

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith. -1 John 5:3

### I. THE FRUIT OF SAVING FAITH

- 1. To believe that Jesus is the Christ (John 17:1-3).
- 2. To love the Father (Duet. 6:5; Mark 12:30).
  - a) to love the Father is to love his children and to obey him (vs. 2; 1 John 2:9-11, 4:20).
  - b) obeying God's commands is not a burden for the genuine Christ-follower (Matt. 11:28-30).
- 3. To love those who have been born of God (1 John 2:9-11).

### II. FAITH THAT OVERCOMES

- 1. The victory we have over the world is not in ourselves but is attributable to our faith (vs. 4; Heb. 11).
- 2. Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God overcome. Not everyone wins this race (Matt. 7:13-14; John 3:18).

### III. HOW TO EXPERIENCE THE FAITH THAT OVERCOMES

- 1. First find it in Jesus (John 14:6).
- 2. Ask God to develop within you a love for him and for his people (Mark 9:23-25; John 1:49-51).
- 3. Allow the new birth you've experienced to detach you f rom the world and attach you to God (1 John 2:15-17, 4:4).
- 4. Learn to love the commandments of God (vs. 3).
- 5. Ask God for this type of faith believe that you will have it as a gift from him, and then work towards it (Luke 17:5-10; 2 Cor. 10:15).

**KNOW**: The world holds no power over those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ. Faith is our great victory realized in and through Christ.

**DO**: Overcome the power of this world by faith in Christ.

## **Suggested Reading:**

The Life of Trust: Being a Narrative of the Lord's Dealings with George Muller by George Muller (LifePoint Library #266.151).

# Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please Read 1 John 5:1-5

- 1. What is John stressing in these verses?
- 2. Why is belief in Jesus the starting point for all of John's points in this section of his letter?
- 3. How does loving God and obeying his commandments show us that we also love God's children?
- 4. If everyone who is born of God overcomes the world, why do so many Christians struggle in this world?
- 5. How do we live a life that demonstrates that we are overcomers?
- 6. How can you specifically apply this passage to your own life this week and beyond?