

Introduction

Hey families! We are living in a peculiar time right now aren't we? Due to the Coronavirus, we will not be having Wednesday night activities until the schools are back in session. Hopefully things will be back to normal in a couple weeks but in the meantime, I thought that despite the anxiety surrounding this virus, we have a great opportunity to worship together as a family. Due to the students being out of school for 2 weeks, I wanted to give families an opportunity to come together during that time and dive into the Word of God with one another. For the next 2 weeks, I have organized 15 small group lessons on the letter of 1 John that can be completed at home. You can do them in any order that you want but I would strongly recommend doing them in order. I'll include a few brief thoughts on the verses that can help in your discussions. Most of the studies only involve reading a few verses together and discussing the answers to the questions as a family. Instead of sending them out 1 day at a time, I have included all 15 lessons so you don't have to wait each day to receive them. I have always believed that the adults of the household are the driving influence of faith in their kids. Sometimes it can be hard for some parents or grandparents to lead a family worship time because they don't feel prepared to do it. This involves practically no prep for you. All you need is a Bible (or internet connection to look up the verses), this small group packet, and a desire to dive into the Bible as a family. I'll provide the verses on the page for some of the shorter sections of Scripture that we will go through. I'll also provide some answers for some of the trickier questions but this is a prime opportunity to talk as a family about what the Bible is teaching. When you get to the end of the questions, pray together as a family over what you just went over. If schools are not back in session in 2 weeks, I will create a new study that you all can continue to do together. OR if this is really well received, we may be able to start doing this on a more permanent basis. I'm excited to hear about the discussions that you have as a family and I pray that this study will bless your lives and encourages you to continue to dive deeper into the Word of God.

-Pastor Brady

Day 1

Scripture: 1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Devotional

Did anyone else have a hard time understanding what John was saying in these verses? Go ahead and read it again, I know it can sound a little bit confusing. Don't worry, after these verses, it gets a lot easier! Verse 1 is an echo of what John says in his chapter 1, verses 1-2 of his Gospel. There, he says, "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God." There John was pointing back to the first verse of Genesis 1, where we read, "in the beginning, God..." What John is doing here and in his Gospel is pointing to the fact that Jesus is God! As John is writing this letter, he is telling his audience that Jesus is God, and that he has heard, seen, looked upon, and touched Him. It's almost like he is saying, "Guys, trust me, I have seen this firsthand, and Jesus really is who He says He is." Because John has seen and believed that Jesus is the Son of God, he is compelled to share that Gospel message with others. He knows that the Gospel is true and he wants you to realize this truth and join the community of believers that Jesus has established, the Church. John wants his readers to take part in the joy that comes through salvation!

Questions:

1. Do you see how John connects 1 John 1:1 to John 1 and Genesis 1? Why do you think that he would do that?
2. John is writing this letter because he wants his readers to know that Jesus really is who He says He is. John wants them to know that his life has been changed because of knowing Jesus. How has your life been changed by knowing Jesus?
3. In verse 4, John talks about the joy of fellowship with other believers and the joy of having salvation through Jesus. What are some ways you can share that joy with others?

Day 2

Scripture: 1 John 1:5-10

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But 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 cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Devotional:

God is perfectly just and holy! There is no darkness or sin in Him at all. Because of the fall, we are covered in the darkness of sin. However, Jesus died so that we would be saved from that darkness! His death doesn't just save us from some of our sins or the sins that we had just before we came to faith in Christ, His death saves us from all of our sins, past, present, and future! As we are on this earth, we will never be perfect. Fortunately for us, Jesus Christ is perfect and His perfection covers us! He covers us in His righteousness because our own righteousness would never be good enough. There is not a single sin that you can commit that is more powerful than the cross of Jesus Christ. All we need to do is confess our sins and trust Him in faith. He is the perfect light that shines in the darkness and that darkness is powerless against Him!

Questions:

1. What do you think John means when he says that people do not practice the truth? (verse 6)
 - a. What John is warning us about is telling others that we are Christians even though our lives do not reflect being followers of Christ. We are basically misrepresenting Christ if we tell people that we are Christians but our lives don't show it.
2. Do you think that you can do anything to earn God's forgiveness?
 - a. Nope! Because of God's grace, He freely offers forgiveness to any that seek it!
3. God's faithfulness to forgive us should inspire us to forgive others. He forgives us even though we don't deserve it. Can you think of anyone in your life that you need to forgive?
4. What are some ways that you can practice forgiveness towards others?

