



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

### Discussion Guide: Week 9 - 1 John 5:13-21

**Summary of this week's teaching:** This week concluded our study through the book of 1 John. John wrapped up his sermon with the same intentions with which it began, "so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete." This week's passage offers encouragement and joy to all believers, by reminding us of several key truths.

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

1. How will you celebrate Thanksgiving this week? What are several things for which you are thankful?

**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 5:13-21, and Hebrews 4:14-16.

1. What seven things in the 1 John passage does John want us to know, and why?
2. How does the exhortation to keep ourselves from idols tie into this passage/book?
3. Hebrews 4 also speaks of the confidence that believers ought to have before God. Do you ever struggle with this confidence? Please explain.

**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. 1 John 5:20 reminds us that we know Him who is true and are in Him who is true. How have you drawn near to Him this week? What truth is He currently teaching you?

**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. In what ways do these passages encourage your faith?
2. In what ways do they challenge your faith?

**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. What are your key take-aways from this study of 1 John?
2. In what ways will they affect your every-day life as you live them out?

