



LifeGroup Discussion Guide

Life in the Son

Remember this page is designed to *begin* a discussion with your LifeGroup. It is not comprehensive. Allow the following questions to spur on deeper and fuller conversation, study, and discussion.

The wonder of a birth is one of the truly real miracles that can observe today. Go around and share your best moments / memories from a baby being born?

John begins chapter 5 with our familiar unity between Belief and Works; what we've referred to as Orthodoxy and Orthopraxy. **READ: 1 John 5:1** - take notice of John's language in the first half of the passage. Why do you think it is important that believing rightly about Jesus is an evidence of the new birth rather than causing the new birth? Why is one prior to the other? Why is "*born*" an appropriate metaphor?

Take your observations from above and now **READ: 1 John 5:11-12**. John expands the metaphor of being "*born*" of God by identifying it with "*eternal life*." What is John communicating as his primary concerning about this "*life*?" How does this relate back to the 1st half of **verse 1** with Jesus' title "*Christ*?"

READ: Matthew 16:13-16 - Explain the two identifiers that Peter used to answer Jesus' question? Connect these observations to **1 John 5:1,5**. If "*Christ*" ultimately means "*King*," then what is the King's command from **1 John 5:1**? **READ: 1 John 5:1-4** - How is John describing what we would title as "Orthopraxy?" **READ: John 13:34-35** - What is the King's command?

As straightforward as our observations are, it is another subject all-together when we talk about obeying Jesus' command. Why do you think it can be so hard to love other Christians? **READ: 1 John 5:4** - What role does our attitude and relationship to "*the world*" play in our ability or inability to love other Christians?

We concluded our applications with the challenge to "*practice*" this kind of obedience. Go around and share some accessible ways that anyone can apply loving-one-another in the church? What have you found to be successful in applying this kind of "*practice*" into your life? What are some practical ways the we can encourage one another to love the ways Jesus loves?