Day 3

Scripture: 1 John 2:1-6

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. ³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

Devotional

What is an advocate? Think of a lawyer or a representative. An advocate is someone that publicly supports someone or represents their cause. Jesus is our representative to the Father. Some say that Jesus acts as our lawyer before God and that when Satan accuses us of wrongdoing, Jesus acts as our representative. This is true but Jesus does a whole lot more than just that. Imagine if you were on trial for something and you had the best lawyer in the world. The evidence is overwhelming and it is clear that you did the wrong. The judge sentences you to death for your crime but then, your lawyer does something incredible. He goes to the stand and tells the judge, "Judge, I want you to charge their crime to me, let me take the sentence that they deserve and allow them to walk out free." The judge accepts and you are a free man! That seems crazy but that is exactly what Jesus did for us! We deserve death but He took the death that we deserve so that we could be saved. Yes, Jesus represents us to the Father and each time that Satan accuses us, Jesus says, "Father, I have paid the price of their sin in full!"

Questions

1. John says in verse 6 that whoever abides in Jesus ought to walk in the same ways that Jesus walked. What are some things that Jesus did in His life that caused Him to stand out and be a perfect example for us to follow?
2. What are some ways that you are encouraged by the fact that Jesus is your representative before God?
 - a. Because Jesus took the sin that was ours, we can trust Him to give the righteousness that is His
3. Who is one person that you can think of that you want to share Jesus with?

Day 4

Scripture: 1 John 2:7-11

⁷Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. ¹⁰Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Devotional

Love is one of the key themes here in John's letter. In fact, the word love appears 46 times just in these 5 chapters! It is clear that John sees love as a driving force between God's relationship with us and our relationships with each other. How can we say that we are truly in love with Jesus if there is hate in our hearts? We will never be able to love like Christ loves if we hold hatred and grudges in our hearts. Wouldn't it be horrible if Christ said that He loved us, but secretly in His heart, hated us? That would stink! We wouldn't be able to have any hope for salvation if that were the case! Jesus loves us despite our flaws. Paul Washer once said, "I have given Christ countless reasons not to love me. None of them changed His mind." As Christians, we are a group that is defined by love and we are called to extend that love to others. It may be hard sometimes, but Christ loves that person you may hate and that should be a good enough reason for us to love them as well.

Questions

1. Why is it hard for us to love people, even after we become Christians?
2. Can you think of one person that you need to show the love of Christ to in the coming weeks?
3. How can hatred be a cause for stumbling for believers?
 - a. It misrepresents Jesus and the Gospel. People may see the way that we treat others and get the wrong impression of who Jesus is and what it means to be a Christian.
4. Loving people can be hard. What are some ways that you can practice loving others?

Day 5

Scripture: 1 John 2:12-14

¹² I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake. ¹³ I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father. ¹⁴ I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Devotional

Here we see John representing various ages within the Church. He is highlighting how the Gospel is relevant and personal regardless of age. By referring to little children, he is pointing to how we are welcomed into the family of God and how He is their Father. By referring to fathers, he is talking about how we as more mature Christians have the ability to pass along our faith and share the Gospel message. Then by referring to young men, he is pointing out how we embrace the saving work of Jesus. Just as Jesus triumphed over Satan as a young man in the wilderness, we too have overcome Satan. We all have a role that we play as followers of Jesus. Jesus offers salvation to all, regardless of age or gender. When we read these verses we can rejoice because we know that if we are in Christ, we are in the family of God, we will overcome the work of the Devil, God's Word abides in us, and we have the opportunity to share this message of salvation with others!

Questions

1. What are some of the benefits of having God as your Father?
 - a. We have unlimited access to the King of the Universe! We know that He loves us because we have become His children.
2. When we become a part of God's family, we become brothers and sisters with everyone else that has placed their faith in Christ. Does this fact help you to see people in the church differently? Why or why not?
3. Do you think that you have to be a certain age in order to share Christ with someone?
 - a. One of the amazing benefits of the Holy Spirit is that He can work through anyone! Regardless of your age, God can still use you!
4. What are some ways that Christ has helped you to triumph over sin?

