the more likely to be of God; nor can we by any other rules try the spirits whether they are of God or not. And what wonder is it, that people of a worldly spirit should cleave to those who are like themselves, and suit their schemes and discourses to their corrupt taste?

#### LOVE AS CHRIST LOVED

- 7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
- 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him.
- 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
- 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
- 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.
- 13 We know that we live in Him and He in us, because He has given us of his Spirit.

7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 But anyone who does not love does not know God--for God is love. 9 God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. 10 This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. 12 No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love has been brought to full expression through us. 13 And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us.

MHC 7-13 The Spirit of God is the Spirit of love. He that does not love the image of God in his people, has no saving knowledge of God. For it is God's nature to be kind, and to give happiness. The law of God is love; and all would have been perfectly happy, had all obeyed it. The provision of the gospel, for the forgiveness of sin, and the salvation of sinners, consistently with God's glory and justice, shows that God is love. Mystery and darkness rest upon many things yet. God has so shown himself to be love, that we cannot come short of eternal happiness, unless through unbelief and impenitence, although strict justice would condemn us to hopeless misery, because we break our Creator's laws. None of our words or thoughts can do justice to the free, astonishing love of a holy God towards sinners, who could not profit or harm him, whom he might justly crush in a moment, and whose deserving of his vengeance was shown in the method by which they were saved, though he could by his almighty Word have created other worlds, with more perfect beings, if he had seen fit. Search we the whole universe for love in its most glorious displays? It is to be found in the person and the cross of Christ.

Does love exist between God and sinners? Here was the origin, not that we loved God, but that he freely loved us. His love could not be designed to be fruitless upon us, and when its proper end and issue

are gained and produced, it may be said to be perfected. So faith is perfected by its works. Thus it will appear that God dwells in us by his new-creating Spirit. A loving Christian is a perfect Christian; set him to any good duty, and he is perfect to it, he is expert at it. Love oils the wheels of his affections, and sets him on that which is helpful to his brethren. A man that goes about a business with ill will, always does it badly. That God dwells in us and we in him, were words too high for mortals to use, had not God put them before us. But how may it be known whether the testimony to this does proceed from the Holy Ghost? Those who are truly persuaded that they are the sons of God, cannot but call him Abba, Father. From love to him, they hate sin, and whatever disagrees with his will, and they have a sound and hearty desire to do his will. Such testimony is the testimony of the Holy Ghost.

#### GOD WILLED CHRIST COMING INTO THIS WORLD

- 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world.
- 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.
- 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.
- 17 In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like Him.
- 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
- 19 We love because He first loved us.
- 20 If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.
- 21 And He has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

14 Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 All who proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. 16 We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in him. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. 17 And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we are like Christ here in this world. 18 Such love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us. 19 We love each other as a result of his loving us first. 20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we have not seen? 21 And God himself has commanded that we must love not only him but our Christian brothers and sisters, too. NLV

MHC 14-21 The Father sent the Son, he willed his coming into this world. The apostle attests this. And whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. This confession includes faith in the heart as the foundation; makes acknowledgment with the mouth to the glory of God and Christ, and profession in the life and conduct, against the flatteries and frowns of the world. There must be a day of universal judgment. Happy those who shall have holy boldness before the Judge at that day; knowing he is their Friend and Advocate! Happy those who have holy boldness in the prospect of that day, who look and wait for it, and for the Judge's appearance! True love to God assures

believers of God's love to them. Love teaches us to suffer for him and with him; therefore we may trust that we shall also be glorified with him, 2Ti 2:12. We must distinguish between the fear of God and being afraid of him; the fear of God imports high regard and veneration for God. Obedience and good works, done from the principle of love, are not like the servile toil of one who unwillingly labours from dread of a master's anger. They are like that of a dutiful child, who does services to a beloved father, which benefit his brethren, and are done willingly. It is a sign that our love is far from perfect, when our doubts, fears, and apprehensions of God, are many. Let heaven and earth stand amazed at his love. He sent his word to invite sinners to partake of this great salvation. Let them take the comfort of the happy change wrought in them, while they give him the glory. The love of God in Christ, in the hearts of Christians from the Spirit of adoption, is the great proof of conversion. This must be tried by its effects on their temper, and their conduct to their brethren. If a man professes to love God, and yet indulges anger or revenge, or shows a selfish disposition, he gives his profession the lie. But if it is plain that our natural enmity is changed into affection and gratitude, let us bless the name of our God for this seal and earnest of eternal happiness. Then we differ from the false professors, who pretend to love God, whom they have not seen, yet hate their brethren, whom they have seen.

### RECAP POINTS Q & A & RETENTION SECTION

This exercise is to reaffirm the main points of this chapter and develop our spiritual esteem.

