

CG - Gathering

Sermon Series: The Letters of John
Sermon Title: By This You Know— 1 John 5:13-21



Call to Worship (Read 1 John 5:20)

"And we know 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, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life."

Pray

"Father, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is the true God and eternal life. Thank You that our confidence rests not in our performance or feelings but in Christ alone. As we gather together, strengthen our assurance, deepen our prayers for one another, and help us love You above every competing idol. Through Christ our Lord, Amen."

Questions for Discussion: (Read: 1 John 5:13-21)

1. What stood out to you about the sermon text for this week? Did you find anything encouraging or challenging?
2. In verses 14-17, John's primary example of confident prayer is praying for another believer. Does that challenge the way we typically think about prayer? If so, how? Is there someone in your life that God may be calling you to pray for more intentionally?
3. John closes with three certainties: We know the Son keeps His people (v. 18), we know we are from God (v. 19), and we know the Son of God has come (v. 20). Which of these truths is most encouraging to you right now, and why?
4. John's final command is, "Little children, keep yourselves from idols" (v. 21). What are some modern idols Christians are tempted to trust for significance, security, or identity? How does knowing the true God expose those counterfeits?

Gospel community Challenge: This week, identify one person in this group and intentionally encourage them in two ways:

1. Pray for them every day this week.
2. Send them a text, call them, or speak with them in person and share one specific truth about Christ that encourages your confidence in Him.

As you do, remember John's purpose in writing the Letter: "I write these things to you ... that you might know that you have eternal life." And pray that they would have confidence in the Lord this week.

Sermon - Notes

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I. By This You Know — Assurance Isn't Arrogance (v. 13)

II. By This You Know So You Can Pray — Assurance Produces Confidence Before God (vv. 14–17)

III. By This You Know So You Can Love Rightly — Knowing Rightly Produces Loving Rightly (vv. 18–21)