

Small Group Curriculum • 1 John • Hello, Life.

LIFE IS HERE • WEEK 8 • 1 John 5:1-21

As we conclude our study through 1 John, we will enter into the final chapter. In the first section of 1 John, versus 1-12, John reminds us that our faith in Jesus can conquer the distractions and temptations of this world.

Today, we will center on the last section of chapter 5, versus 13-21, reminding us of our one true God and the one true mission we have in front of us.

REMINDERS

Awakening News:

- Giving is a powerful spiritual discipline and act of worship that also resources God's unique mission at Awakening. To join our giving community go to awakeningchurch.com/give.
- Are you looking for a place to serve? Please consider joining our Space Team helping once a month with Saturday or Sunday morning setup or Sunday afternoon tear down. To find out more, email Space Director, Layth Haddad at layth@awakeningchurch.com.

ICEBREAKER

- What's the best piece of advice you have ever been given?
- If you had to teach a class on one thing, what would you teach?
- If you could meet any living person for dinner, who would you pick and why?

INTRODUCTION

God is here and his purpose is here. God's radical mission of redemption and restoration is through the sacrificial and glorious resurrection God's own son. Today, we live in the "now, not yet." God's kingdom is here and coming in full, but our world's brokenness still exists. We can remain confident that his kingdom is fully coming, and we can pray with confidence when we believe and abide in Jesus.

QUESTION: What do you pray for with confidence? When do they lack confidence and why?

READ: 1 John 5:13-21

DISCUSSION:

QUESTIONS

1. Why does John say we can have confidence in our prayers (vs 13-15)? How does the writer of Hebrews 10:19-25 speak further into this reason for our confidence?

AWAKENING

2. Why might a Christian doubt that he or she has “the life of the age to come” (vs13)?
3. How do you discern whether you are praying “according to his will” (vs 14)? (See James 4:3). How does Romans 8:27 provide comfort in discerning God’s will?
4. Most of our prayers concern the future, what we want to see happen or what we want God to do for us or for someone else. When we pray to God about the future, in what sense do we “already possess the requests we have asked from him” (vs. 15)?
 - a. “Those who believe in Jesus, who abide in God, stand at the place where heaven and earth meet. They are encouraged to draw down the blessings of heaven into the life of earth, and to know as they make their requests that they have already been granted—even though, as Scripture itself and Christian experience both teach, they may be granted in ways one had not expected.” (See James 5:16, Prov 15:8, 1 John 5:20)
5. How is verse 16 an encouragement to keep praying even when we see people going in the wrong direction?

RESPONSE

1. Where in your life is prayer needing to be more *consistent*? Where in your life is prayer needing to be more *confident*?
2. BONUS: Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4 and Romans 13:1. How do Paul’s words and John’s words guide our prayers for our nation’s election and future leaders?

Transition: We desire our small groups at Awakening to regularly experience relational connection, biblical study, and also prayer, taking our praise, requests, and confessions to God.

PRAYER

Taking 1 John 5:13-15 for a model, pray confidently and boldly for other people, especially for anyone you know under the temptation of sin. Pray confidently and boldly for yourself, that you will be guarded against the idolatry of false ideas about God. Pray confidently and boldly that Christ in you will be obvious to those you meet you.

This week’s discussion guide comes from *The Letters of John*, by N.T.Wright.