

***What is a Healthy Church Member***  
**Week 4 Study Guide**  
A Healthy Church Member is Genuinely Converted

**Goal: To see evidences in our lives that God has caused us to be born again.**

1 John 5:1-5

*“Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. 4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”*

1. Why did the Apostle John write this letter? How does the new birth happen?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What is the role of regeneration in having faith (or believing) and loving the Father and those who has been born of Him? (v.1) What are some of the effects or evidences that we see about the new birth from verses 2-4?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Verse 4 says, *“Everyone who has been born of God overcomes (or conquers) the world.”* This means that there are forces and temptations in the world that hinder us from loving God and each other. What are some of those forces and temptations? If I am struggling with some of these, and therefore not showing all the evidences of regeneration, does it mean I am not genuinely converted?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. If God is the one who decisively causes the new birth in the hearts of spiritually dead sinners, then what is the task of believers in the salvation of others?

5. Now read chapter 4 in *What is a Healthy Church Member?* According to Thabiti, what is the most crucial starting point in making sure we come to a right understanding of biblical conversion?

6. List Thabiti's summary of the criteria in 1 John for knowing whether or not we are genuinely converted. What happens in a church if members are not truly converted? What are the implications of this issue for the way we do evangelism?

7. How would Thabiti answer question 3 above?

8. What are some evidences of God's saving grace that we see in each other in this small group, and at DGCC as a whole? Where do we need to encourage each other? Where do we need to challenge each other?