

Be An Overcomer

1 John 5:1-5

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I. Faith Leads to Overcoming. 1 John 5:1

The first characteristic of being an overcomer is belief that Jesus is the _____.

- Faith is what gives us the _____ that we need to see, that God works all things together for good.

II. Love Shows Our Belief. 1 John 5:2-3

“The burden of _____ (man trying to please God in his own strength) is a grievous one, but the yoke that Christ puts on us is not burdensome at all.” (Weirsbe)

- It is one thing to say that we _____ in God, but it is another to say that we obey his commandments and live like we believe in God.

It is only by the working and the power of the Holy Spirit in me that I can come close to following God’s commandments. **Romans 8:8**

“Those who believe God is who Scripture reveals Him to be will _____ in love, praise and adoration.” (MacArthur)

III. We Are Now Overcomers. 1 John 5:4-5

The word _____ in the Greek is *nikaō* (nik-ah’-o) which translated means *“to conquer, to defeat, or to gain the victory.”*

- It’s like scripture is saying, **‘so you say you’re a Christian, _____ it! Don’t tell me, show me!’**

IV. Practical Application.

We are overcomers because of our _____ as believers in Christ. We are still called to strive to follow him and to put our faith into practice, but this now becomes a love response rather than a prerequisite for us.

- We endure _____ and trials because we know that it produces good in us, and because we know that the ultimate battle has been won.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week’s sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **1 John 5:1**. Discuss how we are both sanctified by Christ and being continually sanctified.
John 17:14-17, 2 Corinthians 3:18, 1 Peter 2:9-10
2. Andy said that **“Faith is what gives us the perspective that we need to see that God works all things together for good.”** How have you seen that in your own life? When are the times that you need a proper perspective the most?
3. Read **1 John 5:2-3**. How often do we struggle with loving God’s children who frustrate us? Or are different than us? Have different denominational beliefs than us? How can we love God’s children better?
Matthew 22:37-39, James 1:22-25, 1 John 4:19
4. John MacArthur says, **“Genuine saving faith produces love, which results in obedience. Those who believe God is who Scripture reveals Him to be will respond in love, praise and adoration.”** Discuss how love, praise, and adoration are a response.
Romans 8:8, Hebrews 11:6
5. Read **1 John 5:4-5**. How does reading that you as a believer are an overcomer change your view of your current trials or situations?
Colossians 2:15, Revelation 12:11
6. Discuss the practical application of the sermon.