

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1 JOHN SERIES

These questions are for the **July 9, 2017** sermon, "In Him, In Us." Please read the sermon passage (1 John 4:13-16) together out loud.

IN OUR MUTUAL ABIDING WITH GOD, NOTE . . .

1. The internal presence of the Holy Spirit (13)
 - a. He abides in us, and we abide in him.
 - b. "Abide" means "remain," or "live," or "a state of inner rest."
 - c. Note the Trinity (13 & 14): Father sends the Son; Father and Son send the Spirit.
2. The historical witness of the Apostles (14)
 - a. They saw Jesus baptized (clearly identified as God's Son), Matt 3:13-17, John 1:25-34.
 - b. They saw Jesus transfigured (clearly identified as God's Son), Matt 17:1-13.
 - c. They saw Jesus resurrected and ascending into heaven, Matt 28:1-10, 16-20.
3. The personal confession of the believer (15)
 - a. The Apostles saw, and blessed are those who believe without seeing (us!), John 20:29.
 - b. It is the role of every believer to continually confess that Jesus is the Son of God.
 - c. We are built up to do this when we meet around God's Word (gathered).
 - d. We are each responsible to do this in all of life ("while we are going"--scattered).
4. The eternal love of our God (16)
 - a. God has shown his love for every believer in that he sent his Son, Jesus Christ.
 - b. We have personal experience with the real love of God even when life is difficult.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Which is more astounding to you: that God "makes his home" in us? Or that we "make our home" in God? Describe a recent example of making your home in God when life was hard, disappointing or confusing. How can we pray for you?
2. Based on #2, above: The identify of Jesus Christ is attested to by Scripture, in which we have the eyewitness account of those who were there when God's voice and Jesus' miracles proved that Jesus is the Son of God. How does this evidence encourage your faith?
3. Based on #3, above: You are not called to "prove" that Jesus is the Son of God, but to testify that Jesus is the Son of God. What is the difference? How is this working out in your everyday conversations with seekers, doubters, friends and family? How do you respond to those who do not accept your testimony?
4. Based on #4, above: You have personal experience with the real (or "manifested") love of God. God showed his love for his people in history at the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ. What factors sometimes make it difficult to "feel" his love? How can you discipline yourself to let God's love for you affect the way you think and live (and feel) on a day-to-day basis?