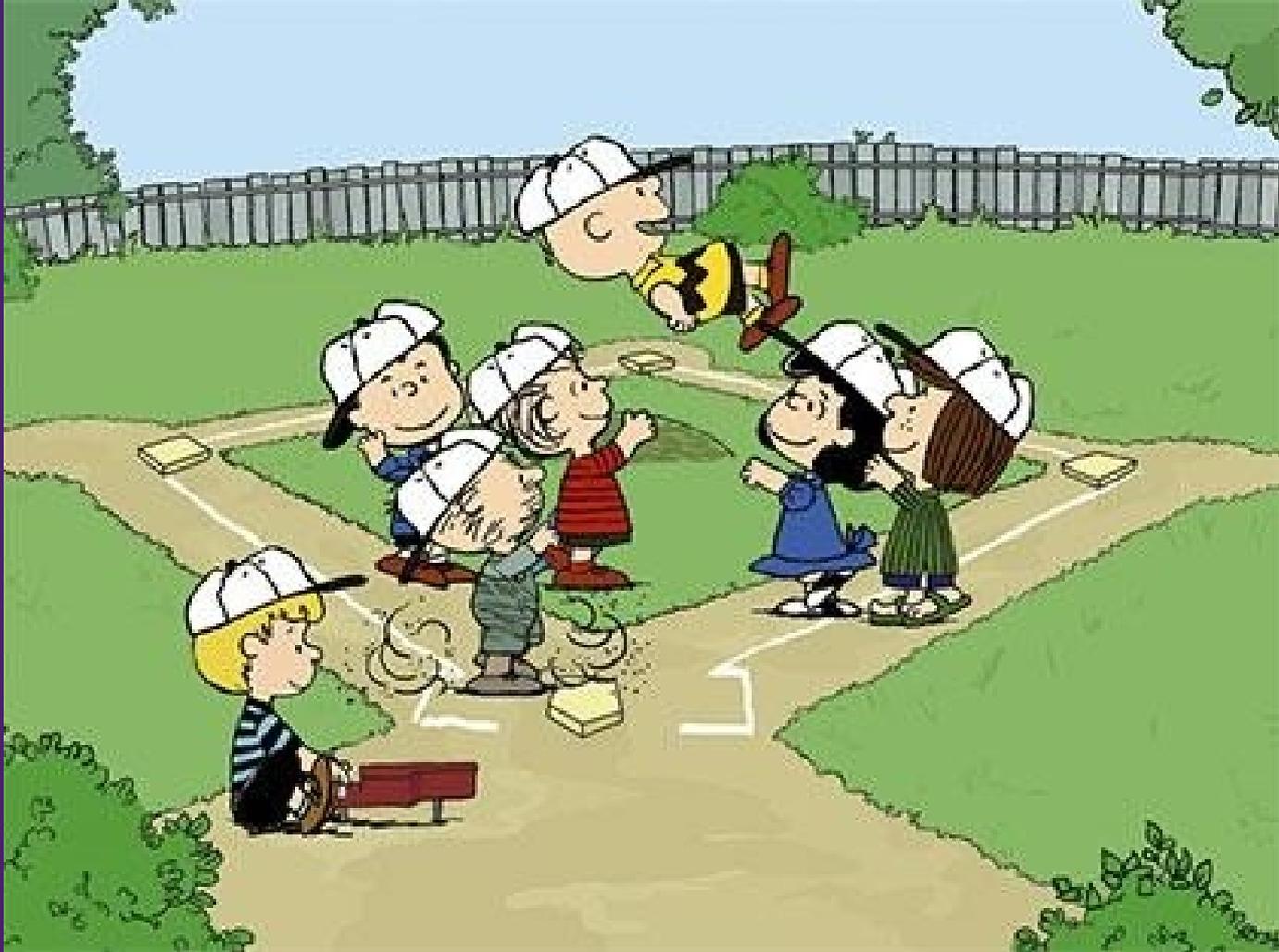


Let's Dismiss Our Kids to Their Kid's Quest Department!



The Text:

I John 5:1-12!

The Title:

Faith is a Verb of Action!

The Theme:

Fellowship!

Throughout this short epistle, from the opening verse to the final statement, John has faithfully and consistently developed the theme of fellowship with God!

By Means of a Fivefold Outline!

Chapter One:

The Condition Needed for Fellowship!

Without a correct understanding of the Incarnation there can be no fellowship with God the Father!



By Means of a Fivefold Outline!

Chapter Two:

The Conduct Resulting from Fellowship!

True fellowship is evidenced by the believer's obedience, which is caused by the believer's love for God, which is made possible only through fellowship!



By Means of a Fivefold Outline!

Chapter Three:

The Characteristics of Fellowship!

True fellowship is evidenced in the believer's being conformed to the image of his Savior – inward purity / outward passion / upward prayers & petitions!



By Means of a Fivefold Outline!

Chapter Four:

The Caution in seeking Fellowship!

***Not every spirit (of men) is from God's Spirit!
Here John turns from words of wisdom to words of
warning! His cry is to beware!***



By Means of a Fivefold Outline!

Chapter Five:

The Consequences of our Fellowship!

Three Points of Interest about Fellowship:

- 1. (5:1-12) The Passion produced: Faith becomes Action!***
- 2. (5:13-17) The Proof of our faith: Prayer is Answered!***
- 3. (5:18-21) The Person of faith: Sin is Avoided!***



The Setting of I John

In this short epistle, John is standing before us both as a loyal pastor and a loving parent.

And as he stands before us he invites us to call for a time-out in our busy lives so that we might evaluate where we are in our fellowship with God!

And because of his love for us, he addresses everyone: He is writing to the little children, the fathers, and the young men!

Let's Look at the Text!

I John 5:1-12!



In this closing chapter!

John Builds on Last Week's Teaching:

The God, whom the unsaved world refuses to know, is today clearly seen in the life-style of the born again believer. Therefore, since the believer has freely received God's love, by grace through faith, he should freely pass it on to others. (cf. 4:12)

Stop Hiding!



This Week's Sermon Outline!

I. (5:1-12) The believer's PASSION is the results of his fellowship with God!

John begins with six closing points given to remind us that our inward attitudes towards God should be revealed through our outward actions!



Principle Number One of the Six

Verse 1: The PRINCIPLE!

True fellowship, which is based on faith, is something that is always seen and not just heard. In other words, the true believer doesn't just talk the talk, he walks the walk. This is true no matter what the circumstances of life may be. God's love cannot be concealed. The love of God must be poured out on all those around us. Especially believers!

- 1. (4:12) This is true with the unsaved world.**
- 2. (4:20) This is true with those saved from the world.**
- 3. (5:1) The faith that personally begins with Jesus is publicly witnessed through the life of the believer!**

Principle Number Two of the Six

Verses 2-3: The PROOF!

True fellowship, which is based on faith alone, is something that can and should be known and understood by each and every believer.

- 1. (v.2) We know this to be true (21 times)! The believer has experienced this personally – fellowship is proven through obedience, and obedience is made possible through God’s love which is the proof of our fellowship with God. (circular argument / can’t escape)**
- 2. (v.3) The reason (for) we know – God’s commandments are not burdensome. The love we received from God cannot be contained. The believer’s joy is naturally poured out on others! God’s love has become evident through our words (unsaved) and works (saved)!**

Principle Number Two

Verses 2-3: The PROOF!

2. (v.3) We have come to know – that God’s commandments are not burdensome.
 - a. The world sees salvation as a burden. This is because it thinks that it takes human effort to obtain it and keep it! (Greek Priest)
 - b. God views salvation as a gift. It is given by grace through faith in the finished work of Christ. Therefore it is not a burden. (I John 4:10 / Isa. 65:1)
 - c. John’s conclusion is, since God has placed His Spirit inside of us, we are able to do the impossible. We can show God’s love even during troubling times.

Principle Number Three of the Six

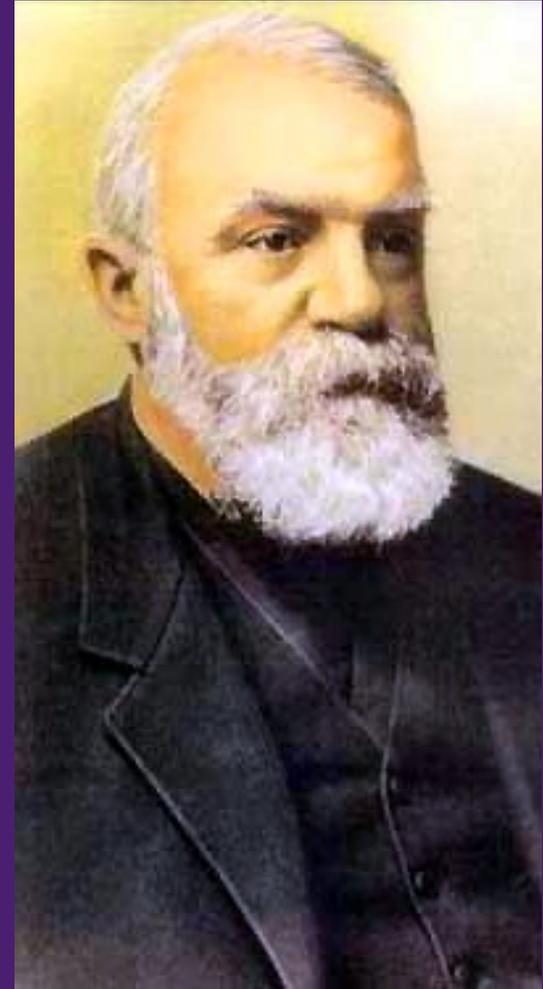
Verses 4-5: The PRACTICE!