Day 6

Scripture: 1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Devotional

We bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. When we go to be with Jesus, do you think that we are going to look back at our time on earth and miss it? Do you think that we are going to get to Heaven and wish that we could have brought our stuff with us? When we are with Jesus, we aren't going to miss our old lives in the slightest. Why would we? We will be in a place of absolute perfection and in the presence of Jesus Himself! Until we get there though, it is possible that we may view the things this world offers and think that those things are the most important. God offers us amazing things here on this planet but they are only a small glimpse of what He has in store for us when we are with Him. Our greatest treasure is Jesus. Nothing else in this life will ever compare to Him. As Christians we have a long-term perspective because we look ahead to God's reward

Questions

1. What are some ways that you can keep your eyes on Jesus and not focus so much on worldly desires?
2. What do you think John means by, "the desires of the flesh, and the desires of the eyes and pride of life"?
 - a. These are the ways that Satan tempts us into sin. He tries to get us to embrace the things that "feel good", "look acceptable", and focus on our selves.
3. What do you think will be the best part about being with Jesus forever?

Day 7

Scripture: 1 John 2:18 -26

These are more verses than we normally look at, so grab a Bible and read this together as a family!

Devotional

This world is full of false Christs or false saviors. It was true in John's time and it is true in ours. One of the things that Satan does is take lies and makes them sound like the truth. Satan is never going to come and tell you, "hey this is a lie, I just wanted you to know that." Instead, Satan will do all that he can to make you sin by making it sound like it is the right thing to do. When Satan tempted Christ, he even used Scripture to "support his arguments." But we have the gift of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth (John 16:13). In 1 John 2:21, John reminds us that we all have been given the truth of the Gospel and we all know what the truth really is. Trust in the Gospel message that you have received. Trust in the Bible that is in your hands. God will never lead you into anything that goes against what He has said in His Word. If you feel like you are being pulled away from the truth, go to the Bible and see what it says. If you struggle, find another brother or sister in the faith that has more experience than you and ask them to help you. Trust in God and in His will for your life. He will never lead you away from Him. Satan is going to do all that he can to push you away from the Lord, but through God's Word, we know the truth.

Questions

1. Why do you think Satan uses things that sound true to lure people away from the Lord?
2. How does the Holy Spirit lead us to the truth?
 - a. He points to Scripture. He reminds us of the promises of God. He helps us discern what is right and wrong.
3. Who is someone that you can turn to that can help you when you feel like you are being deceived or tempted to sin?
4. What do you think it means to "abide in Jesus"? (1 John 2:27)
 - a. It means that we depend on Christ. We trust Him to guide us, remind us, save us, and love us.

Day 8

Scripture: 1 John 2:28- 1 John 3:3

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him. ¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Devotional

This is one of my favorite sections in John's letter. Take a minute or 2 and think about how much God loves you and what it means to be called children of God. It blows my mind to think that the God who created everything, the God that paints every sunset in the sky, the God that angels glorify day and night forever, is my Heavenly Father! We should never be underwhelmed at the thought of God's love for us. Because we are His children, we can have confidence to go to Him. Tim Keller writes, "The only person who dares wake up a king at 3:00 AM for a glass of water is a child. We have that kind of access." God wants you to come to Him. He is a perfect Father that always wants to see His children. One day we are going to be like Him. We will see Him as He is, and we will never desire anything else because we will be able to fully embrace being His child. We might not see it yet, but one day we will, and it will be glorious!

Questions

1. What does it mean to be able to stand confidently before God the Father?
2. John tells us that we don't have to be ashamed when we are in God's presence. How can we be confident of this?
 - a. When God looks at us, He no longer sees our sinful self. He sees Christ and what Christ has accomplished on our behalf.
3. What do you think it will be like to stand in the presence of God?
4. What do you think some of the benefits are of being God's children?

Scripture: 1 John 3:4-10

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. ¹⁰By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

Devotional

Jesus came to destroy the work of the Devil. Satan will do all that he can to stop the work of Christ, but he is on borrowed time. He is like a lion in a cage but you still don't want to go inside the cage. He is like a venomous snake with its head cut off. The venom in its fangs can still harm you, even after the head has been cut off. If we are going to be followers of Christ, we need to do all that we can to pursue Christ. Satan will tempt us and we will continue to sin, but our lives should not be defined by those sins. While we may sin, we should not live a life that is defined by sin. We shouldn't be living in persistent sin. We will struggle sometimes, but we serve a God that can help us overcome our struggles. Remember, He is faithful to forgive all sin but that doesn't give us an excuse to sin. Romans 6:1-2 reminds us, "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?" God's forgiveness isn't an excuse to keep sinning. It is a reminder that He has given us more grace than we deserve and it should encourage us to live a life that is pleasing to Him.

