



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: 1 John 5:4-13

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.

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.

Sermon Summary:

Everyone lives and acts based on what they believe. And everyone believes something. We live in an age where we are encouraged to believe in ourselves, with sayings such as “you do you”, “believe in yourself”, “do what is right for you”, etc... As believers what should we believe? Does it matter what we believe? John’s letter makes it clear it does matter what we believe. Those who believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and all that entails, are those who overcome the world. Besides all the things mentioned in this letter about the lives of believers, he adds that those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God who came both by water and blood, have the testimony within them. John also gives

them strong assurance that they now have eternal life because they believe in the name of the Son of God. Let us treasure the faith we have and live by it.

Discussion:

1. Read 1 John 4:4-5. What is the world which believers overcome today? What is the faith that overcomes this world?
2. Everyone believes something and lives by it. What are some positive as well as negative examples?
3. John emphasizes water **and blood** not just water. What is the significance of this?
4. Read verse 9. Why do people believe what other people say but do not believe what God has to say about Jesus Christ?
5. 1 John 5:10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.... What is the testimony in us? How does this make a difference?
6. John makes a strong statement that those who do not believe make God out to be a liar. Discuss how unbelief equals making God a liar.
7. John emphasizes his reason for writing this letter to give assurance to the believers that they have eternal life. Why do you think they needed this assurance? What are the facts that might cause us to question our own certainty about having eternal life? How does having assurance make a difference in your life?