



Lesson Eleven: The One Who Believes
1 John 5:1-12
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¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of Him. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹ If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that He has borne concerning His Son. ¹⁰ Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning His Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Discussion Questions:

1. LIFE • Why is being “born of God” a helpful metaphor for becoming a Christian (1 John 5:1)?
What does this picture teach us about God’s role and our role in salvation?
2. LOVE • John uses family language when talking about the Christian’s life of love (vv. 1-2).
How do you struggle to love other believers? How do we grow in this love?
3. OBEDIENCE • Why are loving God and obeying His word related (vv. 2-3)?
Why does obedience sometimes feel like a burden? Why is it not?
4. VICTORY • John says that our overcoming the world is both past and present tense (vv. 4-5).
What does it mean that we *have* overcome the world? How do we overcome the world today?
5. TESTIMONY • What/who are the “three that testify” (vv. 6-9)?
What testimony have you sought for the veracity of the Christian faith?
What testimony is most powerful? Why?
6. LIFE • What does eternal life mean? Is eternal life present or future?
What is the ultimate condition of (eternal) life (vv. 11-12)?