

# faith, hope, love

1 John 5:1-21  
Inductive Discovery Lesson 20

**Victorious Love** Victory always involves conflict. There is a battle to wage, a race to run, a test to endure. All around him, John could see that believers were engaged in a conflict between truth and error. John could remember, as a young man, the birth of the church. The world had been turned upside down by valiant men with Truth in their heart who dared to give all so the gospel would be known.

As an old man, John still recalled the fervency of those early days—not with nostalgia looking through rose-colored glasses, but with a passion for truth that can't be dimmed by failing eyesight or age-wearied bones. Although the years of his own long life were coming to a close, the elder had no thoughts of retirement. John saw, all around him, the spread of erroneous thinking that threatened true believers. God's church had been planted in enemy territory and John urged his readers not to let the world defeat them. He wanted them to know that victorious love believes in Jesus, holds fast to the truth, and takes God at His Word.

"Who is it that overcomes the world, except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" Surely John was remembering, even as he scrawled those words on parchment, the comforting promise Jesus left His disciples before He fought the greatest battle this world will ever know.

***"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace.  
In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."***

John 16:33

**1** Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whomever 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.

**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.

## OBSERVE

Start by reading the entire chapter at least once. Now read each section and record what you see. **Use the first column to keep track of what you find in the Bible passage.** (Who? What? When? Where?) Briefly describe, *in your own words*, what it says.

**Use the second column to keep track of information you get from other sources** such as scripture references, a dictionary, concordance, maps, etc. You can also use this section to jot down **your thoughts, impressions or questions**. *Do your best to follow John's train of thought.* Does he use a word or phrase repeatedly, or emphasize a particular topic? Are his words urgent? Encouraging? Commanding? What issues or problems does he address? What questions does he ask?

## 1 John 5:1-12

Facts from the passage:

### My Research and Personal Observations:

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

## 1 John 5:13-15

Facts from the passage:

[illegible]

### My Research and Personal Observations:

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled paper. It contains ten identical sets of horizontal lines arranged vertically. Each set is composed of three lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, providing a guide for letter height and placement for young learners. The entire page is white with no other markings or text.

## 1 John 5:16-21

Facts from the passage:

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dashed lines, typical of primary school handwriting practice paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the entire width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

### My Research and Personal Observations:

[illegible]

## Key Words and Phrases

Write the definition of the following words and phrases. Use a regular dictionary or a Bible concordance with Greek Dictionary if you have one.

**"born of God"** (vs. 1,14,18) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**"overcomes"** (vs.4-5) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## INTERPRET

**Look for a spiritual lesson.** Be careful not to read into the Bible an idea that is not there. Examine each verse in light of the verses around it. To help you find a spiritual lesson, ask questions such as: Is there a command to obey? Is there a promise to claim? Is there a condition to that promise? Is there a warning to heed? Is there an example to follow or avoid? **State the lesson in one simple sentence.**

## APPLY

We don't study the Bible just to gather information—we want to spiritually grow. Our heart needs to be open to change. The only way to move truth off the pages of your Bible and into your life is to **put it into action.**

To apply a spiritual lesson, we must examine ourselves and take deliberate steps to do something with what we have learned. Ask yourself: Is this a new insight for me, or does it reinforce what I already know? What does it challenge me to do? Does it point out error in my attitude or actions? What changes does it require? Think of how the lesson relates to you and what specific course of action you will take. **Write your application in the form of a question to make it personal.**

### 1 John 5:1-12

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Application: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_?

### 1 John 5:13-15

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Application: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_?

### 1 John 5:16-21

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Application: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_?

## Summary

Write a simple sentence that summarizes what the chapter is about. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Give a title to the chapter to help you remember what it says.

\_\_\_\_\_

## Up close and personal

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him,  
that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.  
And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that  
we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

1 John 5:14-15

### **Memorize** God's Word

Choose the translation you prefer to memorize the verse in and re-write it here.

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### **Meditate** on God's Word

While you memorize this verse, let it work into your heart and mind. Scripture meditation is like a good cup of tea—the longer it steeps, the richer the flavor. So give yourself permission to slowly savor God's Word! Use the questions below (like a tea bag) to keep dipping into this verse.

Challenge alert: You won't always see an obvious answer directly from the verse. Just *think and pray* about it and share what the Lord brings to your heart and mind.

**Look up.** What does this verse teach you about God? (For example, look for signs of His character, His attributes, His works, His promises.)

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**Look around.** What does this verse teach you about the world and people in general?

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**Look within.** What does this verse teach you about yourself?

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**Look ahead.** Does this verse give you reason to hope? Briefly share your thoughts.

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**Look alive!** Given the opportunity, how would you express the truth found in this verse to someone who needs to hear it?

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### Make God's Word Your Prayer

As you memorize and meditate on this verse, pray it back to the Lord. Let the Holy Spirit examine your heart, increase your understanding, and help you to pray. Ask Him for faith and strength to *act* on the truth of God's Word.

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### God's Word Bearing Fruit

For you personally, what has been the most important lesson from this chapter? How will you put what you have learned into practice?

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### Something to Think About . . .

We must pray in the will of God  
and we must be on what old-fashioned Christians often call "praying ground"; that is,  
we must be living lives that are pleasing to God.

A.W. Tozer

Message

Notes:



