

OVERCOMING THE GREAT DECEIVER: TRUTH IN A WORLD OF FAKES

1 JOHN 3

MAIN TAKEAWAY

We overcome the great deceiver by the love of God and the blood of the Lamb. We must know God's truth—anything that drives us away from the cross is from the devil.

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

The world is full of fake things. How have you experienced this? What are the most common fake items? How can you tell if something is fake?

There are fake things people believe about God. What are some common statements you hear that are unbiblical? How can we know the truth about God?

UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 JOHN 3:7-10

Satan is real and comes to accuse and deceive (v.7). How do Satan and demons deceive (John 10:10; 1 Peter 5:8-9)? How can you discern their deception?

Jesus has already defeated Satan (v.8). How did Jesus destroy the works of the devil? (Colossians 2:14-15)? How does this cancellation give you freedom?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ REVELATION 12:10-12

The devil knows his days are numbered and does not want you to know that he attacks with accusation. How can we guard against ignorance of the enemies' devices (2 Corinthians 2:11). How can you respond to such accusations?

We overcome the devil by the blood of the Lamb. How does Christ provide access to God (Hebrews 10:19–20; Ephesians 2:13; 1 John 1:7)?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 JOHN 3:11–24

Envy kills (v.11–12). Why is envy primarily seen among those viewed as equals? Why do we often underestimate this sin?

Motive is everything when giving to God. How can you have the right heart when giving God your time, talent, and treasure? How does this help you focus on what matters most (Matthew 6:19–21, 33)?

If you know God, you will love your brothers and sisters (v.14–18). Why will a genuine love for God produce a love for others? What is our example of love?

We can come boldly to God because of what Jesus did (v.19–22). What should you do when your heart condemns you? How can you have assurance of salvation in Christ?

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

Pastor Greg said, “Anything that drives us away from the cross is from the devil.” What drives you away from the cross? How can you run to the cross instead?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. In response to this message, how will you fight against temptation this week (2 Timothy 2:22)?

With so much deception today, how do you stand on the truth of God’s Word? In what areas do you want to grow in your knowledge of the truth? How do you share God’s truth in a world of fakes?

PRAYER

Give thanks for God’s truth and love. Rejoice that Jesus has already defeated Satan. Pray for truth and love to increase in your life.