Should we believe every spirit or test the spirits? Why?	Vs 1
How do we find out if someone has the spirit of God?	Vs 2 - 3
Where am I from?	Vs 4
Where are they from?	
Where are we from? Who listens to us?	
Who should we love?	Vs 7
What is God?	Vs 8
How did God show His love?	Vs 9 –11
If we love one another where does God live?	Vs 12
How do we know we live in Him and He in us?	Vs 13
Who sent whom to be savior?	Vs 14
Who must we acknowledge in order for God to live in us?	Vs 15
What do we rely on?	
What effect does this reliance have?	Vs 17
What drives out fear?	Vs 18
Why do we love each other?	Vs 19
Who is the liar?	Vs 20
Whoever loves God must also love who?	Vs 21
Q & A Fill-In The Answers  Consider making copies of the Q&A sections before you mark them. Practice makes perfect Recommend 3 X's.  "Dear friends, do not believe every, but test the to see whether they are from	

NIV

"This is how you can the of God: Every spirit that	_ that Jesus
Christ has come in the is from God," 1 John 4:2, NIV.	
"You, dear children, from God and have them, because the who is in	_ is greater
than the who is in the" 1 John 4:4, NIV.	
"This is how God showed his among us: He his one and only Son into the world that through him." 1 John 4:9, NIV.	we might
"This is : not that we God, but that he us and sent his Son as an	sacrifice for
our" 1 John 4:10, NIV.	
"If anyone in him and he in God."	' 1 John 4:15,
NIV.	
"And so we and on the love God has for us. G $\underline{i}$ _ $\underline{l}$ Whoever lives in	lives in God
and God in him." 1 John 4:16, NIV.	
"There is no in love. But perfect drives out , because fear has to do with	·
The one who is not made perfect in" 1 John 4:18, NIV.	
" love because loved us." 1 John 4:19, NIV.	
"If anyone says, "I God," yet his brother, he is a For anyone who does	_ love his
brother, whom he has seen, love God, whom he has seen." 1 John 4:20, NIV.	
Christians who are $\underline{w}$ acquainted with the $\underline{S}$ , may, in humble dependence on	<u>D</u>
teaching, $\underline{d}$ those who $\underline{s}$ forth doctrines according to the apostles, and $\underline{t}$ where $\underline{t}$	no
<u>c</u> them. MHC 1-6	
The $\underline{t}$ doctrine as to the Saviour's person, as $\underline{l}$ men from the world $\underline{t}$ _ God, is a $\underline{m}$ _	of the spirit
of in opposition to the spirit of MHC 1-6	

The <u>l</u> of God is love; and all would have been perfectly happy, had all <u>o</u> it. The provision of the
g , for the forgiveness of $\underline{s}$ , and the salvation of $\underline{s}$ , consistently with God's glory and
justice, shows that God is I MHC 7-13
Search we the whole universe for <u>l</u> in its most glorious displays? It is to be found in the p and the
<u>c</u> of Christ. MHC 7-13
A I Christian is a p Christian; set him to a good duty, and he is p to it, he is
$\underline{e}$ at it. Love $\underline{o}$ the wheels of his affections, and $\underline{s}$ him on that which is helpful to his
<u>b</u> . A man that <u>g</u> about a business with <u>i</u> will, always does it <u>b</u> . MHC 7-13
This confession includes $\underline{f}$ in the heart as the foundation; makes acknowledgment with the $\underline{m}$ to the
glory of God and Christ, and profession in the $\underline{l}$ and $\underline{c}$ , against the flatteries and frowns of the
world. MHC 14-21
Love $\underline{t}$ us to suffer for $\underline{H}$ _ and with $\underline{H}$ _ ; therefore we may $\underline{t}$ that we shall also be glorified with
<u>H</u> , MHC 14-21
Let heaven and earth stand $\underline{a}$ at his $\underline{l}$ He sent his word to invite $\underline{s}$ to partake of this great
<u>s</u> MHC 14-21
The love of God in Christ, in the $\underline{h}$ of Christians from the Spirit of $\underline{a}$ , is the great $\underline{p}$ of
conversion. This must be $\underline{t}$ by its effects on their $\underline{t}$ , and their $\underline{c}$ to their brethren. The love
of God in Christ, in the hearts of Christians from the Spirit of adoption, is the great proof of conversion. This must be
tried by its effects on their temper, and their conduct to their brethren. If a man professes to love God, and yet
indulges <u>a</u> or <u>r</u> , or shows a <u>s</u> disposition, he gives his profession the <u>l</u> MHC 14-
21

#### PRAYER AND PRO-ACTIVE GUIDANCE

Holy Spirit, I practice discernment and test every spirit because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how I can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God and is the spirit of the antichrist. I am from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in me is greater than the one who is in the world. Jesus, thank you for showing me how to love others, for love comes from You, not that I loved You, but that You loved me first and sent Your Son as an atoning sacrifice for my sins. I acknowledge Jesus is Your Son, in this way love is made complete in me. Perfect love drives out fear and fear has to do with punishment. Since the blood of Jesus (perfect love) has absorbed my punishment, fear is gone. I know this because I love God and His bride. My confidence continues in You and less in the world. Praise You almighty and wonderful Lord!

