

Wycliffe Associates

Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide

1 John

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1:1-10

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ John proclaimed the Word of life so that his readers could have fellowship with him and the others who had seen and heard. [1:1-3]
- ☐ God is light. [1:5]
- ☐ To have fellowship with God and one another, we must walk in the light. [1:6-7]
- ☐ If we say we have not sinned, we deceive ourselves. [1:8, 10]
- ☐ If we confess our sins, Jesus will cleanse us from unrighteousness. [1:9]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did John say was from the beginning? [1:1]
John said the Word of life was from the beginning.
2. How did John and those with him know about the Word of life? [1:1]
They had heard, seen, looked at, and touched the Word of life.
3. Where was the life before it was made known to John? [1:2]
Life was with the Father.
4. Why was John declaring what he had seen and heard? [1:3]
John was declaring what he had seen and heard so that his readers might also have fellowship with him.
5. With whom did John already have fellowship? [1:3]
John already had fellowship with the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ.
6. To whom do you think the phrases "Word of life," "life," and "eternal life" refer? [1:1-3]
They appear to refer to the Son of God, Jesus Christ.
7. Why did John and those with him write these things? [1:4]
They wrote them so that their joy would be complete.
8. What message from God was John announcing to his readers? [1:5]
John was announcing that God is light and that there is no darkness in God.
9. What did John say about a person who says he had fellowship with God, but walked in darkness? [1:6]
John said that such a person was a liar and did not practice the truth.
10. What do you think "walking in darkness" means? [1:6]
"Walking in darkness" is a metaphor for living or behaving sinfully.

1 John 1:1-10 continued

11. What do you think “walking in the light” means? [1:7]

Perhaps “walking in the light” is a metaphor for living and behaving in a good and right way.

12. To whom does “he” refer in the phrase “as he is in the light”? [1:7]

It refers to God. God is light and in him there is no darkness.

13. For those walking in the light, what cleanses them from all sin? [1:7]

The blood of Jesus cleanses them from all sin.

14. What did John say about a person who said they had no sin? [1:8]

John said that such a person deceived himself and the truth was not in him.

15. What will God do for those who confess their sins? [1:9]

God will forgive their sins and cleanse them from all unrighteousness.

16. What did John say about someone who said they had not sinned? [1:10]

Saying “I have not sinned” is saying God is a liar and his word is not in me.

Comment Section:

2:1-17

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that atones for the sins of the whole world. [2:3]
- ☐ Someone who says they know God, but do not keep God's commandments, is a liar. [2:4]
- ☐ Someone who says he is in the light, but hates his brother, is in the darkness. [2:9]
- ☐ The believer must not love the world nor the things of the world. [2:15]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What do you think was John's reason for calling his readers "children"? [2:1]
John called them this because he was their spiritual leader, and he loved them and cared for them as a father cared for his children.
2. What was John's purpose for writing this letter? [2:1]
He wrote this letter so that those who received it would not sin.
3. For whose sins is Jesus Christ the sacrifice? [2:2]
Jesus Christ is the sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.
4. How did they know if they knew Jesus Christ? [2:3]
They knew that they could know Jesus Christ if they kept his commandments.
5. What kind of person is someone who says they know God, but do not keep God's commandments? [2:4]
That person is a liar.
6. How is someone who remains in God supposed to walk? That is, how is a believer to behave? [2:5-6]
A believer is to walk just as Jesus Christ walked. He is to behave just as Jesus behaved.
7. What did John write about the "old commandment" that the readers had from the beginning? [2:7]
He wrote that it was the word that they heard.
8. What did John write about the new commandment? [2:8]
He wrote that it was true in Christ and in the people he was writing to.
9. What is the spiritual condition of someone who says he is in the light, but hates his brother? [2:9]
That person is in the darkness.
10. What do you think Christians are commanded to do? [2:9-11]
Christians are commanded to love one another.

1 John 2:1-17 continued

11. In verses 12-14, how did John address the groups of people he was writing to?
John addressed them as “children,” “fathers,” and “young men.”
12. What did John say about those he called "children"? [2:12, 13]
Their sins were forgiven because of Christ's name, and they knew the Father.
13. Who did the fathers know? [2:13, 14]
They knew the one who was from the beginning.
14. Who did the young men overcome? [2:13, 14]
They overcame the evil one.
15. What did John say a believer's attitude should be towards the world and the things of the world? [2:15]
Believers should not love the world and the things in it.
16. What are the three things in the world that John named as being not of the Father? [2:16]
He named the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the arrogance of life as being in the world and not of the Father.
17. Even though the world and its desires are passing away, what did John say would last forever? [2:17]
Those who do the will of God will last forever.

