



## Sermon Discussion Questions

### 1 JOHN 2:12-17, 5:4-5 // OVERCOME THE WORLD

- Pastor Jeff shared an example of loving video arcades when he was younger, but struggling to answer the question “What did you win?” When have you been really invested in something (financially, relationally, emotionally) and at some point ended up wondering why it mattered so much?
- John talks about “overcoming” the world (or the evil one). When you hear that language, what do you think of? How does our world define winning, overcoming, victory? How is that different from the way Jesus talks about overcoming the world (John 16:33) and his victory?
- Read 1 John 2:15-17. How does John “pull back the curtain” to help us see this world? What are the world’s temptations he mentions? Why does he not want us to be taken in by them?
- “The pride of life” or “boasting in what we have or do” – how do we tend boast about ourselves, even in our own internal monologues? Why is comparing ourselves to others so dangerous and deadly? How does knowing “our sins are forgiven for his sake” give us a position that the world can’t match? Fight the temptation of pride by centering your identity in God’s grace.
- “The lust of the eyes.” Is there something that you feel like you need to really feel alive, to be secure, that if you had that thing life would be good? How does strength from the Spirit and the Word encourage you that “you *are* strong”? Where do you feel like you really need God’s help – to forgive, to hope, to endure?
- “The lust of the flesh” can be the temptation to grasp for acceptance, love, and identity through relationships we can control – like being part of a group that’s defined by opposition to bad people or harmful ideas. But “we know him who is from the beginning.” How does a relationship with God give us significance that frees us

from needing others' approval? What people do you have a hard time loving? Ask God to help you love them, see his image in them, and pray for their good.

*We don't overcome by winning the game, but by playing a different game entirely.*

