

THIS IS HOW YOU KNOW

1 JOHN 5

MAIN TAKEAWAY

We can know that we know God and have eternal life.

INTRODUCTION

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

What is your experience with searching for treasure? In what ways are we designed to be “treasure hunters”?

According to 1 John 5:13, what is the “treasure” right in front of us? Why is this the most important question: “Do you know you have eternal life?”

UNDERSTANDING

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

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 JOHN 5:1-5

Marks of a True Believer. Like a tree bearing the right fruit, what kind of “fruit” do true believers have in their lives? How can you identify such fruit?

Why are true believers described as those who “overcome”? How do believers walk in victory (Romans 8:37)?

John explained that this is how you know true believers: faith, love, and obedience. Why is it important to understand that these are not *prerequisites* to being saved but are *products* of being born again? What is the difference?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 JOHN 5:6-12

The Evidence for our Faith. What three areas of Christ’s life did John mention to testify that He is true? What false doctrine did John refute?

The water of Jesus' baptism, the blood of His cross, and His sending of the Spirit provide evidence for our faith. How does the incarnation of Jesus provide external evidence? How does the indwelling of the Spirit provide internal evidence?

Commenting on verse 12, Pastor Jonathan said, "Jesus is not a step in the process—He is the whole process." How does this reveal that Jesus is sufficient?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 JOHN 5:13–21

***Standing in Victory.* Why did John write this letter to the church (v.13)? How did you experience this purpose as we studied this letter?**

How does confidence in salvation give you confidence in prayer? Pastor Jonathan explained, "Prayer isn't about getting what we want; it's about aligning with what God wants." How does this change your perspective about prayer?

If you are standing in victory, you need to help pull others out of defeat. According to verses 16–17, how can you do this?

How does John's conclusion help you stay focused on knowing Jesus by not letting anything take His place in your heart (v.18–21)?

APPLICATION

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

As Pastor Jonathan asked in this message, do you know you have eternal life? Do you have the Son? According to 1 John, how can you know?

Why should you view yourself as an overcomer? Pastor Jonathan explained, "You don't do these things [faith, love, obedience] to become an overcomer—you do them because, in Christ, you already are one." How do you keep this perspective?

What are your main takeaways from our study in 1 John? As this sermon series is called *Unshakeable: Confidence Drawn from Faith in Jesus*, how have you grown more confident? What is your confidence in?

PRAYER

Give thanks that you can know God and have eternal life. Pray for growth in faith, love, and obedience. Rejoice that you have the Son and have life!