



Since You Know 1 John 5 Small Group Plan

Many years ago, I took a long hard look at my ministry direction. I knew that I followed Jesus, but did pursue ministry as he did? Was my style of ministry like his? My conclusion changed how I view ministry to this day.

I knew that I could either:

- #1 Make a good impression with many people ... or
- #2 Make a permanent difference with a few people.

I chose number two because that is what I saw Jesus doing. I would rather surface leaders than attract followers. There is much less (if any) limelight in choice number two, as well as less temptation to seek it. And there is much more true legacy.

*“The success of my day is based on the seeds that I sow,
not the harvest I reap”*
— John Maxwell —

“There is no success without a successor”
— Peter Drucker —

*“The world pays more attention to your conduct
than it does to your creed.”*
— Michael Guido —

*“The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses
entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”*
— 2 Timothy 2:2 —

OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- How does the culture around us define “legacy”?
- John walked with Jesus, 50 years before he wrote 1 John. How is John himself a part of the legacy of Jesus?

LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

Since You Know ...

... **Where You Came From** (v. 19)

“We know that we are children of God”

- How does it change your sense of purpose and your definition of legacy to “know” that you came from God and are returning to God?

... **Where You Are** (v. 19)

“the whole world is under the control of the evil one.”

- Why are most Americans unaware of the spiritual battle going on around us?
- How real is the battle to you? Explain.

... **What To Think** (v. 20)

*“We know also that the Son of God has come
and has given us understanding
so that we may know him who is true”*

- Describe the new way of thinking – “understanding” - that Jesus brought?

... **Who To Follow** (v. 20)

*“And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ.
He is the true God and eternal life.”*

- How is Jesus our connection to God — “in him ... in his Son” ?

... **Remain True To Who You Are** (v. 21)

“Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.”

- What “idols” in our world compete with this new understanding?

USE IT / APPLY IT ...

- He gives us a new way of thinking ...

“We have the mind of Christ.”

1 Cor 2:16

*“Prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled;
set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.”*

1 Pet 1:13

“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

Rom 12:2

“Your attitude (mind) should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.”

Phil 2:5

- According to these scriptures, where/how do we begin our life-long spiritual journey?
- Close with prayer asking God to give all of us a true life of legacy.