

CBC

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

1 JOHN



SUNDAY

THE LIGHT OF GOD

Read 1 John 1

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What is it that John has seen, heard, and touched referenced in verse 1?
- According to John, what is the foundation for christian fellowship?
- What is one purpose for writing this letter listed in this chapter?
- What is meant by the statement, "God is light and in him is no darkness at all"?

Some Christians have joy, but there are only a few drops in the bottom of their cup; but the Scriptures were written, and more especially the doctrine of an Incarnate God is revealed to us, that our joy may be full.

-C.H. Spurgeon on vs. 4

Kids Discussion Questions

- Here, John calls Jesus "the life" (vs. 2). Why is this a good nickname for Jesus?
- John says he wrote this letter so that our "joy may be complete" (vs. 4). What do we mean when we say "joy" and how can our joy be complete?
- John tells a wonderful thing in verse 9. Why is this promise in 1 John 9 so important?

Sing

Amazing Grace
John Newton

Pray

For those you know who
have not found life in
Jesus name.

AMAZING GRACE - JOHN NEWTON

1 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

6 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
the sun forbear to shine;
but God, who called me here below,
will be forever mine.

MONDAY

CHRIST OUR ADVOCATE

Read 1 John 2 1-14

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What source of hope does John offer to those who recognize their sin?
- What is one mark of a genuine relationship with Christ according to this passage?
- What is the "new commandment"?

If we cannot claim to live sinless lives, then the only thing that can keep us from despairing before a holy God is that we have an Advocate in heaven and He pleads our case not on the basis of our perfection but of His propitiation. - John Piper

Kids Discussion Questions

- Re-read verse 1. Why is it so important to John that the church he was writing to did not give into sin?
- As much as John does not want his readers to sin, he gives us hope for when we do sin at the end of verse 1: "if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." What does it mean that Jesus is our advocate?
- John tells us just how important it is that we love one another within the church (vs. 9-10). What does real love look like?

Sing

Before the Throne
Charitie Bancroft

Pray

For the widows and
widowers of Calvary.

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE - CHARITIE BANCROFT

1 Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heav'n he stands,
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

2 When Satan tempts me to despair
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see him there,
who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the just, is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

3 Behold him there, the risen Lamb,
my perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by his blood!
My life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.

TUESDAY

DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD

Read 1 John 2:15-29

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What does John refer to with his use of the term "world" in verse 15? How does this differ from the "world" that God sent his son to die for in John 3:16?
- Who, according to John, will "abide forever," and how can we understand this in light of the Biblical emphasis that we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8)?
- Verse 19 gives a clue about the occasion of this letter. What happened within the church John was writing to?

For grace is given not because we have done good works, but in order that we may be able to do them. - Augustine

Kids Discussion Questions

- John tells us we should not love the world. This is different than the people of the world- we must love them! Rather, John is talking about the broken world we live in. What happened to the world that made it this way?
- John is concerned about those outside of this church who were lying about who Jesus is (vs.19-22). Why is it so important that we know exactly who Jesus is?
- If someone asked you who Jesus is, what would you say?

Sing

My Jesus, I Love Thee
William R. Featherston

Pray

Pick a family from
Calvary to pray for.

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

WILLIAM R. FEATHERSTON

1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

3. I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,
and say when the deathdew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

4. In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

WEDNESDAY

CHILDREN OF GOD

Read 1 John 3:1-10

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- Who does John consider a child of God?
- What warning does John give to those who make a practice of sinning?
- What marks of genuine Christianity does John mention in this passage?

If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all. - J.I. Packer

Kids Discussion Questions

- How did Jesus make us children of God (vs 1)?
- John tell us that one way we can know who has really become a child of God is by the way they live (vs. 6-7). What will real children of God live like?
- How does someone become a child of God?

Sing

This is my Father's World
Maltbie D. Babcock

Pray

For the healthcare
workers in our
community.

THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

-MALTBIE D. BABCOCK

1 This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--
His hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

3 This is my Father's world:
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let earth be glad!

THURSDAY

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Read 1 John 3:11-24

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What examples of brotherly love have you witnessed within the church?
- What does John warn us of in verse 18?
- What does verse 19 refer to which can "reassure our hearts"?

Part of our evangelistic activity has to do with the way we relate to each other as believers. Jesus said, "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-35). If you are not expressing proper Christian love to every member of your church, you are in disobedience to God and you are hindering the evangelistic work of your church. - Mark Dever

Kids Discussion Questions

- John warns us not to be like Cain (vs. 12). What is it that he's warning us about?
- Looking at verses 17 and 18, what does love look like?
- Who is one person from our church family you can show brotherly love to this week?

Sing

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Thomas Chisholm

Pray

For the children and
youth of our church.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

- THOMAS CHISHOLM

1

"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Chorus:

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

2

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

FRIDAY

GOD IS LOVE

Read 1 John 4

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- Why is it significant that we confess that Jesus has "come in the flesh" (vs. 2)?
- Who is the "we" in verse 6?
- In this passage, John famously declares that "God is love." What does this mean and why would it be wrong to say "love is God"?

"Herein is love," says the apostle, as though you could find it nowhere else as it is here. Here is the height and depth of love immeasurable; here is love summed up, here is love's climax: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

- C.H. Spurgeon on verses 8-10

Kids Discussion Questions

- This chapter talks a lot about God's love. What is the most important way God has shown his love to us?
- John said "he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (v. 4) Who was he talking about?

Sing

How Deep The Father's Love
Stuart Townsend

Pray

For our missionary
partners.

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US - STUART TOWNSEND

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss –
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life –
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart –
His wounds have paid my ransom.

SATURDAY

KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS

Read 1 John 5

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What has stood out to you in your study of 1 John this week?
- What purpose for writing this letter does John list in this chapter?
- What are some of the tests of genuine conversion listed in this chapter?
- What idols do you need to keep yourselves from this week?

Every one of us is, even from his mother's womb, a master craftsman of idols. - John Calvin

Kids Discussion Questions

- What is one thing you've learned from our time in 1 John this week?
- John ends his letter by telling his audience to keep from Idols.
- What is an idol and what kind of idols do we need to keep away from?

Sing
Doxology
Thomas Ken

Pray
That the Lord would
prepare the hearts of
those who will hear his
Word preached
tomorrow.

DOXOLOGY - THOMAS KEN

1

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

2

Praise God the Father who's the source;
Praise God the Son who is the course;
Praise God the Spirit who's the flow;
Praise God, our portion here below!