

# Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments as you feel necessary to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

## 1 John 2:18-27

Read as a group – 1 John 2:18-25

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.

### 2 – Main Points of Sunday’s Sermon

- **3 Fruits of an Antichrist** (False Teacher)
- **3 Fruits of a Follower of Christ**

#### 1) 3 Fruits of an Antichrist (False Teacher)

- Warren Wiersbe says, “It is not enough for a believer to walk in the light and to walk in love; he must also walk in truth.” What does this quote mean to you in your personal walk with the Lord?
- Can you think of a New Testament book that doesn’t deal with False Teachers? What does it tell you that the New Testament authors spent so much time addressing False Teaching?
- **Read Matthew 7:15.** Do you think the modern Church takes False Teaching seriously enough? What can we do as a group & church to protect ourselves (and others) from false prophets & teachers (ravenous wolves)?
- What beliefs do all true Christians have in common?
- Why is it so important for Christians to know what they believe and why?
- What are the 3 fruits of an Antichrist according to Sunday’s sermon?
  - *Leader’s Cheat:*
    - *They will fall away – leave the apostolic Faith & Fellowship*
    - *They deny the biblical Jesus*

- *They try to deceive*
- What is significant about John's statement that he writes in "the last hour" – verse 18?
- What are some "antichrist" attitudes and behaviors that are common in our culture?
- Have you ever realized that one of your spiritual beliefs was erroneous? What happened to make you realize you were wrong?

## 2) 3 Fruits of a Follower of Christ

- What are the 3 fruits of a follower of Christ according to Sunday's sermon?
  - *Leader's Cheat*
    - *They are born of the Spirit*
    - *They know the Gospel*
    - *They abide in both the Spirit & the Gospel*
- How can we discern the presence of an antichrist? What characteristics set true believers apart from the antichrists?
  - **John MacArthur says** - Any denial, deviation, or distortion of the scriptural view of Jesus Christ – His incarnation (John 1:14); that he is both Son of God (Mark 1:1) and Son of Man (John 9:35-37), the promised Prophet (Deut. 18), Priest (Hebrew 4 & 5), King (John 12:12-15), and Redeemer - any denial of any one of these truths constitutes the spirit of the antichrist.
- What did John mean by the anointing in verse 20? Who gets this anointing?
- Using the ESV or NASB translations find how many times the word "Abide" is used in verses 24 – 27 and then answer the following question – What do followers of Christ abide in according to 1 John 2:24-27.
- Define what it means to "Abide"
  - **Leaders Cheat:** *The Greek word that is translated "Abide" means - To remain in the same place over a period of time – 'to remain, to stay'*
- What do these verses (14-17) and verse 19 say about the perseverance of the saints? What will be true of those who are genuinely born-again?
- What is the promise or reward for those who stay faithful to the truth?

## Read 1 John 2:26-27

- Discuss what you think John is talking about in this passage. Is John talking about all types of teaching? Why or why not?
  - **Charles Feinberg comments on this passage– A Vital feature of the Old Covenant was human mediation.** In the New Covenant there is immediate access to God through Christ, our High Priest. It doesn't mean that every believer will be self-sufficient and independent of others. But it does indicate that all will have our own experience of God without resorting to others.
- Read the following passages and discuss the role of teaching within the church.
  - Matthew 28:18-20
  - Acts 5:42
  - 1 Cor. 12:28
  - 2 Tim. 2:24
  - 2 Tim. 3:16
  - Colossians 3:16
  - Gal. 6:6
  - Titus 2:7
  - 1 Tim. 5:17
  - 2 Tim. 2:2
  - Hebrews 5:11-14
- How do we use the majority of scripture to clarify passages that seem unclear?
- Pray for your group and then COBC as a whole:
  - That the message of the Gospel would stay pure
  - For protection against false teachings & teachers
  - For boldness in the proclamation of the truth and the rebuking of those that contradict it (Titus 1:9)