Introduction:
1. The devil is always striving to distract Christians from serving God.
2. We have the strong desire to win the battle against sin.
3. We can successfully battle against sin by...

I. **KNOWING THE TWO TYPES OF SIN – vs. 16, 17**
   A. **SIN LEADING TO DEATH**
      1. This is any sin that one is not willing to repent of.
      2. They may know better, but refuse to act.
   
   B. **SIN NOT LEADING TO DEATH**
      1. He is one who is walking in the light -1Jn 1:7-10
      2. He still stumbles, but rises again.

II. **KNOW WE ARE BEGOTTEN OF GOD – vs. 18**
    A. **CHILD OF GOD SEEKS RIGHTEOUSNESS**
       1. His goal is never to sin against God.
       2. When he does sin, it is always unintentional.
    
    B. **THE DEVIL DOES NOT TOUCH HIM**
       1. He cannot take him away from God -Jn 10:28-30
       2. He cannot hold on to us (i.e. make us continue in sin)

III. **WE ARE OF GOD – vs. 19**
     A. **WE HAVE OBEYED THE GOSPEL; WE ARE HIS**
     B. **THE WORLD IS OF THE EVIL ONE** -Ep 2:1-3

IV. **THE SON OF GOD HAS COME – vs. 20**
    A. **OUR FAITH IS FIRMLY GROUNDED IN JESUS**
       1. We are in Christ Jesus -Ro 6:3, 4; Ga 3:27
       2. All spiritual blessings are found in Jesus -Ep 1:3
    
    B. **WE HAVE ASSURANCE OF LIFE THOROUGH HIM** -1Jn 2:25; Jn 17:3

Conclusion:
1. Idols were a major issue in the days of John.
2. They continue to be an issue today, just in a different form
3. Idolatry is covetousness -Co 3:5