

Study Guide: 1 John Lesson 60

May 6, 2026

Introduction

This study guide reviews the teachings found in "1 John: Lesson 60," focusing on how a relationship with God changes a person's life. The lesson explains that a true believer cannot continue in a lifestyle of sin because of the work of the Holy Spirit. It also emphasizes that the two main "tests" of a real Christian are righteous behavior and a genuine love for other believers. Through the study of 1 John 3 and other supporting scriptures, this guide explores how the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit work together to save and transform those who follow Him.

Short-Answer Quiz

Note: Please answer each question in 2-3 complete sentences based on the lesson content.

1. According to the lesson, what are the three specific areas that sin is incompatible with in the life of a believer?
2. How does the speaker describe the "divine seed" or "spermos" that is planted within a person during the new birth?
3. What are the specific roles that the Father and Jesus Christ play in the process of a person's salvation?
4. How does the speaker define the difference between a "perfection" of life and a "direction" of life for a Christian?
5. Why does the speaker warn that "anything that is new is not true" regarding the gospel message?
6. According to the teaching on John 13:34, what makes the commandment to love one another "new"?
7. What is the two-fold purpose John has for wanting believers to understand the difference between the children of God and the children of the devil?
8. Based on the lesson, why is it impossible for a true believer to have an unbroken pattern of sin in their life?
9. How does the presence of the Holy Spirit affect a believer's ability to love others compared to the way the world loves?
10. What specific prayer requests were mentioned for the health and well-being of the church community during the lesson?

Quiz Answer Key

1. Sin is incompatible with the Law of God, the works of Jesus Christ, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Because a believer has been transformed by the Spirit, they can no longer live in harmony with sin or the devil.
2. The "spermos" is described as the "God seed" or the Spirit of God that is planted in the heart of an unbeliever. This divine seed utterly and forever transforms the person's nature, giving them a divine life through hearing and believing the gospel.
3. The Father humbles the individual under the weight of the Law to help them recognize their sin and change their attitude toward His commands. Jesus Christ then lifts the sins from the believer and joins them to His righteousness, destroying the power of Satan over them.
4. The speaker clarifies that being a Christian is not a matter of never making a mistake or being perfect. Instead, it is about the general direction of one's life, which should be characterized by a pattern of righteous behavior and love.
5. The speaker believes that the true faith was delivered once and for all to the saints and cannot be altered or added to. He argues that cults and false teachers often claim to have "new revelations," but the truth of Jesus Christ remains unchanged from the beginning.
6. The command is new because Jesus Christ provided a higher example of love by laying down His life for His friends. Believers are no longer just told to love; they are told to love at a self-sacrificing level, just as Jesus Christ loved them.
7. John wants to protect the soul of the individual by encouraging them to examine themselves to see if they are truly in the faith. He also aims to protect the purity of the church by identifying "tears" or false believers who might corrupt the word of God.
8. It is impossible because a dramatic Holy Spirit miracle has taken place in the believer's heart, changing their very nature. Since they are born of God and possess His seed, they cannot continue to cohabit with Satan or follow a path of constant sin.
9. The Holy Spirit gives the believer a capacity for self-sacrificing, all-encompassing love that the world does not have. While worldly love is often self-serving and based on how others treat them, the Spirit produces a natural affection for the "family of God."
10. The community prayed for Brother Steve's back pain, Belinda's lupus testing and blood clots, and the recovery of Chris's brother in the ICU. They also requested prayer for those suffering from pneumonia, specifically Karen Pike and Joe Nestl.

Essay Questions

1. Discuss the "Trinity of Salvation" as presented in the lesson. Explain how the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit each contribute to the regeneration of a believer.
2. Compare and contrast the biblical definition of love described in the lesson with the "self-serving" love that is often found in the world. How does the example of Jesus Christ change the standard for how believers should treat one another?
3. Explain the speaker's argument against "status-only" salvation. Why does he believe that a claim of faith must be backed by a pattern of righteousness and transformation in a person's life?
4. Analyze the role of the "Word of Truth" in the life of a believer. How does the imperishable nature of God's Word assist in the new birth and the ongoing growth of a Christian?
5. Explore the concept of church purity. Why does the speaker believe it is an act of love to confront a family member or fellow church member if there is no evidence of a "new life" in their behavior?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Atheism:** The belief or position that there is no God; the speaker mentions this in reference to the "good news of atheism" proclaimed by historical figures who rejected God.
- **Born Again:** A spiritual rebirth or regeneration; the speaker notes that in the Greek, this carries the meaning of being born "all over again."
- **Cult:** A group that follows false teachings or "new revelations" that contradict the established Word of God; examples mentioned include the Gnostics and the Jehovah's Witnesses.
- **Gnostic:** Refers to early heretics who denied the physical humanity or the full deity of Jesus Christ, claiming they had special spirit-knowledge.
- **Incompatible:** Incapable of existing together in harmony; the lesson teaches that sin cannot exist alongside the Law of God, the works of Jesus Christ, or the Holy Spirit.
- **Legalist:** A term used to describe someone who follows strict laws; the speaker mentions that some may call him this for insisting that a true Christian must live a righteous life.

- **Manifest:** Clearly revealed, obvious, or easy to see; the Bible uses this word to show that the difference between children of God and children of the devil should be plain to everyone.
- **NKJV:** The New King James Version of the Bible, which is the specific translation used for the scripture references in this study.
- **Regeneration:** The process of being made new or purified; Titus 3:5 describes this as the "washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit."
- **Tears:** A biblical metaphor for false believers who are "sown" into the church by satan to weaken or corrupt the assembly of true believers.

Greek Word Study

Greek Term	Phonetic Pronunciation	Definition
Spermos ^[^1]	<i>SPER-moss</i>	A seed or germ; used in the lesson to describe the "God seed" or the Holy Spirit planted within a believer to transform their nature.
Anothen ^[^2]	<i>ah-NO-then</i>	From above or anew; used in the context of being "born again" to signify a spiritual birth that comes from God and starts life all over again.

[^1]: The speaker uses this term to refer to the "divine seed" mentioned in 1 John 3:9, which prevents a believer from continuing in an unbroken pattern of sin. [^2]: This term is referenced when the speaker discusses John 3 and the necessity of being born again "all over again" through the Spirit and the Word of Truth.