## **1 John Chapter Five**

## Pre-Chapter Quiz

1. Victory over the $\underline{W}$ (5	:4-5)
2. Assurance of <u>S</u>	(5:6-13)
3. <u>G</u> in prayer (5:14	4-17)
4. Freedom from Habitual <u>S</u>	(5:18-21)

Brotherly love is the effect of the new birth, which makes obedience to all God's commandments pleasant. (1-5) Reference to witnesses agreeing to prove that Jesus, the Son of God, is the true Messiah. (6-8) The satisfaction the believer has about Christ, and eternal life through him. (9-12) The assurance of God's hearing and answering prayer. (13-17) The happy condition of true believers, and a charge to renounce all idolatry.(18-21)

### FAITH IN THE SON OF GOD

- 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 This is love for God: to obey His commands. And His commands are not burdensome, NIV
- 1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. 2 We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments. 3 Loving God means keeping his commandments, and really, that isn't difficult. NLV

### VICTORY OVER THE WORLD

- 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 he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. NIV
- 4 For every child of God defeats this evil world by trusting Christ to give the victory. 5 And the ones who win this battle against the world are the ones who believe that Jesus is the Son of God. NLV
- MHC 1-5 True love for the people of God, may be distinguished from natural kindness or party attachments, by its being united with the love of God, and obedience to his commands. The same Holy Spirit that taught the love, will have taught obedience also; and that man cannot truly love the children of God, who, by habit, commits sin or neglects known duty. As God's commands are holy, just, and

good rules of liberty and happiness, so those who are born of God and love him, do not count them grievous, but lament that they cannot serve him more perfectly. Self-denial is required, but true Christians have a principle which carries them above all hinderances. Though the conflict often is sharp, and the regenerate may be cast down, yet he will rise up and renew his combat with resolution. But all, except believers in Christ, are enslaved in some respect or other, to the customs, opinions, or interests of the world. Faith is the cause of victory, the means, the instrument, the spiritual armour by which we overcome. In and by faith we cleave to Christ, in contempt of, and in opposition to the world. Faith sanctifies the heart, and purifies it from those sensual lusts by which the world obtains sway and dominion over souls. It has the indwelling Spirit of grace, which is greater than he who dwells in the world. The real Christian overcomes the world by faith; he sees, in and by the life and conduct of the Lord Jesus on earth, that this world is to be renounced and overcome. He cannot be satisfied with this world, but looks beyond it, and is still tending, striving, and pressing toward heaven. We must all, after Christ's example, overcome the world, or it will overcome us to our ruin.

### ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

- 6 This is the one who came by water and blood--Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.
- 7 For there are three that testify:
- 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. NIV

6 And Jesus Christ was revealed as God's Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross--not by water only, but by water and blood. And the Spirit also gives us the testimony that this is true. 7 So we have these three witnesses-- 8 the Spirit, the water, and the blood--and all three agree. NLV

"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one." 1 John 5:7,8, KJV.

MHC 6-8 We are inwardly and outwardly defiled; inwardly, by the power and pollution of sin in our nature. For our cleansing there is in and by Christ Jesus, the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost. Some think that the two sacraments are here meant: baptism with water, as the outward sign of regeneration, and purifying from the pollution of sin by the Holy Spirit; and the Lord's supper, as the outward sign of the shedding Christ's blood, and the receiving him by faith for pardon and justification. Both these ways of cleansing were represented in the old ceremonial sacrifices and cleansings. This water and blood include all that is necessary to our salvation.

By the water, our souls are washed and purified for heaven and the habitation of saints in light. By the blood, we are justified, reconciled, and presented righteous to God. By the blood, the curse of the law being satisfied, the purifying Spirit is obtained for the internal cleansing of our natures. The water, as well as the blood, came out of the side of the sacrificed Redeemer. He loved the church, and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word; that he might present it to himself a glorious church, Eph 5:25-27. This was done in and by the Spirit of God, according to the Saviour's declaration. He is the Spirit of God, and cannot lie. Three had borne witness to these doctrines concerning the person and the salvation of Christ. The Father, repeatedly, by a voice from heaven declared that Jesus was his beloved Son. The Word declared that He and the Father were One, and that whoever had seen him had seen the Father. And the Holy Ghost, who descended from

heaven and rested on Christ at his baptism; who had borne witness to Him by all the prophets; and gave testimony to his resurrection and mediatorial office, by the gift of miraculous powers to the apostles. But whether this passage be cited or not, the doctrine of the Trinity in Unity stands equally firm and certain.

To the doctrine taught by the apostles, respecting the person and salvation of Christ, there were three testimonies

- 1. The Holy Spirit. We come into the world with a corrupt, carnal disposition, which is enmity to God. This being done away by the regeneration and new-creating of souls by the Holy Spirit, is a testimony to the Saviour.
- 2. The water: this sets forth the Saviour's purity and purifying power. The actual and active purity and holiness of his disciples are represented by baptism.
- 3. The blood which he shed: and this was our ransom, this testifies for Jesus Christ; it sealed up and finished the sacrifices of the Old Testament. The benefits procured by his blood, prove that he is the Saviour of the world. No wonder if he that rejects this evidence is judged a blasphemer of the Spirit of God. These three witnesses are for one and the same purpose; they agree in one and the same thing.

