

1 John 5:1-5, Chiastic structure

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been fathered by God,

and everyone who loves [the father] also loves the child fathered by him.

² By this we know that we love the children of God: whenever we love God and keep his commandments.

³ For this is the love of God: that we keep his commandments.

And his commandments are not burdensome,

⁴ because everyone who is fathered by God conquers the world.

And this is the victory which has conquered the world: our faith.

⁵ Now who is the one who conquers the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Exercise

Read through all five verses, looking for repeating words and phrases.

Draw boxes, ovals, brackets, colors, single or double underlines around or under those repeating words and phrases.

What is the central idea in the passage?

MAKE DISCIPLES

“By teaching them to obey my commands” (Jesus)
Jesus gave more than 200 commands. Here are seven.

- ➔ Read one command. Then **ask** question **1**, allowing everyone to answer in his own way.
- ➔ After a couple of minutes, **ask** question **2**.
- ➔ And a couple of minutes later, **ask** question **3**.
 - (1) “In what ways have you obeyed this command?”
 - (2) “In what ways do you or your church obey this?”
 - (3) “In what ways will you obey this command better?”
- ➔ Then do the same with each of the other commands.
- Command **1. Repent and believe!**
“Repent and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15 *ESV*).
- Command **2. Love!**
“Love the Lord your God (Mark 12:30).
“Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31).
“Love one another” (John 13:34).
“Love your enemies” (Luke 6:27).
- Command **3. Pray!**
“Pray like this: ‘Our Father in heaven’” (Matt.6:9).
- Command **4. Remember!**
“Do this in remembrance of me” (Luke 22:16).
- Command **5. Forgive!**
“Forgive, and you will be forgiven” (Luke 6:37).
- Command **6. Give!**
“Give, and it will be given to you” (Luke 6:38).
- Command **7. Baptize!**
“Make disciples, baptizing them” (Matt. 28:19).