

# HANDOUT

## Session 5: 1 John 4:17–5:12



### DISCUSS

**Describe a time in your life where you felt (or feel) that you were trapped by the world. How did you feel in the middle of it?**

**How have you seen the power of God at work in your life to help you overcome the world?**

**1 John 5:4. What does John set up as the condition for overcoming the world?**

**Who, truly overcomes the world?**

**What part do you play in overcoming the world, according to everything laid out in 1 John?**

**In your experience, what were the results of you trying to overcome the pressures of the world on your own?**

**Can you describe a time where you leaned on God's power to deal with the world (through a temptation, or a trial, or external pressure)?**

**How were those two experiences different?**

**1 John 5:6–12. What did John identify as the three witnesses proving Jesus gives eternal life?**

**What does John say about the testimony we've received?**



**Does that mean the testimony we've received through the Church is weak or pointless? Why or why not?**

**Where is this testimony ultimately located?**

**Describe a time when you've doubted God's ability to come through for you. What led you to feel like God couldn't deliver on His promise?**

**Now think about an instance where God showed Himself utterly dependable. Were you expecting Him to come through? Why or why not?**

**What are you facing this week that you need the strength of God for?**

**What can your fellow believers help you with? How can they show you love?**

**Whom can you offer the hope of love and eternal life to this week?**

## LIVE IT OUT

**Pray:** Take some time this week and talk to God about the things you feel hemming you in. Take the time to present each pressure, obstacle, or temptation to God and ask Him to overcome in your life.

**Confess:** Meet with a fellow believer this week and confess those instances where you've doubted God's strength to carry you through temptation or the pressure of the world. Ask that friend to pray with you.

**Write:** Take fifteen minutes this week and make a list of the times in your life where you've seen God come through for or around you. Use it as a memorial to God's faithfulness, so you can be encouraged in times of need.

**Memorize:** Work on memorizing 1 John 5:13. John wrote his letter to his readers to help them be confident in the eternal life that's theirs through Jesus Christ. Cling to that promise this week.

**Connect:** John admonishes us to pray for our fellow believers. Identify one person you can pray for this week, and do so. Then, if appropriate, tell them that you've prayed for them.