### BELIEVE GOD'S TESTIMONY ABOUT HIS SON

- 9 We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which He has given about his Son.
- 10 Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made Him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.
- 11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.
- 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. NIV

9 Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son. 10 All who believe in the Son of God know that this is true. Those who don't believe this are actually calling God a liar because they don't believe what God has testified about his Son. 11 And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 So whoever has God's Son has life; whoever does not have his Son does not have life. NLV

MHC 9-12 Nothing can be more absurd than the conduct of those who doubt as to the truth of Christianity, while in the common affairs of life they do not hesitate to proceed on human testimony, and would deem any one out of his senses who declined to do so. The real Christian has seen his guilt and misery, and his need of such a Saviour. He has seen the suitableness of such a Saviour to all his spiritual wants and circumstances. He has found and felt the power of the word and doctrine of Christ, humbling, healing, quickening, and comforting his soul. He has a new disposition, and new delights, and is not the man that he formerly was. Yet he finds still a conflict with himself, with sin, with the flesh, the world, and wicked powers. But he finds such strength from faith in Christ, that he can overcome the world, and travel on towards a better. Such assurance has the gospel believer: he has a witness in himself, which puts the matter out of doubt with him, except in hours of darkness or conflict; but he cannot be argued out of his belief in the leading truths of the gospel. Here is what makes the unbeliever's sin so awful; the sin of unbelief. He gives God the lie; because he believes not the record that God gave of his Son. It is in vain for a man to plead that he believes the testimony of God in other things, while he rejects it in this. He that refuses to trust and honour Christ as the Son of God, who disdains to submit to

his teaching as Prophet, to rely on his atonement and intercession as High Priest, or to obey him as King, is dead in sin, under condemnation; nor will any outward morality, learning, forms, notions, or confidences avail him

### **GUIDANCE IN PRAYER**

- 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that <u>you may know</u> that you have eternal life.
- 14 This is the <u>confidence we have in approaching God</u>: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
- 15 And if we know that He hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of Him.
- 16 If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that.
- 17 All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death. NIV

13 I write this to you who believe in the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. 14 And we can be confident that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will. 15 And if we know he is listening when we make our requests, we can be sure that he will give us what we ask for. 16 If you see a Christian brother or sister sinning in a way that does not lead to death, you should pray, and God will give that person life. But there is a sin that leads to death, and I am not saying you should pray for those who commit it. 17 Every wrong is sin, but not all sin leads to death. NLV

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." 1 John 5:13, KJV.

"If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it." 1 John 5:16, KJV.

MHC 13-17 Upon all this evidence, it is but right that we believe on the name of the Son of God. Believers have eternal life in the covenant of the gospel. Then let us thankfully receive the record of Scripture. Always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that our labour is not in vain in the Lord. The Lord Christ invites us to come to him in all circumstances, with our supplications and requests, notwithstanding the sin that besets us. Our prayers must always be offered in submission to the will of God. In some things they are speedily answered; in others they are granted in the best manner, though not as requested. We ought to pray for others, as well as for ourselves. There are sins that war against spiritual life in the soul, and the life above. We cannot pray that the sins of the impenitent and unbelieving should, while they are such, be forgiven them; or that mercy, which supposes the forgiveness of sins, should be granted to them, while they wilfully continue such. But we may pray for their repentance, for their being enriched with faith in Christ, and thereupon for all other saving mercies. We should pray for others, as well as for ourselves, beseeching the Lord to pardon and recover the fallen, as well as to relieve the tempted and afflicted. And let us be truly thankful that no sin, of which any one truly repents, is unto death.

### FREEDOM FROM HABITUAL SINS

- 18 We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him.
- 19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.
- 20 We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him Who is true. And we are in Him Who is true--even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
- 21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. NIV

18 We know that those who have become part of God's family do not make a practice of sinning, for God's Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot get his hands on them. 19 We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the power and control of the evil one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we are in God because we are in his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and he is eternal life. 21 Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts. NLV

MHC 18-21 All mankind are divided into two parties or dominions; that which belongs to God, and that which belongs to the wicked one. True believers belong to God: they are of God, and from him, and to him, and for him; while the rest, by far the greater number, are in the power of the wicked one; they do his works, and support his cause. This general declaration includes all unbelievers, whatever their profession, station, or situation, or by whatever name they may be called. The Son leads believers to the Father, and they are in the love and favour of both; in union with both, by the indwelling and working of the Holy Spirit. Happy are those to whom it is given to know that the Son of God is come, and to have a heart to trust in and rely on him that is true! May this be our privilege; we shall thus be kept from all idols and false doctrines, and from the idolatrous love of worldly objects, and be kept by the power of God, through faith, unto eternal salvation. To this living and true God, be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

### PRACTICE OF LIBERTY; LOVE ONE ANOTHER

"For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." But if you bite and devour one another, take care lest you be consumed by one another." Galatians 5:13-15, NASB.

SERVING: God intended that the Christian life should be dynamic, not static. We should sit under the teaching of the Word of God, understand and apply its meaning and implications, and serve God and our fellow believers. The Spirit of God has given us spiritual gifts, but those gifts are worthless unless they are put to use in the service of God and His church. Paul often uses the figure of the human body to show the dependence of the members of the body upon one another and the importance of each member serving the other. While some members of the body have more prominent places of service than others, all are equally important. The worst thing that can happen to the human body is for one of its members to become nonfunctioning. Paralysis, sickness, deterioration, and sometimes death occur when a body member ceases to serve the other members of the body in the particular way that God intended. To

maintain strength, health, and vitality, every member of the body must function and serve all the other members of the body. This is also true of the spiritual or new life. We will grow in the new life, become strong, and maintain good spiritual health as we use the talents and abilities that God has given us to meet the needs of the other members of the body. Open Bible Commentary

## RECAP POINTS Q & A & RETENTION SECTION

This exercise is to reaffirm the main points of this chapter and develop our spiritual esteem.