Comment Section:

2:18-29

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Many antichrists had come. [2:18]
- ☐ John's readers knew the truth. [2:20-21]
- ☐ Whoever denies the Christ is a liar and the antichrist. [2:22]
- ☐ John encouraged his readers to remain in the Lord and in what they had been taught. [2:24-28]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How did John know that it was the last hour? [2:18]
He knew it because many antichrists had come.
2. What do you think John meant when he wrote "They went out from us, but they were not from us"? [2:19]
Perhaps he meant that they used to meet with the Christians, but they never became Christians in the first place. They were not real Christians. That is why they left the Christians.
3. What had John's readers received from the Holy One? [2:20]
They had received an anointing from the Holy One.
4. What did John say that his readers all knew? [2:20-21]
They all knew the truth.
5. What do antichrists do that allows people to recognize that they are liars? [2:22]
Antichrists deny that Jesus is the Christ, and in that way they deny the Father and the Son.
6. Can someone who denies the Son have the Father? [2:23]
No, someone who denies the Son cannot have the Father.
7. What did John encourage his readers to let remain in them? [2:24]
He encouraged them to let what they had heard from the beginning remain in them.
8. What was the promise that God gave to believers? [2:25]
He gave believers the promise of eternal life.
9. What do you think it means to lead someone astray? [2:26]
It means to persuade someone to believe something that is not true.
10. What remained in the people who received this letter? [2:27]
The anointing that they received from God remained in them.

1 John 2:18-29 continued

11. What do you think "his anointing teaches you everything" means? [2:27]

Perhaps it means that God's anointing teaches believers everything they need to know about God.

12. What attitudes will those who remain in the Son have when he comes? [2:28]

They will be bold and not ashamed.

13. What do you think it means that those who do what is right have been born from him? [2:29]

Perhaps it means that all true Christians show that they are children of God by obeying him and doing what is right.

14. What do you think is the reason that those who remain in Christ will be confident and will not be ashamed when Christ comes? [2:28-29]

People who remain in Christ will do what is right, and that assures them that they truly are God's children.

Comment Section:

3:1-10

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ When Christ appears, God's children will be like him. [3:2]
- ☐ Christ came to take away sin. [3:5]
- ☐ No one who lives in Christ keeps on sinning. [3:6]
- ☐ The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. [3:8]
- ☐ Believers can know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are by their actions. [3:7-10]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How did the Father show the great love that he gave to believers? [3:1]
He called them children of God.
2. Why did the world not know God's children? [3:1]
The world did not know God's children because it did not know God.
3. What will God's children be like when Christ appears? [3:2]
They will be like Christ.
4. What do Christians do, since they hope to see and be like Christ? [3:3]
Every believer who hopes in Christ purifies himself.
5. What did John say sin is? [3:4]
Sin is lawlessness.
6. What did Christ come to do? [3:5]
He came to take away sins.
7. If someone keeps on sinning, what does that show about him? [3:6]
It shows that he is not remaining in Christ and that he has not seen or known Christ.
8. Who is righteous? [3:7]
People who do what is right are righteous, just as Christ is righteous.
9. Who do you think John was referring to when he wrote about "the one who commits sin"? [3:8]
John was writing about people who practice sin.
10. Why did God reveal his Son? [3:8]
He revealed his Son to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:1-10 continued

11. Why do the children of God not continue to sin? [3:9]

They do not continue to sin because God's seed is in them, and they are not able to keep on sinning because they have been born of God.

12. How do you think the children of God and the children of the devil are each revealed? [3:10]

The children of God are revealed as they walk in righteousness and love their brother, and the children of the devil are revealed as they willfully sin.

