

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1 JOHN SERIES

These questions are for the **August 6, 2017** sermon, "The Overarching Purpose." Please read the sermon passage (1 John 5:13-17) together out loud.

SERMON OUTLINE

NOTE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN . . .

1. Purposefulness and assurance (13)
 - a. When you believe in the name of the Son of God, you know for sure you have life.
 - b. Testimonies: Scripture (I trust God), Internal (I know God) and Evidential (others see it).
 - i. True assurance: "Believe in the name of Jesus, as revealed in God's Word."
 - ii. False assurance: "I had a warm or healing experience."
2. Prayerfulness and assurance (14-17)
 - a. Why confidence ("boldness in the presence of a superior" and "freedom of speech") is warranted (14-15)
 - i. Christ himself asked, "not my will, but yours be done." (Matthew 26:39)
 - ii. When you ask that God do his will, you can rest assured that he will.
 1. Am I in God's will (Romans 12:1-2)
 2. Am I willing to do God's will, even before I know what it is?
 - iii. NOTE, resist this: "Not your will but mine be done."
 - b. Why intercession is warranted (16-17)
 - i. Sin which does not lead to physical death.
 1. If you observe a Christian brother in a pattern of sin, pray to God.
 2. NOTE: do not talk to others about him. Talk to God about him.
 - ii. Sin which leads to physical death.
 1. God sometimes removes the one who sins.
 2. May all the glory be reserved for God alone.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Is your belief "in the name of the Son of God"? Have you fully internalized God's testimony regarding his Son? Consider Acts 4:12: Jesus, name above all names.
2. Based on #1, above: Consider the three testimonies referred to above. Do you have a confident assurance of eternal life?
3. Based on #2, above: Do you have any area where your prayer life is frustrated? Where you have asked, but you do not yet have what you asked for? Do you ever struggle in prayer, telling God, "not Your will, but mine be done"? How will your prayer life improve when you learn to pray, "not my will, but Yours be done"?
4. Based on #2, above: When we see a Christian brother sinning as a pattern of his life, we are here told to intercede in prayer for him. We are not told to confront him. We are not told to tell others. We are told to ask God to help. Do you think that anyone has ever changed your life forever by noticing an area of sin in your life and interceding for you? How might you improve in practicing this principle?