



## Water, Blood and Spirit - A Study of 1 John

### Discussion Guide: Week 4 - 1 John 3:1-10

**Summary of this week's teaching:** This week's passage is all about children. John begins by reminding us that those who belong to Christ are dearly beloved children of God. Though we may not feel or fully understand it, this is our true and current identity... and John reminds us that it will only get better in the age to come. In contrast to the righteous family of God, those who willfully continue in lifestyles of sin prove that, regardless of what they claim, they are still children of the devil.

**Connect:** Relational questions to get conversations started.

1. Who in your group has engaged in prayer walking this month, and what was their experience like?

**Seed:** The Bible, God's inspired Word, is very much like a seed- it contains everything we need to experience Life. Please read the following passage of scripture as a group: (perhaps in two different translations) 1 John 3:1-10.

1. How (in what ways) does hoping in the Lord purify us?
2. Please reread verse 9 and talk through it as a group. How do you differentiate "practicing sin" versus committing a sin? What is God's "seed" which dwells within us? How is it true that genuine believers "cannot keep on sinning?"

**Roots:** Like subterranean tree roots which extend in all directions searching out water, each believer needs to grow and develop spiritual roots that allow us to make personal connections with our God.

1. Do/did you struggle to feel loved and accepted by your earthly father? How do you think this affects your relationship with your Eternal Father?
2. Why is it vital that we have a proper understanding of God as our infinitely good and unconditionally loving Father?

**Trunk:** Without trunks, plants may be large, useful, and beautiful but they are not trees. The same is true with our faith- without it we are not saved and cannot please God. These questions will help us grow our faith in Him.

1. How do verses 1-3 encourage and edify your faith?
2. How do verses 4-10 challenge your faith, and what questions do they raise?

**Crown:** Crowns are the glory of a tree; the culmination of the roots and trunk working in harmony and can be seen for miles around. The crown of a tree well represents the visible portion of our faithlife. These questions will encourage us to apply these principles into our everyday lives.

1. Please reread verse 10. As sons and daughters of God, how can we exhibit His righteousness, goodness, and love this week? Please be specific.