Questions

1. What works of Satan did Jesus come to destroy?
2. Why is it dangerous to get too close to Satan even though Christ has defeated him?
3. What is the difference between practicing sin and occasionally sinning?
 - a. Practicing sin means that we are devoted to the sin rather than the Savior. We may sin occasionally but our lives are not defined by that occasional sin.
4. What do you think it means to practice God's righteousness?

Scripture: 1 John 3:11-24

Once again, there are a lot of verses to look at, so go ahead and grab that Bible and read this as a family!

Devotional

One of my favorite Bible verses is 1 John 3:18. "Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth." It is easy to tell someone that you love them but it isn't always easy to carry out that love.

If all our love is just talk and no action, I find it hard to believe that we truly love that person. In Isaiah 49, the people of Israel say, "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me." The Lord responds to their concern and says, "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb. Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands." A mother's love isn't just in word, it's unconditional. The Lord is saying, "I want you to look at a mother's love that she has for her child and I want you to compare that love to me."

Even greater is God's love for us than a mother's love for her nursing child. The Lord says that He has engraved us on the palms of His hands. That word engraved is a very specific Hebrew word which means, "engraved with a hammer or a spike." Imagine someone out of love for another person having a nail driven into the palm of their hand? Centuries later, Thomas said, "I don't feel loved." But Jesus says, "Look at the palms of my hands and see my love for you." It is here at the cross where we see the words of God's love and the actions of God's love coming together for us.

Questions

1. What do you think it means to love in deed (or action) and in truth?
2. Why do you think that John focuses on love so much in this letter?
3. What are some ways that we can show God's love to our brothers and sisters in Christ?
4. Why is it bad to only love in talk but not in action?

Scripture: 1 John 4:1-6

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Devotional

There are a lot of things out in the world that are fighting for your attention. So many people think that they have the answer to what is most important in life, what the meaning of life is, how to be happy, etc. We often think that if we can just accomplish this, or have that, then we will have everything that we will want in life. The next time you go to a bookstore, check out the self-help section and notice how many books there are that all claim that if you can just have this or that, you will be happy. Well, what do you do when you get that book, read through it, and it doesn't work? What happens when you are just as miserable as before? Who or what do you blame? The Bible tells us what it is that we really need to be happy. Through the Holy Spirit, we know what is true and what is false. A life that is devoted to Jesus Christ will always have everything it really needs in order to be happy. Following Jesus doesn't mean that you will be rich, or healthy, or that everything is going to work out for you. But it does mean that you will have everything that you need in order to rejoice in Christ.

Questions

1. God has given us the victory through His Son to overcome the world. What are some things that you feel you need to overcome in order to be closer to the Lord?
2. The world is always going to want you to listen to them instead of to God. What are some ways that you can block out the world in order to focus on what the Lord wants for you?
3. What do you think John means when he says, "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world?"

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-21

Grab those Bibles and get to reading as a family! Maybe you could try to break it up and have each family member read a couple verses?

Devotional

Believe it or not, you did not make the first move in loving God. As we see in these verses, God reached out to you in love, long before you ever reached out to Him. The greatest evidence of His love was made known to us by the giving of His Son. Jerry Bridges wrote, "If we want proof of God's love for us, then we must look first at the cross where God offered up His Son as a sacrifice for our sins. Calvary is the one objective, absolute, irrefutable proof of God's love for us." We should never find ourselves questioning God's love for us. "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32) Sometimes it will be hard for us to love others. Sometimes we might even be afraid of showing the love of Jesus to them. John reminds us that because we are saved by Christ, we no longer have to fear. Perfect love casts out fear. God's love for you is perfect and one day, He will bring us to be with Him in a place where there are no tears, pains, or worries. We know that God loves us, and because we know that, we can have the strength to overcome anything because His love is the driving force in our lives.

Questions

1. It seems like John is repeating some of the things that he said in other parts of his letter. Why do you think that he is doing that?
 - a. Some examples of the things that he repeats is how we are to love one another, Jesus is the savior of the world, and Jesus is the propitiation for our sins. He is stressing these things as vital for the Christian life.
2. What is something that you are afraid of doing for Christ?
3. How can we as a family help you to overcome that fear?
4. Do you ever feel like you need more proof of God's love for you? Why do you think you feel that way?