How do know that we love the children of God?	Who is born of Go	d?			Vs 1
Which three are in agreement both in Heaven and on earth					
What is the testimony?					
What is my responsibility when I see a brother commit sin?					
Do believers continue to practice sinning?	What are the four a	acknowledgem	ent dynamics for belie	evers?	Vs 13 - 15
Do believers continue to practice sinning?	What is my respon	sibility when l	see a brother commit	sin?	Vs 16 - 17
Who controls the whole world?					
What is John's final warning?	Who controls the v	vhole world?.			Vs 19
What is John's final warning?	Why did Jesus con	ne to give us u	nderstanding?		Vs 20
Consider making copies of the Q&A sections before you mark them. Practice makes perfect. Recommend 3 X's.  "Everyone who that Jesus is the Christ is of God, and everyone who loves the father loves this as well." 1 John 5:1, NIV.  "This is how we that we the children of God: by God and out his commands." 1 John 5:2, NIV.  " is it that the world? Only he who that Jesus is the of God." 1 John 5: NIV.  "This is the one who came by andJesus Christ. He did not come by only, but by and And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the" 1 John 5:6, NIV.  "For there are three that testify: the , the and the ; and the three are in" 1 John 5:7-8, NIV.					
his as well." 1 John 5:1, NIV.  "This is how we that we the children of God: by God and out his commands." 1 John 5:2, NIV.  " is it that the world? Only he who that Jesus is the of God." 1 John 5:  NIV.  "This is the one who came by andJesus Christ. He did not come by only, but by and And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the" 1 John 5:6, NIV.  "For there are three that testify: the , the and the ; and the three are in" 1 John 5:7-8, NIV.	Consider making o	opies of the Q	&A sections before yo	ou mark them. Practice mak	tes perfect.
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"For there are three that testify: the, the and the; and the three are in" 1 John 5:7-8, NIV.	"This is the one who	came by	andJesus	Christ. He did not come by _	only, but by
" 1 John 5:7-8, NIV.	and	And it is the Spi	rit who testifies, because	the Spirit is the 1	John 5:6, NIV.
	"For there are three	that testify: the _	, the	and the ; and the thr	ee are in
'And this is the : God has given us life, and this life is in his" 1 John 5:11,	" 1 Jo	ohn 5:7-8, NIV.			
	"And this is the	: Go	od has given us	life, and this life is in his _	" 1 John 5:11,

" wno nas tn	ne Son has	; he who does	have the Son of God does _	_ have life." 1 John 5:12,
"This is the con	fidence we hav	e in approaching God:	that if we anything accord	rding to his , he
us." 1 John 5:1	4, NIV.			
And if we	_ that He hears	swhatever we	we know that we v	what we asked of Him. 1 John
5:15, NIV.				
"All	is	, and there $\_\_$ sin tha	t does lead to death." 1 J	ohn 5:17, NIV.
"We know that	bor	n of God does not	to sin; the one who	was born of God keeps him
safe, and the e	vil one cannot h	arm him." 1 John 5:18	, NIV.	
"We als	o that the	of God has come and	has given us	, so that we may
him who is	And we ar	e in him who is truee	ven in his Son Jesus Christ. H	e is the true and
	" 1 Johr	5:20, NIV.		
True <u>I</u> for	the people of G	od, may be distinguish	ned from <u>n</u> kindnes	s or <u>p</u> attachments, by
its being united			to his commands. The	same Holy Spirit that taught the
	with the love o			same Holy Spirit that taught the
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$\underline{d}$ , and new delights, and is $\underline{n}$ _ the $\underline{m}$ _ that he formerly was. Yet he finds still a conflict with
himself, with $\underline{s}$ , with the $\underline{f}$ , the $\underline{w}$ , and wicked powers. But he finds such strength from $\underline{f}$ in
Christ, that he can overcome the world, and travel on towards a better. MHC 9-12
He that <u>r</u> to trust and honour Christ as the Son of God, who <u>d</u> to submit to his <u>t</u>
as Prophet, to rely on his $\underline{a}$ and intercession as High Priest, or to $\underline{o}$ him as King, is $\underline{d}$ in
$\sin, \underline{u}$ condemnation; nor will any outward morality, learning, forms, notions, or confidences avail him. MHC
9-12
We $\underline{c}$ pray that the $\underline{s}$ of the impenitent and unbelieving should, while they are such, be $\underline{f}$
them; or that mercy, which supposes the forgiveness of sins, should be $\underline{g}$ to them, while they
$\underline{w}$ continue such. But we $\underline{m}$ _ pray for their $\underline{r}$ , for their being enriched with $\underline{f}$ in
Christ, and thereupon for all other saving m MHC 13-17
All mankind are <u>d</u> into two parties or dominions; that which belongs to <u>G</u> , and that which belongs to
the $\underline{w}$ one. $\underline{t}$ believers belong $\underline{t}$ _ God: they are $\underline{o}$ _ God, and $\underline{f}$ him, and $\underline{t}$ _ him, and for him;
while the rest, by far the $\underline{g}$ number, are in the power of the wicked one; they $\underline{d}$ _ his works, and
<u>s</u> his cause. MHC 18-21

