

**FOR THE BROTHERS:  
A STUDY IN THE EPISTLES OF JAMES, JOHN, JUDE  
AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2016-2017**

**John: Overcoming Faith  
I John 5:1-12  
March 30, 2017**

*“Faith is not a soft option offered to people who need a crutch to get through the rest of their lives. Faith is the supernatural activity of God whereby He opens blind eyes, unstops deaf ears, and a man or a woman says- ‘I see it now. I get it now. I am going to trust in God. I am going to trust in Jesus.’”*  
- Alistair Begg

**I. True faith is born of God.**

*Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God,...*

**II. True faith is displayed in evidence.**

cf. I John 3:18

**A. Love for the Father and His children.**

*... and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.<sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God,...*

**B. Obedience to His commands.**

*...when we love God and obey his commandments.<sup>3</sup> For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.*

cf. John 15:8-11; Matthew 11:28-30

**C. Overcomes the world.**

*<sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?*

cf. I John 2:15-17; I John 4:4-6

**III. True faith is grounded in testimony.**

**A. It is an historical testimony.**

*<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.*

cf. John 17:8, 20; John 15:26; John 16:13

**B. It is convincing testimony.**

*<sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.*

cf. Deuteronomy 19:15

**C. It is God’s testimony.**

*<sup>9</sup>If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <sup>10</sup>Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.*

**IV. True faith is eternal.**

*<sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.<sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

## **Discussion Questions**

1. Why is the new birth so important for the Christian? How does the new birth relate to repentance and faith?
2. Why is it necessary to maintain a connection between God's love and God's commands? What is the danger in separating them?
3. How would obeying God's commands be a joy for us?
4. How does the baptism and crucifixion of Christ reveal him as the Son of God?
5. How does the Holy Spirit work in us to testify to the truth of Jesus being the Son of God?

## **Going Deeper**

1. When and how did you come to the point of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? How do you see the evidences of belief, love, and obedience played out in your life?
2. What challenges do you face both externally and internally to your faith in Christ? What are some specific things you need to do to strengthen your faith in Christ?
3. Who of your friends needs to know about this "Life in the Son"? How do you plan to share this wonderful truth with them?