

Discussion Starter – What are some of the less obvious types of opposition uncovered in this week's sermon that we face as Christians today?

Overcoming Opposition (1 John 5:4-5, 19)

- In 1 John 5:4a, John states that "Whatever is born of God overcomes the world." What is the proper meaning of John's reference to the "world"? What additional insight do we gain from reading 1 John 5:19? How does this verse relate to overcoming opposition?
- What are some of the different types of opposition we face as Christians that were mentioned that you had not seen as clearly before this week's message?
- How do we guard ourselves from the hypnotic effect that Satan deploys in the world? What are his methods? Read James 4:1-4. Discuss what insights these verses give us on how we make ourselves susceptible to being influenced by the hypnotic effect of Satan.
- Describe in your own words what the "real faith" looks like that enables us to overcome the opposition we face in this worldly system.
- What do you see as the danger or consequence of abandoning real faith for comfort and safety?
- What role or responsibility do we have in our salvation and transformation? What relationship does transformation have with salvation? How would you describe Jesus' transformation of your life?
- Where do you see Jesus prompting you to take more risks in your Christian walk?