



Summer Quarter 2021 Theme:
Confident Hope
Unit III. Faith Gives Us Hope

Lesson Titles:
Perfect Love
(Faith Pathway Bible Studies)
A Conquering Faith
(Townsend Press Sunday School
Commentary)

LESSON 12—August 22, 2021

Devotional Reading: John 14:15-24

Background Scripture: 1 John 4–5

Print Passage: 1 John 4:2-3, 13-17; 5:4-5

Key Verse(s):

God is love; and he that dwelleth in love
dwelleth in God, and God in him.
(1 John 4:16b, KJV)

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God is love. Whoever lives in love
lives in God, and God in them.
(1 John 4:16b, NIV)

► Questions to Consider:

1. What is the Apostle John warning and cautioning believers to avoid?
2. What is the test of a true prophet?
3. How do we become a victorious overcomer?

► Lesson Context:

- The book of 1 John was written to a church that was in deep trouble.
- There were troubles concerning the teaching that was taking place in the church, unethical and moral conduct, and the members had become fragmented from each other.
- There were teachers who denied the humanity of Jesus and denied that Jesus of Nazareth was the Christ, the incarnate Word of God, and the only begotten Son of the Father.
- In this epistle, John confronts those who would sow **false teachings** and **division** in the church.

► Lesson Aims:

As a result of experiencing this lesson, the participants should be able to do these things:

- Remember the love of God described by the writer of 1 John.
- Reflect on the various expressions of God's love in your lives.
- Respond to the challenge to love others with Christlike love.

► **Lesson Outlines/Key Points:**

I. **Be Aware of Others (1 John 4:2-3)**

Key Point 1: John cautioned believers to avoid false teachers who claimed to be sent by God.

Key Point 2: True prophecy, preaching, and teaching will always present and glorify Jesus.

II. **Be Aware of Our Self (1 John 4:13-17)**

Key Point 1: As believers, we have been given the indwelling presence of God's Spirit.

Key Point 2: Love is a sign of God's presence in one's life.

III. **Be Aware of Our Savior (1 John 5:4-5)**

Key Point 1: We are victorious overcomers through Christ.

Key Point 2: We overcome because "greater is He who is in us than he that is in the world."

► **Lesson Summary:**

- To grow stronger in knowledge and discernment and to avoid being deceived by false teachers, believers must devote themselves to the Word of God in private devotion, study, and participating in Bible study, Sunday school, and other areas of biblical training.
- In this week's lesson, the Apostle John reminds us that God has called every believer to love others, having a love that is evident in our actions and words.
- People are incapable of loving others the way they should, without the active leading and help of the Holy Spirit.

What Do You Think? (These questions are found in this week's Faith Pathway student book.)

1. In what ways can we be aware of false teachers?

2. What can I do to be better prepared for worship and to help lead and engage others in worship?

3. How can we become more aware of the power we have in Christ Jesus?

As a result of this lesson, I will do the following:
