

1 John Week 5

The Only Way Over is Through
Small Groups – Bethany Church Long Beach

Intro:

- What was “the takeaway” (the most important point) from Sunday’s sermon and/or the sermon text, in your opinion?
- What insight from Sunday’s sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Read 1 John 5

Group Questions:

- John ends his letter where he began – What are common themes between chapter 5 and 1:1-4?
- How are belief, love and obedience interconnected?
- Which of the commands in this letter do you find most difficult to keep? Most enlightening? Most central?
- On what basis are we assured of eternal life? Of answered prayer? Of deliverance from habitual sin? Of knowing truth?
- What does it mean to pray “according to His will”?
- Have you ever felt like your prayers were “bouncing off the ceiling”? What do you do in times like that?
- What prayer has God answered recently that you waited on for a long time? What prayer is still on hold?
- So far John has talked about false teachings, being led astray, and antichrists. From these warnings it would be easy to begin to doubt one’s salvation. Even John Wesley doubted he was a true Christian.
 - Have you ever faced these doubts?
 - To address this issue, what assurance does John give us in vv.13-15?
 - How do we know we have eternal life?
- What are some “God-substitutes” (idols) which have crept into your Christian life? Sports, kids, work, etc.
- How can you guard yourself from idols?
- What is the most important thing you have learned from this book in the Bible?

Pray together as a group.