Comment Section:

3:11-24

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Christians should love one another [3:11]
- ☐ Anyone who does not love remains in death. [3:14]
- ☐ Christians know what love is because Christ laid down his life for them. [3:16]
- ☐ Christians must love in actions and truth. [3:18]
- ☐ Loving others in actions and in truth assures them that they were in the truth. [3:19]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What was the message believers heard from the beginning? [3:11]
The message was that they should love one another.
2. How did Cain demonstrate that he was of the evil one? [3:12]
Cain demonstrated that he was of the evil one when he murdered his brother.
3. At what did John say the believers should not be amazed? [3:13]
John said the believers should not be amazed that the world hates them.
4. If people love their Christian brothers, what does that show? [3:14]
It shows that they passed from death to life.
5. What do you think it means to pass from death to life?
It means to no longer be spiritually dead, but to be spiritually alive.
6. What do you think it means that anyone who hates his brother is a murderer? [3:15]
It probably means that God considers anyone who hates a brother in Christ as guilty as someone who kills a person.
7. How do Christians know what love is? [3:16]
They know what love is because Christ laid down his life for them.
8. If someone has earthly possessions and refuses to share them with a brother who is in need, what does that show about that person? [3:17]
It shows that the love of God is not in that person.
9. When a believer demonstrates the love of God in deed and truth, how is he helped? [3:18-19]
He knows that he belongs to the truth, and he assures his heart before God. That is, he knows that he really is a Christian, and he knows that he has peace with God.

1 John 3:11-24 continued

10. How is God greater than believers' hearts? [3:20]

He is greater in that he knows all things. The hearts of believers do not know all things.

11. How can Christians be confident that they will receive from God whatever they ask? [3:22]

They can be confident of this by obeying his commandments and doing what pleases him.

12. What commandment from God did John remind the believers about? [3:23]

John reminded the believers of God's commandment to believe in the name of God's Son Jesus Christ and to love one another.

13. How can believers know that God remained in them? [3:24]

They can know it because God gave them his Spirit.

Comment Section:

4:1-6

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ John warned the believers about many false prophets who are in the world. [4:1]
- ☐ If someone does not confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh, they are not from God. [4:2]
- ☐ Those who confess Jesus are from God and have overcome the false prophets. [4:4]
- ☐ The spirit who is in believers is greater than the spirit who is in the world. [4:4]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why did John warn the believers not to believe every spirit? [4:1-2]
He did this because many false prophets are in the world.
2. How can the spirits be tested to see whether they are from God? [4:1-2]
Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ came in the flesh is of God.
3. What is the spirit of the antichrist? [4:3]
The spirit of the antichrist is every spirit that does not confess that Jesus has come in the flesh.
4. Why are God's children able to overcome those who oppose Christ? [4:4]
God's children are able to overcome because the one who is in God's children is greater than the one who is in the world.
5. Who do you think John was referring to when he wrote "the one who is in you"? [4:4]
He was referring to God. He may have been referring specifically to the Holy Spirit.
6. Who do you think John was referring to when he wrote "the one who is in the world"? [4:4]
He was probably referring to the spirit of the antichrist.
7. What do you think it means that "they are from the world"? [4:5]
It probably meant that they were not from God, and they did not have God's Spirit because they did not believe in Jesus.
8. How can believers tell the spirit of truth from the spirit of error? [4:6]
Believers can tell them apart by whether they listen to what God's people say.

Comment Section:

4:7-21

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Believers love one another. This shows that they know God because God is love. [4:7-8]
- ☐ God revealed his love for them by sending his only Son into the world. [4:9]
- ☐ True believers confess that Jesus is the Son of God. [4:15]
- ☐ They love others because God first loved them. [4:19]
- ☐ A person cannot both love God and hate other Christians. [4:20]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why are believers to love one another? [4:7]
Believers are to love one another because love comes from God.
2. What did John say about everyone who loves others? [4:7]
John said they are born of God and they know God?
3. What did John say about a person who does not love others? [4:8]
The person who does not love others does not know God.
4. How did God reveal his love for Christians? [4:9]
God revealed his love for Christians by sending his only Son into the world.
5. Whose love showed what real love was, and how was that love shown? [4:10]
God's love showed what real love was. He showed his love for Christians by sending his Son to be the sacrifice that atones for their sin.
6. Since God loved Christians enough to send his only Son, what should they do in response? [4:11]
They should love each other.
7. Though no one had ever seen God, what do you think could assure people that they truly know God? [4:12]
If they love one another, he lives in them and his love is perfected in them. That assures them that they know him.
8. What do you think the phrase "his love is perfected in us" means? [4:12]
Perhaps it means that God's love bears fruit when Christians love one another. Or perhaps it means that the believer's love of God is shown in the believer's love for others.
9. How can a believer know that he remains in God and God remains in him? [4:13]
A believer can know this because God gave him his Spirit.

