

BE VULNERABLE

#5 John's hope for his audience is that they would "be confident and unashamed before him (Jesus) at his coming." Do you feel that to be true of you, or do you struggle with this confidence? Why is that?

#6 What are some of the pressures in your life that make it difficult for you to "abide" in Jesus, like John is describing?

How can your Life Group help you to overcome them?

PRAYER REQUESTS

(Commit to pray for at least 3 prayer requests from your Life Group)

✓

✓

✓



Pastor Brandon Babcock, Ph.D.
May 5, 2024
First John: Part 5
springfieldfaithcenter.org/sermons

KEEPING THE FAITH

1 John 2:18-29

A Brief How To:

1 John 2:18-29

1. **Recognize** the marks of the end.
2. **Rejoice** in the benefits of being a believer.
3. **Remain** in Jesus until he returns.

LIFE GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

For the week of May 5, 2024

QUICK REVIEW

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

BE FRIENDLY

#1 Who was the best roommate you can remember having? What sort of an impact did they have on you?

BE OPEN

#2 John is the only New Testament writer to use the phrase “antichrist,” and he uses it in this week's passage (and in 2 John as well). What does he mean when he uses it? What are John's criteria for being an “antichrist?”

Are John's concerns still relevant today? Based on his description, does the risk of being an “antichrist” still exist today?

#3 John also uses the word “abide.” What does that word mean, and why do you think he uses it?

Jesus also used that word, in John's gospel, during the last supper:

John 15:9-11, ESV

²As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

How do Jesus' words add to what John has been saying in this section?

#4 Like John, Paul has some things to say about what life should look like when the Holy Spirit lives in us.

Ephesians 4:20-32, NIV

²⁰That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶“In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Are there any parallels here to the things that John has been saying?

Do you feel that God has built any of these things in your life? Are there specific areas that He still wants to transform in you?