

Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.org/i-john-518-21
 - Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources
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1 John 5:18-21 (ESV)

We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Sermon Outline

- I. We know that those born of God do not keep sinning
 - II. We know that we are from God
 - III. We know that the Son of God has come
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Life Group Leader Notes:



Group Discussion Questions

•As we close our study of 1 John, what has impacted you the most from this book? What passages were most meaningful to you? Do you feel more assured in your standing with God? How can you continue to grow in your love and knowledge for this book beyond this week?

•In verse 18, John says ***we know that those who are born of God do not keep sinning***. As Pastor Scott noted, we will not be sinlessly perfect, but sin is not compatible with the child of God. How has God protected you from sin? How has he protected you from the power of the evil one? Does anyone in your group have a testimony of how God helped him or her overcome a particular struggle? We should celebrate stories when our brothers and sisters are growing in grace and overcoming sin.

•The assurance in verse 18 (that we do not keep on sinning) is tied to the first few chapters of the letter. We were taught in those chapters that when we do happen to sin, we can confess our sins to God and be assured of forgiveness. Were you able to confess sins last week? Was anyone convicted of sin but did not confess?

•In verse 19, John says that ***we know that we are from God***. This is a powerful summary of the gospel that John has been proclaiming throughout the letter. When God saves us, he reconciles us to himself. We can now be found *in him*. How would you describe salvation to someone who does not know about Christianity? Would you describe it as something God gives outside of himself (heaven, a gift, etc), or would you describe it as God giving himself to us (reconciliation, being found in him, etc.)? How does this text enrich your view of salvation?

•In verse 20, John says that ***we know that the Son of God has come***. This has been another major theme in the letter. How have the sermons from 1 John impacted your understanding and worship of Jesus, the Son of God?

•John ended the letter with a bold warning to stay away from idols. He was most likely warning them to stay away from the idolatrous teaching they had been hearing from the false teachers. But it is an admonishment. *Keep yourselves from idols*. We must actively stay away from idolatry. Are there any idols, or idolatrous teachings, that are tempting you? How can you guard yourselves from idolatry? Why do we need other people to help us identify idols in our lives?

