

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 20, 2005

Passage: 1 John 2:18-27

Memory Passage: 1 John 2:28

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:18.** How does he address his readers again? Review what he has said already to them in his letter.
- (b) What is his primary concern about these (also see 1 John 2:28)? Is this possible? Consider Mark 13:22 and 1 Timothy 4:1.
- (c) What is the “last hour” that John speaks about? When did it begin (1 Peter 1:18-20; Hebrews 1:1-2)? When will it end (2 Peter 3:1-3)?
- (d) What is an evidence that we are living in the last times according to John? Read Matthew 24:4-14. What did Jesus tell his disciples would be some characteristics of the last days? Be careful here... many often see certain signs that Jesus said would not be an indication of the end. What are these?
- (e) What did Jesus say about that day and that hour in Matthew 24:36-44? How should we live in light of His coming (Matthew 24:45-51)?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 2:18 and Matthew 24:4-14. Talk together about the Lord’s return. What do we know about it? What don’t we know? How should this affect the way we live? Read 1 John 2:28 and pray together that none will be ashamed at His coming.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:18.** John speaks about the Antichrist and the antichrists. What does he say about *the Antichrist*?
- (b) Had they ever heard about the coming of the Antichrist before? When (Matthew 24:5, 11, 24; 2 Thessalonians 2:3)?
- (c) Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2. What seems to have caused confusion among the believers?
- (d) What does Paul tell them about the activities of the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:3-6) and what is happening *now* (verses 7-8)?
- (e) Read 2 Thess. 2:9-12. Who is behind this “lawlessness” *now* and “*the lawless one*” to come? Why will some be deceived (verse 10)?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 2:18 again and 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12. Talk about the “man of lawlessness.” How will he be identified? What can you do as a family to protect one another from this deception? Pray together “And, lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.” Pray that you can remove things from your lives that might lead you into deception.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:18-19.** Where are these antichrists now (1 John 4:1; 2 John 7; 1 John 5:19)?
- (b) Is their presence a surprise? What had Paul warned the elders from the church of Ephesus in Acts 20:29-30? Why is this aspect of being an elder so essential to the church (Titus 1:9)?
- (c) In verse 19, what are some of the identifying characteristics of these “antichrists?” Go back through 1 John 1. What kinds of false teachings were these antichrists promoting? How would this affect a person’s assurance?
- (d) Read 1 Timothy 2:14-19. How can a person be protected from such deception? What was the doctrinal error of Hymenaeus and Philetus?
- (e) Were these believers? Can those deceived or those doing the deceiving be believers? What does Paul conclude in verse 19?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 2:18-19 and 1 John 5:19. Talk together about the lawlessness that is present today. How is the spirit of lawlessness seen today? How is it similar to the Antichrist? What is the biggest danger that concerns you for you family or for your own life? Pray that God would help you to see that danger and seek Him instead.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:20-23.** What do believers have that enables them to be protected from this deception?
- (b) Is John writing them because they *lack* the truth? Why then is he writing this to them (2 Peter 1:12-13; 2 Timothy 2:14)?
- (c) Does John mean that all Christians know *everything*? Even know everything *spiritually*? What is the central truth that they “all know?”
- (d) Compare John’s use of this same phrase in John 14:26 and 16:13. Do these mean *everything*?
- (e) Why would a denial of Jesus as the Christ be a denial of the Father (John 13:20; 5:21-24; 14:7-11)?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 2:20-23. Do Christians know everything? What do they know? Why do they know it? Talk about the importance of reminding each other about what we have learned in the Bible. Pray that the truths of God’s Word in our hearts might protect us from the deceptions that come.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:24-27.** What will protect them from this deception according to verse 24?
- (b) What promise do we have according to verse 25? How does this promise keep us from deception? Can not having assurance lead a person to be deceived? How?
- (c) What does John mean when he says, “you do not need anyone to teach you”? What do these passages tell us about the need for teachers (Ephesians 4:11-12; Hebrews 5:12-14; James 3:1)? What does the end of 1 John 2:27 say about teaching?
- (d) Read Ephesians 4:11-16. What happens when God’s people are not taught doctrinal truths? Why is teaching so important in terms of avoiding deception?
- (e) *Family:* Read 1 John 2:24-27 and Ephesians 4:11-16. Talk together about the importance of good biblical teaching. How does a proper understanding of the Bible protect us from the deceptions of the antichrists in the world? Spend time thanking God for those in your church who teach you the Word of God.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Talk together about spiritual deception. What kinds of things in this world tend to deceive believers? What can we do to be strong and stand against such deceptions? Talk about the return of Christ. How can we be prepared for His return? Pray for someone this week who does not know Christ. Pray that they would hear the gospel and come to Christ before the Lord returns.