



Living with Total Confidence 1 John 5:13-21

John's letter ends with four stirring statements about the absolute confidence we have as part of our faith in Jesus!

Four common thieves of confidence:

- _____
- _____

As a believer in Jesus Christ, I can be totally...

1. Confident I have God's _____

*I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may **know** that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13*

2. Confident I have God's _____

*This is the **confidence** we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we **know** that he hears us --whatever we ask --we **know** that we have what we asked of him. 1 John 5:14*

An example of the kind of prayer we can be sure God will answer:
If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death. 1 John 5:16,17

3. Confident I have God's _____

*We **know** that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. We **know** that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. 1 John 5:18,19*

4. Confident I have God's _____

*We **know** also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may **know** him who is true. And we are in him who is true --even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 1 John 5:20*

A last reminder: _____

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. 1 John 5:21

Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today's topic!

This week's memory verse:

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us --whatever we ask --we know that we have what we asked of him. 1 John 5:14

Monday

Look back over your notes from this past weekend. Where in your life right now do you struggle with confidence? Read all of 1 John 5:13-21. John is obviously emphasizing the certainty we have in life as believers in Jesus. Which of his verses jumps out at you as particularly meaningful? Why?

Bring to God the area where you struggle with certainty or confidence right now. Fill you with the confidence Jesus gives.

Tuesday

Read 1 John 5:13. Why does John say he is writing all of these things, according to the verse? Why do you think John thought it important to emphasize that we can know for sure we have eternal life?

What happens to people's lives when they do not have this assurance?

Read these verses: Hebrews 10:22; Hebrews 6:19; 2 Cor. 5:5-7; 2 Cor. 1:21,22; Eph. 1:13,14

What do they have to say about assurance of salvation? Why do you think so many people do not have this assurance?

What is needed to gain this assurance?

Ask God to give you His assurance today! If you have not yet, settle the issue today, and trust Jesus as your Savior so that you too may have such certainty about your eternal life.

Wednesday

Read 1 John 5:14. Do you consistently have the confidence spoken of by John? This verse can be broken down into two kinds of confidence: First, confidence that God always hears our prayers, and second, that we have whatever we ask that is in accordance with His will. Do you ever struggle with believing in either of these truths? How?

Have you ever known anyone who had the kind of confident prayer life John talks about here? Who was it, and how was this confident praying demonstrated?

What can you do to increase your confidence in God as it relates to your prayer life?

Start today: Bring to God the areas you are really struggling with and ask Him to show you His will in those areas. Spend time throughout the day praying confidently!

Thursday

Read 1 John 5:18,19. What do you think John means when he says “anyone born of God does not continue to sin”? What light do his comments in 1 John 1:8-10 shed on this verse?

The second part of verse 18 contains a promise that the evil one will not harm believers. Of course, Christians are mistreated and persecuted all over the planet, so what can this verse mean?

What light do Jesus’ comments in Luke 2:4-7 shed on these verses? What about Romans 8:28-39?

Where in your life right now do you need more confidence that God will defend you? *Bring to Him in prayer right now your fears of the future and the present.*

Friday

Read 1 John 5:20,21. Why do you think John closes this letter with the simple phrase, “Keep yourselves from idols”? What are the things you tend to idolize-- that is, trust and love -- in this life?

Looking back over our summer study in 1 John, what have you found to be themes John emphasizes over and over? Why do you suppose John emphasizes these?

Which of these are particularly applicable to your life right now?

Ask God to help you grow through your study of this book in the ways He wants you to grow. Thanks Him for His grace and many blessings on your life!

Saturday

Take the time today to go over any devotions you may have missed and to complete your memorization of this week’s verse. Pray for the ministry this weekend!
Thanks!