

This Week

Churchwide
Worship Services Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM or 10:30–11:45 AM
Bible Fellowships Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM or 10:30–11:45 AM
GriefShare Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM in the Library
Small Groups
Community Groups Sunday, 5:30–7:30 PM in various homes
Men
Samson Society Thursday, 7:00–8:30 PM in the Library
Friday Morning Study Friday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Tejas Room
Adult Studies
The Book of Matthew Wednesday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Dining Room
Senior Adults
Spring Banquet Friday, 6:30–8:30 PM in the Children’s Area

College & Career
College Student Lunch Sunday, 11:45 AM–2:00 PM in the Mesquite Room
Late Night Tuesday, 7:00–8:30 PM at the G.Y.M.
Senior High
Senior High Youth Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.
Junior High
Junior High Youth Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.
5th & 6th Grade
Breakaway Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM in the Loft
Children
Father + Daughter Night Sunday, 6:00–7:30 PM at the Country Club



Later This Month:
We hope you'll join us for our spring Community Outreach Team project as we partner with Christmas in Action to make repairs to the home of someone in need. If you can swing a hammer, plant a tree, or haul debris, stop by our information table in the Main Hall today!

This Morning

Lesson 13: Why Keeping God’s Commandments is Doable—*1 John 5:3b–13*
Tom Rodgers, Lead Pastor

- I. The nature of His commandments:** God’s commandments are not too alien and demanding for a believer in Jesus Christ (Matthew 23:4; 11:30; James 1:25)—*1 John 5:3b*.
- II. The nature of our ability:** Everyone who has believed in God’s Son has been given a new heart in order to obey God’s commandments—*1 John 5:4–5*.

Note: There are two types of overcoming: positional, which is gained by faith in Jesus Christ, and experiential, which comes from on-going faith and obedience to the Scriptures.

- A. The provision:** Our new hearts (nature) are impervious to the powerful influence of the world system around us (cp. 2:16)—*1 John 5:4a*.
- B. The channel:** The means to appropriate a new heart and positionally overcome the world, is by taking God at His word (faith)—*1 John 5:4b*.
- C. The key:** Since the key to positionally overcoming the world is faith, it is the key to experientially overcoming the world system by obeying God’s commandments (Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 11:6; 2 Corinthians 5:7)—*1 John 5:5*.

- III. The nature of our faith:** Faith in Jesus Christ must be based on God’s threefold witness, which also provides assurance of eternal life—*1 John 5:6–13*.

- A. Its basis:** The basis of our faith in Jesus Christ is God’s threefold witness about Him—*1 John 5:6–8*.

- 1. The water** refers to His baptism, which inaugurated His public ministry (Matthew 3:13–17).
- 2. The blood** refers to His death, which was the goal of His public ministry (John 19:30).
- 3. The Spirit** refers to the Holy Spirit’s involvement in the Savior’s ministry (Matthew 12:22–32), baptism (John 1:32), and death (Hebrews 9:14).

- B. Its assurance:** Faith in God’s threefold testimony of His Son assures us of eternal life—*1 John 5:9–13*.

- 1.** God’s testimony about His Son should be accepted far more readily than any human testimony—*1 John 5:9*.
- 2.** God’s testimony about His Son can be accepted or rejected—*1 John 5:10*.
- 3.** God’s testimony about His Son specifies that He is the exclusive source of eternal life—*1 John 5:11–12*.
- 4.** Belief in God’s testimony about His Son comes with the guarantee that we possess eternal life—*1 John 5:13*.

Discussion

These questions are offered each week to facilitate further discussion of this morning’s topic in small group settings such as Community Groups or over dinner with family and friends. We hope you find them helpful to your spiritual growth.

- 1.** Why do God’s commandments seem like they are difficult to obey? Is that equally true for regenerate and unregenerate people?
- 2.** In considering the issue of overcoming the world, how does 1 John 5:4–5 conflict with Revelation 2:7 and 26? What are some of the ways the conflict could be resolved?
- 3.** The original Greek text of 1 John 5:7–8 is almost certainly not found in the original God-breathed Scriptures, but verse 6 provides the three parts of God’s witness about His Son. What do each of the three points indicate about Jesus Christ? What is the purpose of providing three points as His witness according to Deuteronomy 19:15?
- 4.** What has God testified about His Son according to verses 11–12? Summarize God’s testimony about eternal life and His Son in your own words. What strikes you about these two verses?
- 5.** What happens when someone believes God’s testimony about His Son? What happens when a person rejects that testimony?
- 6.** What assurance does God want us to have when we accept His testimony by believing in His Son according to verse 13? Why is it important for us to continue believing in the name of the Son of God?