

1. Are the terms “children, young men, and fathers” to be read literally or figuratively?
2. If literal, how can “little children” possess salvation before having come to years of discretion?
3. If figurative, how does the Bible describe immature Christians (1 Cor. 3:1-3, Gal. 4:19, Heb. 5:12-14)?
4. What is the proper place and function of assurance in a new believer’s life (vs. 12)?
5. What is the source and the evidence of the young man’s strength?
6. In what way and to what extent had these “young men” overcome the wicked one?
7. Is John referring to an earlier letter when he writes “I have written” instead of “I write”?
8. Is there a difference between knowing “the Father” and “Him who is from the beginning” (vs. 14a)?
9. What are some of the specific responsibilities of “spiritual fathers” to those who less mature?
10. Which level of maturity best describes you and what does that mean for you and others?