



THIS IS LOVE

THE 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD LETTERS OF JOHN

In Chapter 5 of 1 John :

- John begins drawing _____ and _____ together.
 - The love he (John) has commanded is made possible by the faith he now _____.

The Commands of God:

- Not weights intended to _____ us.
 - They lead us out from under the _____ of sin and into the _____ of life with Christ.

On the Importance of Incarnation Theology:

- If physical existence is utterly meaningless, then actionable love becomes _____.

...Which Means...

- We cannot confess Faith in the Incarnate Christ while remaining _____ to the physical suffering of the people around us.

"Spirit, water, and blood are means of _____ to Jesus Christ, or, to put matters more accurately, they are God's or Christ's means of _____ to us."

-D. Moody Smith

One Thing:

- This is the Testimony of the Spirit: God has given us _____ life and this life is in His son.

Water, Blood, and Spirit
October 25th 2026

Sermon Notes

Life

Theology

Practice



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1. The sermon uses Christmas lights appearing in dark seasons as an image of Christian hope. What has helped you recognize God's light during a difficult season?
2. Where have you seen faith in Christ make love possible—especially when loving someone required more than good intentions or willpower?
3. **Read 1 John 5:1–5.** John connects belief, new birth, love, obedience, and victory over the world. How are these ideas connected? Which connection stands out to you most?
4. **Read 1 John 5:6–9.** In the sermon, the water is understood as Jesus' baptism and the blood as his crucifixion. Why is John so insistent that Jesus came not through water only, but through "water and blood"? Why is this important even for modern day Christians?
5. **Read Matthew 3:13–17 and John 19:30–35.** What do the beginning and conclusion of Jesus' earthly ministry reveal about who he is? Why does it matter that the same Christ who entered the water also suffered upon the cross?
6. **Read 1 John 5:9–13.** What does John mean when he says, "Whoever has the Son has life"? How does verse 13 move eternal life from something we merely hope for in the future to something we can know and experience now?
7. The sermon asks, "What do we do when the night grows dark?" and answers, "We hang the Christmas lights." What might the metaphor of hanging Christmas lights look like for you this week?

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LifeGroup Questions