

# *Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies*

## I JOHN 5:14-17

### Lesson 17

#### REVIEW:

Review 1 John 5:6-13. With heretics who were denying the deity of Christ infiltrating the first century church, we can readily understand why John wrote this passage. How is 1 John 5:6-8 relevant to the church today?

#### FIRST DAY:

Read and study 1 John 5:14-17 inductively. See pages 5 and 6.

#### SECOND DAY: Read 1 John 5:14,15

1. Read 1 John 5:14,15 over several times. One of the old-favored hymns contains the line *What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer*. Contemplate this privilege as you write 1 John 5:14 here.
  - a. Write this verse in your own words, personalizing it.
2. If we meet the condition, we receive the promise. What is the condition revealed in this verse to His hearing our prayer?
  - a. Why is it important that we *ask* according to *His* will?
    - 1.) Record what the following verses say about this:
      - a.) Matthew 6:10
      - b.) James 4:3
    - 2.) Read Matthew 26:39,42. What example do you see in Jesus' prayer?

3. What conditions for answered prayer are given in 1 John 3:21-23?
  - a. How could not *keeping His commandments and doing those things that are pleasing in His sight* (verse 22) be hindrances to our *confidence in prayer*?
4. What does knowing God *hears* you when you pray mean to you today?

*O what peace we often forfeit. O what needless pain we bear.  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.  
- Joseph Seriven*

### **THIRD DAY: Read 1 John 5:14,15**

1. Write from 1 John 5:15 what we *know* about prayer.
  - a. How does this verse counteract the doubts that we encounter in prayer?
2. The key word in 1 John 5:14,15 is *ask*. Record what the following verses teach us about this in relationship to prayer:
  - a. Matthew 21:22
  - b. John 14:13
  - c. James 1:5,6
3. Pause and meditate on the last phrase of 1 John 5:15. Knowing that God hears and answers our prayers, why do you think believers are often negligent about praying?
  - a. Think about this in light of Luke 18:1b. How does this speak to you?

*Beware of placing the emphasis on what prayer costs us;  
it cost God everything to make it possible for us to pray.  
- Oswald Chambers*

#### FOURTH DAY: Read 1 John 5:16

1. What does 1 John 5:16a teach about praying?
2. Define the word *intercession* as it relates to prayer.
  - a. Every believer is to be an intercessor. Read this version of 1 John 5:16a: *If anyone sees his brother (fellow believer) commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray for him and God will give him life.* What does this verse say to you about your responsibility if you know about a Christian who is ensnared in sin?
    - 1.) When we are aware of another Christian's failure spiritually, **it** is very easy for us to become critical and condemning or sometimes, in our concern, we simply talk to others about it, **but** do nothing constructive towards restoration. Why do you think we do this?
    - 2.) The phrase *God will give him life* refers to God's answer to your prayer. To think that the Lord gives us an opportunity to be a part of the deliverance of a sinning brother or sister is an awesome privilege. How does 1 John 5:16a refocus our attention when we're tempted to make the falling Christian an object of conversation or gossip?
3. Describe Elijah's approach to prayer in James 5:17,18.
4. Read Deuteronomy 9:18-20 and describe Moses' intercession for the sinning children of Israel.

*Talking to men for God is a great thing, but talking to God for men is greater still. E.M. Bounds*

#### FIFTH DAY: Read 1 John 5:16,17

1. There are several interpretations of the phrase *sin unto death* in 1 John 5:16c. Do not get sidetracked by this and miss the central message. Write 1 John 5:16 here.
  - a. Perhaps John had in mind the *antichrists* (1 John 4:2-4) who were troubling the churches with their heresy that denied Jesus as God's Son. Notice that John does not explicitly forbid prayer but he does not recommend it. It may be that he wanted to direct the believers' attention more to prayer for purity of the congregation than for the blasphemers. Why might this be?

2. In the Old Testament we discover God forbidding the prophets to pray for Israel at certain times. Look at this from Jeremiah 7: (12-15) 16 (17-28). Why was Jeremiah not to pray for them?
3. 1 John 5:16,17 is not designed to cause us to be caught in a web of determining whom we should or should not pray for. See it as a warning against the danger of sinning. Return to the main point of this verse by closely observing Epaphras, an intercessor, from Colossians 4:12.

*Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.  
- Ephesians 6:18 NLT*

### **SIXTH DAY: Review 1 John 5:14-17**

1. Record what 1 John 5:14,15 teaches about prayer. Note the progression of each phrase.
2. In what way does 1 John 5:16a speak to you about praying for others?
3. How do the truths in the lesson concerning prayer motivate you to pray?

*When God inclines the heart to pray, He hath an ear to hear;  
To Him there's music in a groan and beauty in a tear.*

## **I John 5:14-17**

### **VERSE**

### **WHAT THE VERSE IS SAYING**

**14** And this is the confidence that we have in Him,  
that, if we ask any thing according to His will,  
He heareth us:

**15** And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever  
we ask, we know that we have the petitions  
that we desired of Him.

**16** If any man see his brother sin a sin which is  
not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give  
him life for them that sin not unto death. There  
is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall  
pray for it.

**17** All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not  
unto death.

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Who:

When:

What:

Where:

Why:

How:

What does this passage mean?

How does it apply to you personally?