

Southwest Life Groups

A Place to Belong...A Place to Transform

June 22, 2008

Focus: To read the end of 1 John and see what final thoughts John wanted his readers to remember.

I John - Lesson #16 A Few Final Thoughts

Case Study: Tom is a wonderful man. He has spent his life giving to others. He is known throughout the church as well as the community for constantly helping and loving other people. Tom grew up in the church and loves the church. He has served as a Sunday school teacher, a VBS helper, a deacon over education, an elder, and many other servant positions over his 50 plus years in the church. The simply truth is...Tom is a great man who loves God and serves people.

The sad news came last week. Tom is dying...soon. The saddest thing about the situation is, he is afraid to die. Somewhere deep down he wonders if he will go to heaven. He is just not sure.

- Examine how a man who has given his life for God could feel this way.

Text: I John 5:13-21...Here John closes out his letter. He reminds them of a few things and shares his hope for them.

- Read the text.
- Evaluate why these followers would need to “know” they have eternal life.
- Discuss the idea of prayer here. What is he saying...not saying about prayer.
- Discuss the difference between a sin that leads to death and a sin that doesn't.
- Evaluate the 3 closing points John gives his readers in verses 18-20.

Application:

- Examine your confidence or lack of in your salvation. How does it affect you?
- Describe your spirituality when you are motivated by love verses duty.
- Spend some time talking about your prayer life and the idea John is sharing.
- Which of the three points in verses 18-20 strikes you the most?