

Growth Group Questions
February 1, 2026
Eternal Life

CONTEXT

John explains that true faith in Jesus rests on reliable testimony, and he points to multiple “witnesses” God has given. The baptism and crucifixion of Jesus serve as the bookends of his life and theologically remind us that Jesus was fully human and fully God. He identifies with humanity in his baptism and shows his union with God by taking on the cross and offering his life as a perfect atonement for our sins.

John includes the Holy Spirit as the third witness. It is the Spirit who testifies about Jesus. This threefold witness is yet another reason why John argues that people need to put their faith in Jesus Christ as both Lord and Savior. For John, this is not a blind leap of faith, but a solid testimony for why people should believe.

John continues to make it clear that you cannot disconnect belief in God with belief in the Son. God has acted decisively in his son Jesus and people either accept that reality or they call God a liar.

The result of God’s actions and Jesus’ work is eternal life and the only way to eternal life is through Jesus. This is a gift from God and something we could never accomplish on our own. To have “the Son” is to have life in its fullest. To not have the Son is to remain without life. John also makes a declarative statement about eternal life. It is not just something for the future but is a present possession of those who believe in Jesus.

John ends our section by reminding people that this assurance of eternal life should impact their current prayer life. We are not to be passive in our prayers, but instead we should approach God with confidence. As we pray in accordance with God’s will, God does hear us and answer our prayers. The life God gives us in Jesus helps us remain confident until that day when Jesus returns and restores all things.

SCRIPTURE

1 John 5:6-15

6 And Jesus Christ was revealed as God’s Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross—not by water only, but by water and blood. And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony. **7** So we have these three witnesses— **8** the Spirit, the water, and the blood—and all three agree. **9** Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the greater testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son. **10** All who believe in the Son of God know in their hearts that this testimony is true. Those who don’t believe this are actually calling God a liar because they don’t believe what God has testified about his Son.

11 And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **12** Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God’s Son does not have life.

13 I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. **14** And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. **15** And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

Deuteronomy 19:15

15 One witness is not enough to convict anyone accused of any crime or offense they may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

John 20:30-31

30 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 9:1-4

1 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. **2** His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. **4** As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.

Romans 8:18-21

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. **19** For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. **20** For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

QUESTIONS

1. David Brooks observed that “we’ve lost our way.” What are some observations about our culture that demonstrate that people have not worked on their interior life?
2. How does being in a relationship with Jesus change the way that you live or how you discover the right way to life?
3. In a trial, witnesses describe their perspective of an event to find out what is true. Why does it take three witnesses to really convince people to believe? (see Deut. 19:15)
4. John 20:30-31 tells us that when we believe in Jesus, we have life. What is life like when you have Jesus in your heart versus when you do not. Describe something from your own life.
5. John 9:1-4 explores the question about who is to blame for a disability. How does Jesus twist this discussion to show God’s character?
6. When we experience transformation because we believe in Jesus, why are we called to step out in faith to meet the needs of people around us?
7. When we pray, Pastor Paul suggests that we are more connected to eternal life when we pray from a place of victory instead of praying for victory. How does this impact the way we pray and what benefit does that offer to our lives?
8. Romans 8:18-12 talks about dwelling on the future life with God in eternity. How do the images that Jesus describes about paradise and building a room for us that impacts the way that we view the afterlife.
9. What does “life after life after death” mean? How does this make a difference in our lives?

SERMON QUESTIONS

1. When you hear the words “eternal life,” what do you think about and why?
2. How does John’s reminder that you have eternal life right now impact your prayer life? Do you tend to pray from a “place of victory?”