



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

### Discussion Guide: Week 8 - 1 John 5:1-12

**Summary of this week's teaching:** This week's passage serves as the crescendo of 1 John. For the penultimate teaching of our series, one of our church elders, Jake Rider, shared with us. In this triumphant passage, John informs believers that through our faith in Christ Jesus we have overcome the world. John reminds us (again) that everyone who has been born of God loves God, loves God's children, and keeps God's commandments.

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

1. Do you enjoy the gray, rainy weather or does it make you feel gloomy?

**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 passages of scripture as a group: (perhaps in two different translations) 1 John 5:1-12, John 3:1-8, and John 19:31-37.

1. Why do you think it was important to John to focus on the "water and blood" aspects of Jesus, and what do you think it means?

**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. This week's passage declares that this is how we love God: that we keep His commandments. Does this complement or challenge your view of what it means to love God? Please explain.
2. In what ways did you invest into your personal connection to God this week?

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

1. Does your faith in Jesus ever feel as triumphant as it is described in this week's passage?
2. How do you make sense of this passage if you do not feel like a world-overcomer? What are we to do when our emotions and God's Word do not align?

**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 12. Who in your life does not have the Son and His life? Take a moment as a group and pray for these people. Ask the Lord how He would like to use you in their lives.

