

# Group Leader Guide

## 1 John – part 9 “Life in the Son”

### Sermon Recap

Have you ever wondered what true, eternal life really looks like? In this powerful message from 1 John 5, Pastor Chris unveils how authentic life in Christ transforms everything—from what we believe to how we love. Through a compelling blend of Biblical wisdom and practical insights, including a memorable illustration with a chair that brings faith to life, he shows us that Christianity isn't about burdensome rules but about a life-giving relationship with Jesus. Whether you're seeking assurance in your faith journey or longing to experience God's love more deeply, this message offers fresh perspective on what it means to truly "have the Son." Don't miss this opportunity to discover how real life—eternal life—is found in Christ alone.

### Ice Breaker

If you could have dinner with any fictional character, who 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 used the chair illustration to demonstrate true belief. How does this illustration help us understand the difference between intellectual agreement about Jesus and genuine saving faith?
  - a. In the sermon, Pastor Chris demonstrated that merely talking about trusting a chair or partially sitting on it isn't the same as fully relying on it. True belief means putting your full weight on the chair, just as true faith means fully relying on Jesus.
  - b. In what areas of your life might you only be 'partially sitting' rather than fully trusting Jesus?
3. According to 1 John 5:3, God's commands are 'not burdensome.' How does our love for God transform obedience from being a heavy burden to a joy?
  - a. The sermon explained that the word 'burdensome' means 'heavy' and contrasted the Pharisees' approach of adding rules with the joy that comes from obeying out of love for God.
  - b. Can you think of a time when serving someone you loved didn't feel like a burden? How does this relate to your relationship with God?
4. The sermon discusses three witnesses to Jesus' identity: water, blood, and Spirit. Why were these three witnesses significant, and what did they prove about Jesus?
  - a. John emphasized that these witnesses confirmed Jesus' identity from His baptism (water) through His death (blood), with the Spirit continuing to testify to this truth.
  - b. What evidence in your own life has convinced you of the truth about Jesus?
5. Pastor Chris said that eternal life is found in a person, not in religion or philosophy. How does this change the way we should think about Christianity?

- a. The sermon emphasized that Christianity isn't just about beliefs or moral codes, but about a relationship with the living Son of God.
  - b. How would you explain to someone the difference between following a religion and having a relationship with Jesus?
6. Looking at 1 John 5:12, 'Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.' Why does John make such a clear distinction, and what implications does this have for how we share our faith?
  - a. The sermon pointed out that this verse draws a clear line between two groups of people - those who have the Son and those who don't, with eternal life depending entirely on our relationship with Jesus.
  - b. How does this truth influence the urgency and importance of sharing our faith with others?

### **Prayer**

- Begin by sharing any personal prayer requests or praises you have this week.
- Ask God to help us sustain and deepen our belief in Jesus as the Son of God in our daily lives.
- Pray for a spirit of obedience and joy in following God's commands as an expression of our love for Him.
- Request God's guidance in trusting and accepting His testimony about Jesus and His role in our eternal life.