

1John Study Guide - 1John 4 (New International Version)

Review:

Ch. 1. - The apostle John begins his letter to the church by reminding them of Jesus' Deity (He is God) and how that knowledge sheds light on who they are within Him. If they are of Jesus, they must walk like Jesus and not the world. If they live like the world, then they are not of God and His truth isn't really in them. They must examine their hearts. If they recognize that they are not truly saved, they must confess and repent so that Jesus will cleanse them.

Ch. 2. - Jesus is our Advocate and the One Who paid for our sin. This should bring us comfort that our faith in Jesus Christ frees us from the penalty of sin. The apostle John explains how their actions can speak to where their faith is. Do they keep God's commands (i.e. follow what the Scriptures say)? If not, then they lie to themselves that they are a Christian. In order to walk like Jesus did when He was on this earth, we must abide in Him (i.e. be in His Word daily and pray). John refreshes the old command of loving one's brother/sister by saying that if we hate them, the love of God can't be present within us. This will lead us to darkness by drawing us away from God and closer to the world's ways. John cautions the church to beware of those against Christ ("anti"-christs) since we're living in the last "hour" (that "hour" began at the cross and indicates an "era").

Ch. 3 - John begins to explain the privilege of being God's child and to not be surprised that the world does not like us. Our will (either self-will or submitted will) exposes the genuineness of who our parent truly is (the world or God)? John reminds the church the world is passing away and that it doesn't like us because we are God's children. John then goes on to define God's love and explains that if we are of God, this type of love will be manifested within us.

Scriptures in Study Guide:

Scriptures this week are in the NIV (New International Version). To make things easier, the actual verses will be included in your daily lessons to help you with the missing words.

Day 1 - 1John 4:1-3

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **1John 4:1-3** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

1 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:

- Dear friends, do _____ believe every _____, but test the spirits to see _____ they are from God, because many _____ prophets have gone out into the world.
- **Questions:**
 - What are we not to believe? _____
 - What should we do with the spirits to see whether they are from God? _____
 - Why do we need to test the spirits to see if they are from God? _____.
 - Where have the false prophets gone out into? _____
- Write out **1John 2:17:** _____

1 John 4:2:

- This is _____ you can recognize the Spirit of God:
- Every spirit that _____ that Jesus Christ has come in the _____ is from God,
- **Questions:** - How do we recognize the Spirit of God? (See last part of 1John 4:2)

1 John 4:3:

- but every spirit that does _____ acknowledge Jesus is not _____ God.
- This is the spirit of the _____, which you have heard is _____ and even now is already in the world.

Questions:

- Looking at **verses 2 and 3 of 1 John 4**, how would you describe the difference between a person who has the Spirit of God and the person who does not?
- Since the apostle John shares that “many antichrists” have come into the world to destroy the work of the church, what do learn about a person’s faith if they do not acknowledge Jesus as coming from God (as stated in **verses 2-3**)?

Day 2 - 1 John 4:4-6

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **1 John 4:4-6** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. **5** They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. **6** We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit[a] of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

1 John 4:4:

- You, dear _____, are from God and have _____ them, because the one who _____ in you is _____ than the one who is in the _____.

• **Question:** According to this verse, how can we know that we have confidence that we have overcome the deceptions of the world? (Read the last portion of verse 4 for answer) - _____

1 John 4:5:

- They are _____ the world and _____ speak from the viewpoint of the _____, and the world _____ to them.
 - **Question:** People of the world listen to what viewpoint? God’s or the world’s? _____

1 John 4:6:

- _____ are from God, and whoever _____ God listens to us;
 - **Question:** Who are people from if they listen to the things of God? _____
- but whoever is _____ from God does not _____ to us.
 - **Question:** Do people who are not from God listen to the things of God? _____
- This is _____ we recognize the Spirit of _____ and the spirit of _____.
 - **Question:** According to this verse, how can we recognize those who are of the Spirit of truth (i.e. God) and those who are of the spirit of falsehood (i.e. the world)? _____
- **Question:** Based upon this verse, should we be surprised when the worldly people don’t act Christlike? _____.

Day 3 - 1 John 4:7-12

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **1John 4:7-12** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

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:

- Dear friends, let us _____ one another, for love _____ from God.
 - **Question:** Where does love for others come from? _____
- _____ who loves has been born of God and _____ God.
 - **Question:** When we love others, what 2 things about our relationship with God does that reveal?
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____

1 John 4:8:

- Whoever does _____ love does not know God, because God _____ love.
- Write down **1 Corinthians 13:4-7** -

1 John 4:9:

- This is _____ - God showed his love _____ us:
- He _____ his one and _____ Son into the world that we _____ live through him.
 - **Question:** How did God show His love for us? (Reread **last part of verse 9** for answer): _____

1 John 4:10:

- This _____ love: not that _____ loved God, but that _____ loved us and sent his Son as an _____ sacrifice for our sins.
 - **Question:** Why did God send His Son into the world as an atoning sacrifice? _____

1 John 4:11:

- Dear friends, _____ God so loved us, we _____ ought to love one another.
 - **Question:** Why should we also ought to love one another? _____
- Write out **John 13:34-35** -

1 John 4:12:

- No one has ever _____ God; but if we love one another, God _____ in us and his love is _____ complete in us.

Day 4 - 1 John 4:13-16

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **1 John 4:13-16** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. **14** And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. **15** If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. **16** And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

1 John 4:13:

- This is _____ we know that we live _____ him and he in us:
- He has _____ us of his _____.
 - **Question:** How do we know that we live in him (Christ) and He in us? _____

Write out **John 14:16-17:** _____

1 John 4:14:

- And we have _____ and testify that the Father has sent _____ Son to be the _____ of the world.
 - **Question:** What has the apostle John, the writer of this letter, seen and testified? _____
- Write out **John 3:16** - _____

1 John 4:15:

- If anyone _____ that Jesus _____ the Son of God, God _____ in them and _____ in God.
 - **Question:** What does it say about a person spiritually if they acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God? _____
- Write out **Matthew 16:16-17**: _____

1 John 4:16:

- And so we know and _____ on the love God _____ for us.
- God _____ love.
 - **Question:** Who is love? _____
- Whoever _____ in love lives in God, and _____ in them.
 - **Question:** Whoever lives in love lives in Who? _____

Day 5 - 1 John 4:17-21

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **1 John 4:17-21** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. **18** There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. **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 4:17:

- This is how love is made _____ among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.

Questions:

- How is love made complete among us? Who are we like in this world? _____
- What confidence will we have by knowing that our love is complete in this world when we are like Jesus? (i.e. what time in the future?) _____

1 John 4:18:

- There is no _____ in love.
 - **Question:** What is not a part of love? _____
- But _____ love drives out fear, _____ fear has to do with punishment.
 - **Questions:**
 - What drives out fear? _____
 - What does fear have to do with? _____
 - Who took our punishment for us? (See **1 John 2:1-2**) _____
- The one who fears is _____ made perfect in _____.

1 John 4:19:

- We _____ because he _____ loved us.
 - **Question:** Why do we love? _____
- Write out Romans 5:8 -

1 John 4:20:

- Whoever _____ to love God _____ hates a brother or sister is a _____.
- For whoever does not _____ their brother and sister, whom they have _____, cannot love _____, whom they have not seen.

1 John 4:21:

- And he has given us this _____: Anyone who loves God _____ also love their brother _____ sister.
 - **Question:** What is the command for anyone who loves God? _____