

## LG Guide

### 123 John: Overview

1. Check in/intro: If you have any new members in your group, spend some time briefly introducing yourselves (name, season of life, hobbies, favorite snack, etc.). If your group is returning and knows one another, update on highs and lows since you last met. How were the holidays? Any life updates?
2. As we enter a new semester (and a new year!), what are your hopes for this semester? What are some regular habits/rhythms you can set in place to abide in Christ or grow deeper with him this year? (If you want a deeper resource for this, see the [Rule of Life Resource here.](#))
3. What are some of the reasons you might struggle to spend time with God over these next few weeks. How can we as a group pray for you in that?
4. Use this time as a group to reset commitments and expectations. Read the following below and/or use the [LG Commitment & Covenant](#) for members to reset expectations for the new semester!

**LG Commitment:** [Click Here](#)

#### **LG Expectations**

This semester we are entering into a very unique process of life with God - together. This journey will require a safe environment where individuals can be open and honest. Individuals may share things they have never shared before. These intimate moments need to be received without judgment or condemnation. We are on a journey with God together. We are not here to 'fix' one another but to be present with each other - in love. We want to encourage openness, vulnerability, honesty, and intimacy together. This group dynamic will require a few critical components:

**Guard Against Gossip** - Guarding against gossip creates a safe environment for sharing. Keep it about self - Focus sharing what God is teaching you in this season and how you can apply it to your life.

**Keep it clean** - Honor God while sharing. Please avoid profanity.

**Keep it brief** - Please limit your sharing a few minutes so everyone in the group will have time to share.

**Be consistent** - Consistent attendance fosters trust. Your presence is necessary for the group environment to be honest and intimate. If you cannot attend, please inform your leader.

**Be Honest** - Your honesty is essential regardless of your position in Christ or state of your spiritual life. As each individual is open and honest, the group can deepen together.

**Keep it confidential** - every participant is to agree to confidentiality within the group. This shared confidentiality ensures the sanctity of the group - what is said stays with the group.

Does anyone have any questions about our Group Expectations?

5. What from this week's message was impactful for you? What questions do you have about the book of 1 John? \*If your group is looking for deeper study resources to do prior to lifegroup and the message, see below. Perhaps consider going through one together as a group.

Daily Homework ["Abide" by Jen Wilkin](#)

Weekly Homework ["Knowing the Bible: 123 John"](#)

Commentary: [Christ Centered Exposition 123 John](#)

Free Course: [123 John \(The Gospel Coalition\)](#)

6. Prayer: Pass out a note card to each life group member. Have them write down one word you can pray for them this semester. If you need to spend a few moments in quiet reflection then write it. Have them share their word and why that word, collect them as a leader at the end of the group time to pray throughout the semester.

#### 7. Closing Practice: **Embracing the Gospel**

Consider what it means to not only embrace the gospel at a point in time, but over time in light of 1 John. What are some ways you can embrace this gospel over this semester? Spend some time this week quietly before the Lord asking how you can grow in your love and obedience.

#### Repetitive Reading:

Over the next week try and read 123 John from start to finish. Practice repetitive reading, if you can, read through it all daily, if not try at least once before next group time. This will help you get an overall grasp of the book and see some themes emerge.