### PRAYER AND PRO-ACTIVE GUIDANCE

Father, I believe Jesus is the Christ so I know I am born of You. I care about obeying your commands and about pleasing you. Your faith has helped me overcome the world and given me victory over sin and in righteousness and purity. My testimony is You (Father) have given me eternal life, and this life is in Your Son. My confidence in approaching You God is that if I ask anything according to Your will, You hear me and I know that I have what I asked of You. If I see a brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, I will pray and You will give him life. Being born of God witnesses to me to not continue to sin; You keep me safe, and the evil one cannot harm him.

### PERSONAL COMMENTARY

In the world man gets gratification (either self or from others) from being right, winning or being superior (real or perceived). In the Kingdom man is instructed to love others and hold them as more important than ourselves. We do not have to be right, nor win at everything, nor be superior. Those ribbons and trophies fade but friends and loved ones never fade. Jesus big secret was to love others, not judge them and enjoy them for who they are.

Kingdom Family is about God's love. Here are some additional thoughts for your edification and encouragement.

- Agape love is the best delivery system to deliver Jesus and the gifts of Holy Spirit.
- Agape is guided and powered by Holy Spirit and packaged and flavored in our own personalities, talent, knowledge and wisdom.
- Abundant agape love and zoe life is obtained directly from Holy Spirit as a gift.
- With hunger and desire we can draw near to God & He will draw near to us, filling us more with His presence, peace, prosperity, and His life to help us fulfill our destiny.
- ➤ In English or in tongues, worship or word, you will be edified, filled and changed. In order to change your wants to His wants we must ask, draw near and receive that change.

Have you ever wondered just where do our thoughts come from? Our thoughts come from spiritual, intellectual, emotional and experiential environment and personal historical references. You may say, "this is what I know (is truth to me) so this is what I have my faith in. I believe what I know to be true and accurate and what I have experienced." Remember people respond by how they have been trained, they do what they believe. They are sincere about it too! People act in conformity to how they believe. Actions demonstrate belief.

How do I change my thought references? Override old references with truer truth by meditation, speaking and acting on that new truth. Knowledge with understanding builds faith in the new truth, changing our belief, direction and grants you ability (power) to become an overcomer. Speaking and acting on new wisdom sets new spiritual dynamics in motion, closes door to old ways (if you choose) and opens doors to new ways that you have selected. These practices can furnish you with a mindset like Jesus or His disciples. Why don't we have a mindset like them, for miracles? Maybe it is because we reflect what we believe and what/who we abide in.

At your very own discretion, take time to talk with Holy Spirit, meditate on scripture to dedicate yourself to God, demonstrate the gospel and deploy God's plan for your life.

## **Bonus Chapter - The Real Love Chapter**

Love is a very deep subject for many of us today, so in order to acquire better subjective understanding; I am adding both 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians Chapter 13 along with Matthew Henry Commentary. Love is the secret key God has provided to humanity to access and bestow grace, mercy, the gifts, and abundant life.

MHC Chapter 13 The necessity and advantage of the grace of love. (1-3) Its excellency represented by its properties and effects; (4-7) and by its abiding, and its superiority. (8-13)

## 1 Corinthians Chapter 13 Amplified

- ➤ 1 IF I [can] speak in the tongues of men and [even] of angels, but have not love (that reasoning, intentional, spiritual devotion such as is inspired by God's love for and in us), I am only a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
- ➤ 2 And if I have prophetic powers the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), and understand all the secret truths and mysteries and possess all knowledge, and if I have [sufficient] faith so that I can remove mountains, but have not love (God's love in me) I am nothing (a useless nobody).
- > 3 Even if I dole out all that I have [to the poor in providing] food, and if I surrender my body to be burned or in order that I may glory, but have not love (God's love in me), I gain nothing.
- MHC 1-3 The excellent way had in view in the close of the former chapter, is not what is meant by charity in our common use of the word, alms giving, but love in its fullest meaning; true love to God and man. Without this, the most glorious gifts are of no account to us, of no esteem in the sight of God. A clear head and a deep understanding are of no value without a benevolent and charitable heart. There may be an open and lavish hand, where there is not a liberal and charitable heart. Doing good to others will do none to us, if it be not done from love to God, and good-will to men. If we give away all we have, while we withhold the heart from God, it will not profit. Nor even the most painful sufferings. How are those deluded who look for acceptance and reward for their good works, which are as scanty and defective as they are corrupt and selfish!
- ➤ 4 Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily.
- > 5 It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong].
- ➤ 6 It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail.
- ➤ 7 Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].