1 John 4:7-21 continued

10. Why did the Father send his Son into the world? [4:14]
The Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.
11. What happens to anyone who confesses that Jesus is the Son of God? [4:15]
God remains in him, and they remain in God.
12. According to 4:16, who remains in God? [4:16]
The one who remains in love remains in God.
13. What do you think it means to remain in love? [4:16]
Perhaps it means to keep trusting that God loves them. Perhaps it means to love God and others because God loves them.
14. On the day of judgment, what will be the attitude of those among whom love is made perfect? [4:17]
They will have confidence on the day of judgment.
15. Why is there no fear in love? [4:18]
Perfect love throws out fear because fear has to do with punishment.
16. How do you think perfect love throws out fear? [4:18]
If a person knows that God loves him perfectly, he will not be afraid that God will punish him.
17. How are Christians able to love? [4:19]
They love because God first loved them.
18. What did John write about someone who does not love his brother? [4:20]
Someone who does not love his brother cannot love God.
19. What did God command those who love him to do? [4:21]
Whoever loves God is to love their brother. The word "brother" refers to fellow Christians.

Comment Section:

5:1-12

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ People who are born of God show that they love God by keeping his commandments. [5:3]
- ☐ Those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God have victory over the world. [5:4]
- ☐ The Spirit, the water, and the blood all bore witness to Jesus Christ. [5:6-8]
- ☐ God testified that he gave Christians eternal life, and that life is in his Son. [5:10-11]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did John say is true of those who believe that Jesus is the Christ? [5:1]
They are born of God.
2. How do they know whether or not they love God's children? [5:2]
Those who love God's children also love God and obey his commandments.
3. How do God's children love God? [5:3]
They keep God's commandments.
4. Why are God's commandments not a burden to those who are born of God? [5:3-4]
They are not a burden because those who are born of God overcome the world.
5. What do you think it means to overcome the world?
Perhaps it means to overcome sinful desires and to obey God instead.
6. What is the victory that enables people to overcome the world? [5:4-5]
Faith that Jesus is the Son of God is the victory that enables people to overcome the world.
7. By what two things did Jesus Christ come? [5:6]
Jesus came by water and by blood.
8. How is the Spirit described in verse 6? [5:6]
The Spirit is the truth.
9. What did the Spirit, the water, and the blood do? [5:7-8]
They testified and they agreed with each other.
10. What do you think the Spirit, the water, and the blood testified? [5:7-8]
They testified that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
11. What had God testified about? [5:9]
He testified about his Son.

1 John 5:1-12 continued

12. If a person does not believe the testimony of God concerning his Son, what does he believe about God? [5:10]
Anyone who does not believe the testimony of God concerning his Son believes God is a liar.
13. What was God's testimony concerning his Son? [5:10-11]
God's testimony was that he gave eternal life, and that life is in his Son.
14. Which people have life? [5:12]
People who have the Son have life.

Comment Section:

5:13-21

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ John wrote this letter so that those who believe in the name of God's Son will know that they have eternal life. [5:13]
- ☐ Believers are to pray for those who commit sins that do not result in death. [5:16]
- ☐ Although the whole world is in the power of the evil one, Christ protects believers. [5:19]
- ☐ Believers are to keep themselves from idols. [5:21]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why did John write this letter? [5:13]
He wrote this letter to assure people who believe in the name of the Son of God that they have eternal life.
2. What confidence do believers have before God? [5:14-15]
Believers have the confidence that if they ask God for anything according to God's will, God hears them and will give them what they ask for.
3. What is a believer to do who sees his brother committing a sin that does not lead to death? [5:16]
He should pray that God will give his brother life.
4. What is all unrighteousness? [5:17]
All unrighteousness is sin.
5. Why is the evil one unable to harm anyone who had been born of God? [5:18]
The evil one cannot harm anyone who is born of God because Jesus, who is born of God, keeps them safe.
6. Who do you think "the one who was born of God" is? [5:18]
He is Jesus Christ.
7. Under whose power is the whole world? [5:19]
The whole world is under the power of the evil one.
8. Who do you think the true God is? [5:20]
The true God is Jesus Christ.
9. From what must believers keep themselves? [5:21]
Believers must keep themselves from idols.

Comment Section: