Week Four - I John 4

I John 3:10-11

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another."

The things I want to accomplish this week!

I Cor. 10:31

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4:1

Examine -

1. What word does John use to address his readers?

2. What are we not to believe?

3. What are we to do to the spirits?

4. What are we to determine by trying (or testing) them?

5. Why is it necessary for us to test them?

6. According to Ephesians 4:14, with what are believers not to be carried about?

7. since false teachers like to twist Scripture, According to II Timothy 2:15, what can we do to avoid being deceived and tossed around with false teaching?

8. In Titus 1:13, how did Paul instruct Titus to deal with false teachers?

9. What instructions does II John 10 give us regarding false teachers?

10. In Acts 17:11, what did the Jews at Berea do to verify that Paul's message was true?

Apply: We live in a culture that is permeated with false teaching. The best way for us to identify and avoid error is to thoroughly know the truth. How much time do you spend each day reading the Bible?

How often do you memorize Scripture?

Can you list ten Bible doctrines that you could use to test someone's teaching?

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today:

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4:2-4

Examine -

1. Every spirit that confesses that Christ came in the flesh is what?

2. Every spirit that does not confess that Christ came in the flesh is what?

3. What spirit does not confess that Christ came in the flesh?

4. What is already in the world?

5. Those of us that are of God, whom have we overcome?

6. Why have we overcome them?

7. Who is in us? (I John 3: 24)

8. Who is in the world? (Rev. 12:7-9)

Apply: Satan is the ancient foe of God and God's saints; he is powerful, and we dare not wrestle him in our own strength. At the same time however, we do not need to cower in fear, doing nothing for God: because God, who indwells us, is infinitely more powerful than Satan! Is there anything that you are afraid to do for God?

If so, what?

According to verse four, can you victoriously do this?

What steps can you begin to take to obey God in this area in which you have been afraid?

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today:

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4:5-6

Examine -

1. Of what are false teachers?

2. Of what do they speak?

3. Who hears them?

**Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4. Paul wrote of a day when people would no longer endure sound doctrine; Answer questions 4-6 from this passage.**

4. What will these people heap to themselves?

5. From what will they turn their ears away?

6. To what will they turn?

7. Go back to I John 4! We are of whom?

8. Who hears us?

9. Who does not hear us?

10. Whether or not a person hears us allows us to discern between what two spirits?

Apply: Not only are there many false teachers, but there are many who want to hear their false message! People like to hear things that make them feel good, but they don't like to be confronted with the painful truth that they are sinners who must one day stand before a Holy God. Thankfully, the truth is also that Jesus died and rose again so that we sinners can be forgiven!! How do you respond when the truth of the Word of God convicts you?

Do you stiffen your neck in resistance, or do you humble yourself before God and deal with your sin?

When was the last time you responded to the invitation in a preaching service to deal with something about which God had spoken to you? (Write out the time and your decision)

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today:

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4:7-10

Examine -

1. Who are believers to love?

2. Of whom is love?

3. Everyone who loves is born of whom?

4. Is it possible then for an unsaved person to truly love someone?

5. If you love not, who do you not know?

6. God is what according to verse eight?

7. How was God's love for us manifested?

8. Why did God send His only begotten Son into the world?

9. In what is love, that we love God or that He loved us?

10. What did God send His Son to be?

11. Define Propitiation -

Apply: It is no wonder that we should love God, but it is amazing that a Holy God would choose to love sinners like us! None of us are perfect yet, and there are some things about all of us that others don't like; but if God would choose to love us in spite of our shortcomings, we also should love one another in spite of their shortcomings for the sake of Him who loved us and gave His Son for us.

Is there a particular brother or sister in Christ who you just really don't like?

Ask the Lord to help you see beyond their faults to their eternal soul, and to love them for Christ's sake.

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today:

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4:11-16

Examine -

1. Why ought we to love one another?

2. Who has ever seen God?

3. If we love one another, it gives evidence that who dwells in us?

4. If we love one another, what is perfected in us?

5. How did Jesus say that men would know we were His disciples in John 13:35?

6. How do we know that God dwells in us, and we in Him according to vs. 13?

7. What have we seen, and of what do we testify?

* **Note: You did not see this with your eyes but you have seen evidences of this all around you. List some of those evidences.**

8. God dwells in the person who confesses what about Christ?

9. What have we known and believed?

Apply: No man has ever seen God in His fullness. God demonstrated His love when He gave us His Son, and He tells us of His love in the Bible. The only way that this lost world can see God's love is through the lives of believers, who are to love each other with the same kind of love that God has for us. What are four ways that you can demonstrate God's love, either towards a fellow Christian, or to someone who is not saved? (Hint: see 1 Corinthians chapter 13 for ideas!)

**BONUS: Give specific verses for each of the 4 ways above of Jesus demonstrating them.**

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today:

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4:17-21

Examine -

1. In what is our love made perfect?

2. Why is this?

3. What is not in love?

4. What does perfect love do to fear?

5. What does fear have?

6. Who is not made perfect in love?

7. Why do we love God?

8. A person who claims to love God, but hates his brother is what?

9. Why?

10. What commandment do we have from God?

Apply: To the same degree that we love God, we will obey Him (Jn. 14:15). To the same degree that we love our brother, we will not wrong him (1 Cor. 13). If we are yielded to the Holy Spirit, and He is able to fully produce His love in our lives, we will not fear God's judgment. Our consciences will be clear both toward God and man. One way that you can evaluate your own love for God is to ask yourself if you could confidently stand before God if He required that of you today. Think about this for a minute, then, circle one of the following statements that best fits you.

* I love God with all of my heart, mind, soul and strength.
* I love God a lot, but not as much as I should.
* I would probably be ashamed of some things if I stood before Him today.
* Sure, I love God, but I love a lot of things in the world too.

Why should I love God? What has He done for me?

Is your love for God what it should be? If not, spend some time in prayer right now, asking God to teach you how, and to help you, to love Him more.

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today:

Date: Time:

Weekly memory verse – I John 3:10-11 Time spent in prayer

Read - 1 John 4

Examine -

1. What are we to do with the spirits?

2. Why are we to do this?

3. What does the Spirit of God confess?

4. Every spirit that denies that Christ came in the flesh is the spirit of what?

5. Why have we overcome?

6. Who hears us?

7. Everyone who loves is born of whom?

8. How do we know that God dwells in us (v. 13)?

9. Who dwells in the person who confesses that Jesus is the Son of God?

10. What is not in love?

11. Why do we love God?

12. He who claims to love God, but hates his brother is what?

Apply:

What were some of the most significant principles in this chapter to you?

Prayer

Praise

Main thought to meditate on today: