



## Transforming Faith 1 John 5:1-12

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ **is born of God**... 1 John 5:1a

### Four ways real faith transforms me:

#### 1. I love \_\_\_\_\_ more

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father **loves his child** as well. 1 John 5:1

#### 2. I love \_\_\_\_\_ more

This is how we know that we love the children of God: by **loving God**... 1 John 5:2

#### 3. I love \_\_\_\_\_ more

This is love for God: **to obey his commands**. And his commands are **not burdensome**, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 1 John 5:3,4

#### 4. I love \_\_\_\_\_ more

Jesus said "The **truth** will set you free..." John emphasizes three aspects of the truth:

- The truth about Christ's \_\_\_\_\_  
*Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the one who came by water and blood --Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 1 John 5:5-8*
- The truth about God's \_\_\_\_\_  
*We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. 1 John 5:9,10*
- The truth about my \_\_\_\_\_  
*And this is the testimony: God has **given** us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 1 John 5:11*

The question: Have I \_\_\_\_\_ this transforming gift of God?

## Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today's topic!

### This week's memory verse:

*This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 1 John 5:3,4*

### Monday

Read 1 John 5:1-12. Which of these four points is most difficult for you to "put feet to"? Why?

What does it mean to be born of God? How can you know that you have been born of God?

What parallel themes do you see between John's conclusion and his prologue (1 John 1:1-4)?

According to John, how are belief, love, obedience and life interconnected?

*Thank God today for the Bible. Thank Him for teaching you and helping you grow. Pray that your heart will be soft and open to sharing God's love with others.*

### Tuesday

Read 1 John 5:1. How has being born of God impacted your life? How has it changed your view of love?

In general, how has your faith in God changed the way you love others?

Why do you think it is sometimes more difficult to demonstrate love to other Christians?

Write down the name of another Christian that you are struggling to love. In what way can you show the love of God to that person this week?

*Thank God today for His love for you. Thank Him specifically for the ways His love has changed your life. Talk to Him about the person you are struggling to love. Ask Him to give you a desire and the courage to show that person love this week.*

## **Wednesday**

Read 1 John 5:2. This verse is a bit of twist from John's usual order of "love God, love others" - here it is "love others, love God". Does the order make any difference? Why do you think John keeps these two themes connected?

How will you demonstrate your love for God today?

*Thank God today for calling you to a life of love. Talk to Him about your struggles to love and, in particular, those you are struggling to love. Pray for a soft heart and a willing spirit to follow God's commands. Pray for opportunities to demonstrate love in tangible ways.*

## **Thursday**

Read 1 John 5:3-4. How do you think love and obedience are connected?

Why is love a better motivator for obedience than fear?

What unique quality do God's commands have? How have you found this to be true?

Which commands of God are you struggling most to obey these days? How has that impacted your life and relationship with God?

*Thank God today that He has given you boundary lines to live in. Thank Him that His commands are not burdens. Ask to help you in the areas you are struggling to obey Him. Pray that you will be increasingly motivated by God's love to obey Him.*

## **Friday**

Read 1 John 5:5-12. Why do you think John places such an emphasis on right doctrine, holiness and love?

Compare what John says about the world in other portions of 1 John (2:15-17, 3:13, 4:4 & 5:19). How does the world differ from the Truth?

As you grow in your understanding of who God is and His authority how does that impact your life?

Reread 1 John 4:11. How does knowing that your eternal life from God is "held in His Son Jesus" give you security?

How can security in Christ impact your love for others?

*Thank God today for His power and authority. Thank Him for the eternal life you have in Him. Ask Him to help you increasingly find your life in Him and pray that you will be more free and confident to express love to others.*

## **Saturday**

Take the time today to go over any devotions you may have missed and to complete your memorization of this week's verse. Pray for the ministry this weekend! Thanks!