MHC #4-7 Some of the effects of charity are stated, that we may know whether we have this grace; and that if we have not, we may not rest till we have it. This love is a clear proof of regeneration, and is a touchstone of our professed faith in Christ. In this beautiful description of the nature and effects of love, it is meant to show the Corinthians that their conduct had, in many respects, been a contrast to it. Charity is an utter enemy to selfishness; it does not desire or seek its own praise, or honour, or profit, or

pleasure. Not that charity destroys all regard to ourselves, or that the charitable man should neglect himself and all his interests. But charity never seeks its own to the hurt of others, or to neglect others. It ever prefers the welfare of others to its private advantage. How good-natured and amiable is Christian charity! How excellent would Christianity appear to the world, if those who profess it were more under this Divine principle, and paid due regard to the command on which its blessed Author laid the chief stress! Let us ask whether this Divine love dwells in our hearts. Has this principle guided us into becoming behaviour to all men? Are we willing to lay aside selfish objects and aims? Here is a call to watchfulness, diligence, and prayer.

- ➤ 8 Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [it will lose its value and be superseded by truth].
- > 9 For our knowledge is fragmentary (incomplete and imperfect), and our prophecy (our teaching) is fragmentary (incomplete and imperfect).
- ➤ 10 But when the complete and perfect (total) comes, the incomplete and imperfect will vanish away (become antiquated, void, and superseded).
- ➤ 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; now that I have become a man, I am done with childish ways and have put them aside.
- ➤ 12 For now we are looking in a mirror that gives only a dim (blurred) reflection [of reality as in a riddle or enigma], but then [when perfection comes] we shall see in reality and face to face! Now I know in part (imperfectly), but then I shall know and understand fully and clearly, even in the same manner as I have been fully and clearly known and understood by God].
- ➤ 13 And so faith, hope, love abide [faith--conviction and belief respecting man's relation to God and divine things; hope--joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation; love--true affection for God and man, growing out of God's love for and in us], these three; but the greatest of these is love.

MHC #8-13 Charity is much to be preferred to the gifts on which the Corinthians prided themselves. From its longer continuance. It is a grace, lasting as eternity. The present state is a state of childhood, the future that of manhood. Such is the difference between earth and heaven. What narrow views, what confused notions of things, have children when compared with grown men! Thus shall we think of our most valued gifts of this world, when we come to heaven. All things are dark and confused now, compared with what they will be hereafter. They can only be seen as by the reflection in a mirror, or in the description of a riddle; but hereafter our knowledge will be free from all obscurity and error. It is the light of heaven only that will remove all clouds and darkness that hide the face of God from us. To sum up the excellences of charity, it is preferred not only to gifts, but to other graces, to faith and hope. Faith fixes on the Divine revelation and assents thereto, relying on the Divine Redeemer. Hope fastens on future happiness, and waits for that, but in heaven, faith will be swallowed up in actual sight, and hope in enjoyment. There is no room to believe and hope, when we see and enjoy. But there, love will be made perfect. There we shall perfectly love God. And there we shall perfectly love one another. Blessed state! how much surpassing the best below! God is love, #1Jo 4:8,16. Where God is to be seen as he is, and face to face, there charity is in its greatest height; there only will it be perfected.

### 1 JOHN MULTIPLE CHOICE QUIZ

These questions are designed to help each person retain and apply God's abundant Wisdom to their life. Keep reviewing God's Word and practicing, then see how God changes your life. God guarantees it and His Word achieves it!

So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; <u>It shall not return to Me empty</u>, <u>Without accomplishing</u> what I desire, And <u>without succeeding</u> in the matter for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

### Ouestion #1

## Who is our fellowship with? (1 John 1:3)

- A. Brothers and sisters in Christ
- B. Church leadership
- C. God the Father and Jesus
- D. Traveling revival evangelists

#### Question #2

## If we walk in the light, who do we have fellowship with? (1 John 1:7)

- A. Angels
- B. Bible teachers
- C. One another
- D. Church overseer

#### Ouestion #3

### If we confess our sins what happens? (1 John 1:9)

- A. Lightning bolts strike us
- B. People laugh and mock us
- C. Leadership terminates our membership
- D. God is faithful and just to forgive our sins

#### Question #4

### If anyone does sin: (1 John 2:1)

- A. Jesus acts as our advocate before the Father
- B. Satan owns him
- C. He is disciplined and denied church privileges for 90 days
- D. The person must double his offering for two weeks

### Question #5

### We know that we have come to Jesus if: (1 John 2:3)

- A. We pledge our allegiance and money to our church
- B. We obey His commands
- C. We attend church regularly
- D. We join a convent or monastery

## Question #6

## What are two attributes that go along with loving your brother and sister? (1 John 2:10)

- A. Confronting all sinners to repent
- B. Doing miracles, signs and wonders
- C. Reading the Bible
- D. Lives in the light and does not cause anyone to sin

#### Ouestion #7

## What is the result of loving the world? (1 John 2:15)

- A. God's love does not reside in us
- B. We become very popular, then we can lead many to Christ
- C. The world leads us astray and we become sinners
- D. The people of the world welcome us

### Ouestion #8

### Who are the antichrists? (1 John 2:18-23)

- A. People who left the church (left Christ), who didn't belong to us
- B. Whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ
- C. Whoever denies the Father and the Son
- D. All the above

