*“With the Master Before the Mirror of God’s Word”* by Susan Heck

A Ladies Bible Study on First John

Tuesday, October 22nd, 2019

*“Like Susan, I am sure you too have known someone who has struggled with assurance of their salvation or maybe you, at one point in your life have struggled or continue to struggle with this. Susan says, “Perhaps you do not struggle with assurance, or even if you do, we have come to a portion of 1 John that can either be of great comfort to you or of great concern.” (pg.195)*

**Susan’s Summary** of Chapter 14– “Five Valid Tests that We are Born of God” – 1 John 3:19-24 (pg.’s 205-206)

“What a powerful portion of the Word of God that should aide in helping you examine yourself to see if you are in the faith.

**There are five valid tests to see if we are in the faith.**

***Test #1:*** *Loving the Brethren (vv 19,23)*

Do you love the brethren more today than you did last year? How does it manifest itself?

Are you more sacrificial in your love for others?

***Test #2:*** *Answered Prayer (v 22)*

Do you pray? Constantly? Consistently?

Do you see God answering prayer in your life daily?

***Test #3:*** *Obedience to His Word (v 22)*

Do you obey and please God?

Do you know the Word so that you don’t have to wonder what it is that God has asked of you?

Do you delight to do the will of God?

Are you disobeying in any area of your life this day?

***Test #4:*** *Belief in Jesus Christ (v23)*

Do you really believe the facts concerning Christ and who He is? Does it affect how you live?

***Test #5:*** *The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit (v24)*

Does God the Holy Spirit dwell within you? How do you know?

Do you sense His presence, His conviction, His comfort, and His enabling in your life?

If you have any unrest after this lesson, my friend, I would encourage you to talk with the Lord, talk with your husband or your closest friend. Find an accountability partner to pray with you and to help you discern where you are in your walk with Christ.

Today, if you will hear His voice, please do not harden your heart!”