

Group Leader Guide

1 John – part 7 “Don’t Believe Everything you Hear”

Sermon Recap

Have you ever wondered if everything you're hearing about Jesus is actually true? In a world flooded with spiritual voices, Pastor Chris tackles the urgent challenge of discerning truth from deception. Through a powerful exploration of 1 John 4:1-6, he reveals how even Peter—who walked with Jesus—could stumble into Satan's deception. This eye-opening message equips you with two practical tests to evaluate every spiritual teaching you encounter, ensuring you're anchored in authentic faith. Don't miss this vital teaching that could protect your spiritual journey—watch now to discover how to stand firm in truth while a world of conflicting voices beckons.

Ice Breaker

If you could instantly become an expert in any hobby, which one would it be and why?

Discussion Questions

1. What from the sermon stood out to you? How were you challenged, motivated, or convicted from what you heard?
2. Pastor Chris mentioned Peter's experience of first correctly identifying Jesus as the Messiah and then shortly after being rebuked by Jesus as speaking for Satan. What does this teach us about how easily deception can occur, even among devoted followers?
 - a. In the sermon, Pastor Chris highlighted how Peter went from receiving divine insight about Jesus's identity to unknowingly aligning with Satan's perspective about Jesus's mission, all in a short span of time.
 - b. When have you experienced a time where you were confident in your spiritual understanding but later realized you might have been mistaken?
3. The sermon discusses how false teachers often use spiritual language and talk about truth while actually teaching lies. How can we effectively test whether a teaching is truly from God?
 - a. John instructs believers to 'test the spirits' and emphasizes that Satan's servants often disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.
 - b. What specific criteria do you use to evaluate the teachings you encounter on social media, podcasts, or other spiritual content?
4. Based on Hebrews 2:14-18 discussed in the sermon, why is it critically important to believe that Jesus came 'in the flesh' as both fully God and fully human?
 - a. The sermon outlined five critical points from Hebrews about why Jesus's physical incarnation matters for our salvation and help in temptation.
 - b. How does understanding Jesus as both fully God and fully human impact your personal relationship with Him?

5. Pastor Chris used the analogy of a spider web to describe biblical truth. How does changing or removing one aspect of biblical truth affect the whole system of Christian faith?
 - a. The sermon explained that like a spider web, pulling out one strand of biblical truth affects the whole structure and ultimately connects back to Jesus.
 - b. Can you think of an example where compromising on one biblical truth led to larger issues in someone's faith or in a church?
6. According to the sermon, what is the key difference between those who are 'from God' and those who are 'from the world'?
 - a. Pastor Chris emphasized John's point that people who are from God listen to and embrace God's Word, while those from the world listen to the world.
 - b. How can you evaluate whether you're truly listening to God's Word or being more influenced by worldly perspectives?

Prayer

- Ask for prayer requests from the group.
- Pray for discernment to recognize the truth and reject false teachings.
- Ask God to help us align our lives with biblical standards and truths.
- Seek courage to stand firm in faith when faced with deception.