Scripture: 1 John 5:1-5

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. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Devotional

I feel like we can make salvation so difficult. We like to add a lot of layers to it and tell ourselves that we need to complete this task, or live this way and then maybe, we will be good enough to make it into Heaven. Scripture is filled with examples of how we are saved solely through the redeeming work of Christ and by placing our faith in Him. John tells us that everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God. That's all it takes! Paul reminds us in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." It is not about the amount of faith that you have or the works that you do, it is about the One that your faith is in. He is the One that saves you, you are powerless to save yourself. Our faith is a faith that can move mountains. It is a faith that can change the world. It is a faith that overcomes the world. We should live with the confidence of having faith in the One that has overcome death and the world.

Questions

1. Why do you think we try to earn our salvation even though the Bible teaches us that we are saved by faith?
2. Why is God's grace considered a gift?
 - a. We can do nothing to earn His grace, just like we can do nothing to deserve a gift. We are saved by the grace that He extends to us.
3. How does our faith overcome the world?
 - a. Because the One that our faith is in has already overcome the world! Jesus has won the victory!
4. Do you think that it is easy to follow God's commands?

Scripture: 1 John 5:6-12

⁶This 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. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If 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. ¹⁰Whoever 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. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Devotional

I'll admit that this is a pretty confusing section of Scripture. Theologians for centuries have debated about what John means when he talks about the water and the blood. I'll do my best to help you along based on my understanding of the passage. The water and the blood point to a key moment in Christ's crucifixion. We see that when the soldier pierces His side, water and blood poured out (John 19:34). This confirmed that Jesus really did die and would later confirm His resurrection. We see in the water, the blood, and the spirit, both the human and divine of Jesus. Here we see that Jesus really is who He says He is: Fully Man and Fully God. He really did die and He really was resurrected. It is through His death and resurrection that we are saved. He is the resurrection and the life.

Questions

1. What should you do when you come across a verse or section of verses that are confusing to you?
2. Why was it important for Jesus to be fully God and fully man?
 - a. To put it simply, Jesus became man because man needed to pay the price for sin. Jesus is fully God because only God could forgive the debt. Jesus connects man back to God.
3. Do you trust God to be honest with you or do you find it hard to trust Him sometimes?

Day 15

Scripture: 1 John 5:13-21

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. ¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷ All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. ¹⁸ We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. ¹⁹ We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. ²⁰ And we know 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, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. ²¹ Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Devotional

This is our last lesson of the series, so I wanted to just say something quick and give you time to reflect on all that you went through and read. I think a perfect way to end this little series is by looking at what John says here in verse 13. "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life." We don't have to worry about if we are saved or not because Christ has made it known to us. There is no reason to fear, Jesus Christ has made you whole!

Questions

You did it! If you've gotten to this point, you either skipped to the last page or you made it through all 2 weeks of these family devotionals! I only have 1 question for you for today's lesson. What are 2 or 3 things that you feel that the Lord has spoken to you in the past 2 weeks? What is something that has really jumped out to you in this time that you have all spent together? It's ok if you need to go back and look at some of the other lessons. I hope that you were able to really soak in the Word of God and grow together as a family. If this was something that you find helpful and you would like for me to continue to send something out like this every couple of weeks that you as a family can work on, let me know by sending me an email at pastorbrady@obbcbblackridge.com. I look forward to hearing from you! Also check out the next page for some additional resources that can help your family time! -Pastor Brady

Extra resources

Sermons and Books on 1 John:

1. David Platt- Love Made Known Sermon Series (McLean Bible Church)
2. John Piper- Let Us Walk in the Light Sermon Series (Desiringgod.com)
3. J.D. Greear- Assured Sermon Series (Summitchurch.com)
4. Martyn Lloyd-Jones- Life in Christ (Book)
5. John MacArthur- 1,2,3 John & Jude (Bible Study)

Family Worship Songs (Even though these may not relate closely to the lessons, I feel that these are great songs that a family can listen to and think about what the lyrics are saying.)

1. Worthy of Your Name- Passion
2. Bigger Than I Thought- Sean Curran
3. Over All I Know- Vertical Worship
4. His Heart Beats- Andrew Peterson
5. As it Is in Heaven- Corey Voss
6. Fighting for Us- Michael Farren
7. We Shall Feast in the House of Zion- Sandra McCracken
8. More to Come- Passion
9. Holy (After All)- David Crowder Band
10. No Outsiders- Rend Collective
11. Hold Me Jesus- Rich Mullins
12. Spirit (Keep On)- Jeremy Casella
13. Farther Along- Josh Garrels
14. In All This We Know- Justin Kintzel
15. The Power of a Great Affection- Andrew Peterson