

11.23.22 – A Weekly Word for Covenant Church

Title: “Take-Aways From our Journey Through 1 John”

Scripture Reading: [1 John 1-5](#)

Reflection: Pastor Henry

This past Sunday, we completed our 3-month journey through the letter of 1 John. What a journey it’s been. And who knew, as someone in one of the discipleship groups I am a part of said earlier this week, that “...it would take 4 different pastors to make it all the way through.” 😊

Now that we completed our journey through 1 John, what are you taking away with you? As you reflect back on all the different things that John brought to our attention as followers of Jesus Christ, how has/is your life as a disciple been/being shaped and formed by what John wrote in this letter? What specific verses, themes, or truths that John wrote are now imprinted on your heart and life?

Here are a few verses that stood out to me along the journey that I am taking with me:

- ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him, there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 1 John 1:5-6
- ⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. 1 John 1:8-10
- ⁴Whoever says, “I know him (Jesus),” but does not do what he (Jesus) commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. 1 John 2:4
- ⁹Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister^[d] is still in the darkness. ¹⁰Anyone who loves their brother and sister^[e] lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. 1 John 2:9-10
- ¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father^[f] is not in them. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. 1 John 2-15-16
- ²²Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist—denying the Father and the Son. 1 John 2:22

- 3 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3:1
- 7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 8 The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. 9 No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. 1 John 3:7-9
- 11 For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. 1 John 3:11
- 16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. 17 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:16-18
- 23 And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. 1 John 3:23
- 4 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. 1 John 4:1-3
- 7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 1 John 4-7-12
- 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them, and they in God. 1 John 4:15

- ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister. 1 John 4:19-21
- ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. 1 John 5:5
- ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 1 John 5:11-12
- ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13
- ²⁰ We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 1 John 5:20
- ²¹ Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. 1 John 5:21

These are some of the verses that stood out to me on our journey through 1 John. But, what about you? If you had to make a list of verses that stood out to you, verses that you are taking with you, and verses that are shaping you as a disciple of Jesus, what verses would make your list?

Prayer:

Father in Heaven, as we conclude our journey through 1 John, we thank you for Jesus, the Son of God, the Righteous One who is the "...atoning sacrifice for our sin..." and who is the one "...who purifies us from all sin." Thank you for the eternal life that only Jesus can provide. Spirit of God, as we go about our daily routines, enable and help us to "...walk in the light of Christ, confess our sin, live as Jesus did, love those around us not only with words and speech but also with actions and in truth, test the spirits to see if they are from God, keep ourselves from idols, and believe and know that Jesus is the Son of God." In Jesus' name – our life, light, and love – we pray. Amen.

Action Item for Day/Week:

Find 15 minutes to reread 1 John in one setting. As you read, highlight all the verses that speak to you. Make

your own “takeaway” list of verses from 1 John.

Songs for today:

[Who You Say I Am](#)

[They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love](#)

[Before the Throne of God](#)