

Leader Conversation Guide - XXVII - 1, 2, 3 John

Main Idea

This week, Pastor Steve continued our XXVII series with a message from 1, 2, and 3 John. He focused on living as true believers, demonstrating God's light and love in every aspect of life. Drawing from 1 John 1:3-4, he reminded us that fellowship with God through Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, is key to a faithful life. Pastor Steve challenged us with reflective questions about our priorities, whether our beliefs align with Scripture, and how we treat others. He urged us to examine areas where we may be influenced by the world and recommit to living fully in God's truth.

'We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.'

1 JOHN 1:3-4

Make It Practical:

Accountable Questions / Tensions from 1, 2, 3 John:

- Who am I listening to and who is listening to me?
- Do I prioritize others over my own needs/desires?
- Is there any area of my life that I haven't confessed and repented of and I've settled into a practice of sinning?
- Are there any of my beliefs that don't line up with Scripture? Have I allowed pop-culture to influence my view of God's Word and Jesus?
- Is there any thing or person that has taken your focus away from God? Is there a person or thing that you long for, admire, love, or revere more than God?
- Who do I value so much in my life that I'm willing to set aside the convenience of a text or social media post and take my time to sit with them and have an honest, accountable conversation?
- Does the central message of my life lead others to carry the light and love of Jesus Christ?

Talk About It

Living in Light and Love

• 1 John emphasizes that true believers demonstrate God's light and love in their lives. Reflecting on your personal walk, are there areas where you feel you're not fully living in God's light or love? How can you better align those areas with His truth?

Influence of the World

• In 1 John 2:15-17, we are warned about the dangers of loving the world and its desires. Are there areas in your life where you feel the pull of worldly values or desires over God's truth? How can you shift your focus back to God?

Belief and Scripture

• John speaks about ensuring our beliefs align with Scripture. Are there any beliefs you hold that you feel might not fully align with God's Word? How has popular culture influenced your view of Jesus or Scripture, and how can you correct this influence?

True believers will live a life that demonstrates God as Light and Love.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the truth of Your Word and for the reminder that You are our light and love. Help us to live fully in Your light, leaving behind any darkness that hinders our relationship with You. Holy Spirit, guide our hearts and minds to align with Your truth and not be swayed by the distractions of the world. May our lives reflect Your love in everything we do, leading others to know You. Strengthen our fellowship with You and with one another as we walk in Your ways. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Leader Tip

<u>Next week is baptisms!</u> Is there anyone in your Group who Is Interested In taking their Next Step In baptism?