

1 John 4:1-6

One Point: When Gods word is your final authority, you'll know God more and love Him more.

1. If you were an inanimate object what would you be and why?

Read v. 1-3

1. Why is it so important for us to test the things we are told?
2. How can false teaching damage our spiritual life? (1 John 2:1)
3. What is the significance of John saying Jesus “has come in the flesh” as opposed to “came in the flesh”? (Romans 8:29)

Read v. 4

4. What does it mean by saying that we have already overcome the false teachers?
5. How does the Holy Spirit enable us to overcome false teaching?
6. Why do you think we often forget about this amazing truth? How do we avoid this?

Read v. 5-6

7. What does John mean by listen?
8. Similar to the first question, why is it so crucial for those who follow Jesus to know the Spirit of Truth from the Spirit error? (Psalm 19:7-23)

What I will be talking about

We should never just believe everything we hear. Satan is out to hinder us from knowing Truth. Therefore we must “test the spirits” like the people in Acts 17:11 to “see if these things [are] so.” God’s Word has to be our final authority. But more than that, we need a relationship God. Verse 4 says, “He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” The Holy Spirit helps us detect false teaching.

This is important because (1) False teaching hinders our joy, (2) False teaching will kill our spiritual life, (3) False teaching hinders our assurance, (4) Not testing what you hear makes you ignorant, (5) Buying into false teaching is unloving.

But (6), and I’m going to argue that this is the encompassing reason to trust and treasure Jesus and study His word, is that, “The more you know God, The more you will love Him.”