#### Ouestion #9

### If I remain faithful to what I have been taught: (1 John 2:24)

- A. I will be promoted to leadership
- B. God will grant me love and respect wherever I go
- C. The world will tempt me with darkness
- D. I will have continued fellowship with Jesus and His Father

### Question #10

### What are practices of unrighteousness? (1 John 3:4-8)

- A. Everyone who sins breaks the law
- B. People who continue to sin do not know God
- C. All who do what is sinful are of the Devil
- D. All the above

#### Question #11

## Do Christians practice sin? (1 John 3:9)

- A. No one born of God practices sin
- B. God's seed abides in Him and He cannot sin
- C. Christians cannot sin because they are born of God
- D. All the above

### Question #12

## How do we know we have passed from death to life? (1 John 3:14)

- A. We were elected to be elders
- B. We teach Sunday School
- C. We love other Christians
- D. We administer the gifts of the Holy Spirit

### Question #13

## What is love? (1 John 3:16)

- A. Jesus laid His life down for us
- B. We operate God's gifts and feed the poor
- C. Giving and distributing God's word
- D. Love is experiencing God

### Ouestion #14

### How do we know the love of God is in us? (1 John 3:17)

- A. Helping others with material possessions
- B. Convicting others of their sin
- C. Faithfully giving time and resources
- D. Praying in tongues with interpretation

#### Ouestion #15

### How do we receive anything we ask? (1 John 3:22)

- A. Perks of church membership
- B. Distribute tracts and support outside ministry
- C. We do what pleases God and obey His commands
- D. Teach and administrate in the local church

### Question #16

### Where is every Christian from? (1 John 4:4)

- A. Parents and family
- B. Church denomination
- C. From God
- D. I am a sinner (which means heathen, dedicated to sinning)

#### Question #17

### How did God show how much He loved us? (1 John 4:9)

- A. The rain falls on the righteous and the wicked
- B. He sent His word for us to read
- C. He sent His Holy Spirit and gifts for us to administrate
- D. He sent Christ that we might live through Him

## Question #18

## Who loved you first? (1 John 4:10,19)

- A. I loved God and then he loved me
- B. God loved me first by sending Jesus as an atoning sacrifice

#### Ouestion #19

### How is love made complete among us? (1 John 4:17)

- A. We are like Christ here in this world
- B. Godly Preachers and Bishops
- C. Confession of sin
- D. Driving out demons and deliverance

### Question #20

### What drives out fear? (1 John 4:18)

- A. Cursing the enemy with fire
- B. All-night prayer sessions
- C. Perfect love
- D. Blessings from church leadership

#### Ouestion #21

### How do know that we love the children of God? (1 John 5:2-5)

- A. Loving God and obeying His commands
- B. Overcoming sin
- C. Believe and be committed to Jesus as the Son of God
- D. All the above

#### Ouestion #22

### Love for God is to obey His commands. How does John describe this? (1 John 5:3)

- A. Special dispensations comes with obedience
- B. It isn't difficult
- C. We will lead more to Christ and our Church will grow
- D. It is very difficult

### Question #23

## What three testify of Jesus? (1 John 5:8)

- A. John the Baptist, Paul & Peter
- B. My Pastor, Elder & Bishop
- C. Spirit, Water & Blood
- D. Bible, Gifts and the Law

#### Ouestion #24

### Anyone who believes in Jesus has: (1 John 5:10)

- A. Has given his testimony publically
- B. Knows Jesus' testimony in his heart
- C. Matured in church service
- D. Serves at church in service ministries

### Question #25

## What are the acknowledgement dynamics for believers?

- A. we know that we have eternal life
- B. we do have confidence in approaching God
- C. we know God hears us
- D. we know that we have what we've asked of Him
- E all the above

#### Ouestion #26

### What do you do if you see a brother commit a sin? (1 John 5:16)

- A. Pray and God will give him life
- B. Call the church prayer line and ask for help
- C. Confront him and demand a confession
- D. Report him for church discipline

### Question #27

## Does all sin lead to death? (1 John 5:16-17)

- A. There is sin that leads to death
- B. There is sin that does not lead to death
- C. Both A & B are correct

#### Ouestion #28

### Regarding sin, what do we know of everyone born of God? (1 John 5:18)

- A. They do not continue to sin
- B. Jesus holds them securely
- C. Satan cannot get his hands on them
- D. All above are correct

### Question #29

## Who is in control of the world around us? (1 John 5:16)

- A. God the Father
- B. Jesus Christ
- C. Holy Spirit
- D. Satan

#### Question #30

## Why did Jesus come to give us understanding? (1 John 5:20)

- A. All humanity could know Him
- B. All humanity could know He is true
- C. All humanity could be in His truth
- D. All humanity could be in his eternal life
- E. All the above

#### **ANSWER KEY**

1C, 2C, 3D, 4A, 5B, 6D, 7A, 8D, 9D, 10D, 11C, 12C, 13A, 14A, 15C, 16C, 17D, 18B, 19A, 20C, 21D, 22B, 23C, 24B 25E, 26A, 27C, 28D, 29D, 30E