Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide for November 1st, 2026
"A Journey through the Book of 1st John"
"Authentic Confidence"

Sermon Text: **1 John 5:13-21;** Old Testament: **Psalm 104:27-35;** New Testament: **Hebrews 4:14-16.** Read **1 John 5:13-21**, then answer the questions that follow.

1. Read **1 John 5:13.** According to this verse, why did John write this letter?

2. Read **1 John 5:14.** What ultimately determines if our requests are heard?

3. Read **1 John 5:15.** If God hears us, what should we expect from Him?

4. Read **1 John 5:16.** Now read **Matthew 12:31-32.** What is the ***sin that leads to death?***

5. Why were the Gnostics guilty of the ***sin that leads to death?***

6. Read **1 John 5:17.** In your own words, what is John saying in this verse?

7. Read **1 John 5:18.** What is John saying when he writes: ***but he who was born of God protects him?*** In other words, to whom does the word ***he*** refer and to whom does the word ***him*** refer?

8. Read **1 John 5:19.** How does it make you feel to know ***the whole world lies in the power of the evil one?***

9. Read **1 John 5:20.** How does this verse refute the teaching of the Gnostics, who were trying to lead people astray?

10. Read **1 John 5:21.** What are some things that may serve as idols in American Christians' lives?

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 104:27-35** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
   1. When you read **Psalm 104:27-30,** what kind of thoughts do you have about God?
   2. Do these verses make you feel secure in entrusting your life into His hands?
   3. When you look at **Psalm 104:31,** does it seem right to you that the psalmist would say, ***May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works?*** Won't the Lord's glory endure forever anyway? Won't he be able to rejoice in his works without any help from the psalmist or us?
   4. When you read **Psalm 104:32,** what sorts of feelings about God does this verse evoke in you?
   5. Read **Psalm 104:33-35.** Why do these verses give such a great example of how we should respond to God's power & majesty?

II. Next read **Hebrews 4:14-16**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions.

1. In **Hebrews 4:14,** what does the author mean when he says, ***let us hold fast our confession?***
2. Why should that be easier for us to do since ***Jesus passed through the heavens?***
3. According to **Hebrews 4:15,** why should we not be afraid to confess our sins to Jesus Christ?
4. According to this passage, why should we have confidence in approaching ***the throne of grace?***
5. What does the author of Hebrews tell us we can expect to find at ***the throne of grace?***

III. Read **1 John 5:13-21,** utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
   1. Read **1 John 5:13.** According to this verse, why did John write this letter?
   2. Read **1 John 5:14.** What ultimately determines if our requests are heard?
   3. Read **1 John 5:15.** If God hears us, what should we expect from Him?
   4. Read **1 John 5:16.** Now read **Matthew 12:31-32.** What is the ***sin that leads to death?***

5. Why were the Gnostics guilty of the ***sin that leads to death?***
6. Read **1 John 5:17.** In your own words, what is John saying in this verse?
7. Read **1 John 5:18.** What is John saying when he writes: ***but he who was born of God protects him?*** In other words, to whom does the word ***he*** refer and to whom does the word ***him*** refer?
8. Read **1 John 5:19.** How does it make you feel to know ***the whole world lies in the power of the evil one?***
9. Read **1 John 5:20.** How does this verse refute the teaching of the Gnostics, who were trying to lead people astray?
10. Read **1 John 5:21.** What are some things that may serve as idols in American Christians' lives?