

Small Group Bible Study / Discussion

Sermon Series: 1 John - *Experience Real Life*

Sermon Title: Watch out for idols in your life!

Passage: 1 John 5:14-21 (You can listen to the sermon at www.faithchurchaustin.org)

Think about it

- Does prayer work? Why or why not?
- Why is the world so messed up?
- What does spiritual victory look like?

Examine it

- What does John say is the confidence we have in approaching God? (14)
- How do we know we have what we have asked God for? (15)
- What type(s) of sin should we / should we not pray about? (16-17)
- What three things are true of anyone born of God? (18)
- Who controls the world? (19)
- Who is true? What do we know about Him? (20)
- What is John's final command (warning) to his readers? (21)

Discuss it

- How do we know if God hears or answers prayer?
- What is meant by a sin that leads to death?
- What is meant by a sin that does not lead to death?
- How is one protected from the evil one?
- What are some idols that people might have in their lives today?
- What does the warning in 5:21 have to do with the rest of John's letter?

Live it out

- What might give us more confidence in our praying?
- How can you pray more effectively for other people this week?
- Do you recognize any idols in your life? If so, how might you guard yourself from them?

Pray about it

What does this study prompt you to pray about?

...something to praise God for? ...thank God for? ...confess? ...ask for?

Additional passage for meditation or memory: Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-31; Exodus 20:3-4

Next week's passage: Luke 1:5-25