True fellowship, which is based on faith alone, and known by the believer, is expressed in both the believer's attitude and actions.

- 1. (v.4) The Reason (for) – The believer's faith in Christ is greater than the works of men.**
- 2. (v.5) The Reminder (this is) – The Savior is the One who has conquered death.**
- 3. Thus, faith must never be allowed to be turned into a work to gain or keep one's salvation.**

D. L. Moody

“I believe that where there is one sermon preached to the unconverted, there should be one hundred preached to the church.”



Principle Number Four of the Six

Verses 6-8: The PASSION!

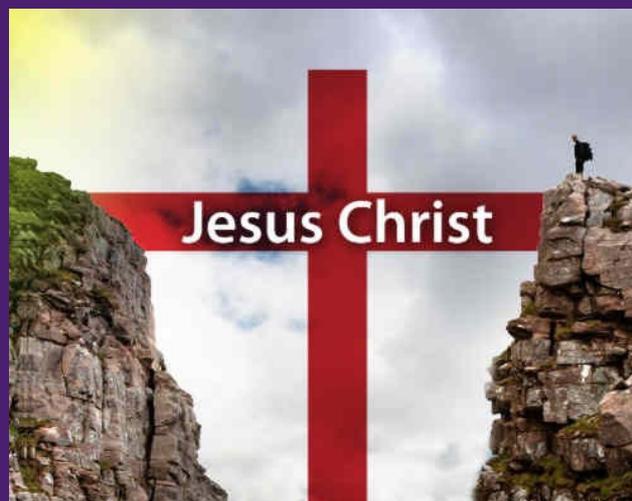
True fellowship, which is based on faith alone, and not on works, is proclaimed by three witnesses that point out the one truth that Jesus is the Incarnate One.

- 1. (v.6) Jesus was born just like all men (water).
Jesus' death was not like all men (blood).
Jesus' birth and death is announced through
the Spirit that lives inside the believer.**
- 2. (vs.7-8) And these three witnesses (Jesus' birth,
death, and the Spirit) all point to the truth
that Jesus is the only Savior of the world.**

Principle Number Five of the Six

Verse 9: The PONDERING!

Since it is true that fellowship is the result of the salvation which is made possible through faith in Jesus, and since the three witnesses all point to this truth, why is it so hard for men to believe?



Principle Number Five

Verse 9: The PONDERING of John!

- 1. Even Jesus' enemies believe that Jesus lived a perfect and pure life! (Muslims)***
- 2. The unsaved world cannot hide the truth of Christ's resurrection! (Josephus)***
- 3. The Spirit's work in the heart of the believer cannot be explained! (Life-style)***
- 4. How can the world be so blind? (3:1-2)***

Principle Number Six of the Six

Verses 10-12: The [[PRINCIPLE!]]

The truth that fellowship with God begins by faith and continues through love, is again restated by God's apostle – John.

1. (v.10) The Truth is restated!

Here John ends his letter the same way he began it. He, again, by pointing out the truth that without a correct understanding of the Incarnate One, fellowship with God is impossible. Unless the testimony of the three witnesses (Jesus' birth, death, and Spirit) are accepted by the unbeliever, there can be no salvation or fellowship with God.

Principle Number Six

2. (v.11) The **Testimony** is restated!

God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that man's "sin debt" might be paid in full. It is only by placing one's faith in Jesus, that a person receives the promise of eternal life.

Principle Number Six

3. (v.12) The **Teaching** is restated!

Without God's love, which is expressed only in Jesus, man is left alone and will perish and die. Those who follow the teachings of the apostates will not receive God's grace. Those who follow the teaching of the apostles will.

***TODAY IS THE HOUR OF SALVATION!
EVERYONE MUST CHOOSE!***

Next Week!

The Consequences of Our Fellowship:

A. (5:1-12) The Passion produced by Fellowship!

B. (5;13-17) The Proof of Fellowship!

C. (5:18-21) The Product formed by Fellowship!

