

## The Believer's Assurance of Eternal Life - 1 John 5:13-21

### Reflection Questions

A. What might make someone afraid to ask another person for something?

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B. What sort of things do people set their hopes on today?

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### Scripture – 1 John 5:13-21 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God.

<sup>14</sup> Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

<sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

<sup>16</sup> If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *which does not lead* to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not *leading* to death. There is sin *leading* to death. I do not say that he should pray about that.

<sup>17</sup> All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not *leading* to death.

<sup>18</sup> We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

<sup>19</sup> We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway of* the wicked one.

<sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

<sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

**Key Terms**

Believe	Eternal Life	Obedience
Believers	Evil	Prayer
Children	God	Satan
Confidence	God's Will	Sin
Death	Idol	Understanding
Disobedience	Jesus Christ	

**Lesson Outline**

- I. Unceasing Faith**
- II. Unrighteous in their Functioning**
- III. Unfazed by the Foes**
- IV. Unflinching Faithfulness**

**Exploring the Text**

1. Why did John write this letter? (5:13)

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2. What confidence can believers have? (5:14-15)

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3. About what type of sin did John say his readers should pray? (5:16)

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4. What is sin? (5:17)

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5. What does the person born of God stop doing? (5:18)

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6. What sort of protection do Christians enjoy? (5:18)

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7. Under whose control is the whole world? (5:19)

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8. What has the Son of God done, and what has He given? (5:20)

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9. Who is Jesus Christ? (5:20)

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10. What was the last instruction John left with his readers? (5:21)

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**Understanding the Text**

11. How can we be confident that we have eternal life?

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12. When is it hard for you to approach God with confidence?

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13. How can we know whether something is according to God's will?

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14. In what way can sin lead to death?

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15. To what sort of death might sin lead?

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16. In what way has sin led to death in your life?

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17. What type of sin does not lead to death?

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18. By what modern "idols" are you tempted?

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19. About what issue do you need to approach God more confidently?

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**Life Application**

20. What specific step can you take this week to place more confidence in God and less in the idols of this world?

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21. For what fellow believer who has sinned will you pray today?

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Adult Questions for LESSONMaker.

<p>1 John 5:13-21 New King James Version</p> <p><sup>13</sup> These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, <sup>[a]</sup>and that you may <i>continue to</i> believe in the name of the Son of God.</p> <p><b>Confidence and Compassion in Prayer</b></p> <p><sup>14</sup> Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.</p> <p><sup>16</sup> If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin <i>which does not lead to death</i>, he will</p>	<p>1 John 5:13-21 King James Version</p> <p><sup>13</sup> These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.</p> <p><sup>14</sup> And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:</p> <p><sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.</p> <p><sup>16</sup> If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them</p>	<p>1 John 5:13-21 New International Version</p> <p><b>Concluding Affirmations</b></p> <p><sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.</p> <p><sup>16</sup> If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them 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 you should</p>	<p>1 John 5:13-21 New Living Translation</p> <p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p><sup>13</sup> I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup> And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. <sup>15</sup> And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.</p> <p><sup>16</sup> If you see a fellow believer<sup>[a]</sup> sinning in a way that does not lead to death, you should pray, and God will give that person life. But there is a sin that leads to death, and I am not saying you should pray for those who commit it. <sup>17</sup> All wicked</p>
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ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not *leading* to death. There is sin *leading* to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. <sup>17</sup> All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not *leading* to death.

**Knowing the True—  
Rejecting the False**

<sup>18</sup> We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>[c]</sup>himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

<sup>19</sup> We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway* of the wicked one.

<sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come and has

that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

<sup>17</sup> All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

<sup>18</sup> We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

<sup>19</sup> And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

<sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus

pray about that. <sup>17</sup> All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death.

<sup>18</sup> We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot harm them. <sup>19</sup> We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. <sup>20</sup> 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 by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

<sup>21</sup> Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

actions are sin, but not every sin leads to death.

<sup>18</sup> We know that God's children do not make a practice of sinning, for God's Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot touch them. <sup>19</sup> We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.

<sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God.<sup>[b]</sup> And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and he is eternal life.

<p>given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.</p> <p><sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.</p> <p><b>Footnotes</b></p> <p>a. <u>1 John 5:13</u> NU omits the rest of v. <u>13</u>.</p> <p>b. <u>1 John 5:18</u> <i>guards</i></p> <p>c. <u>1 John 5:18</u> NU <i>him</i></p> <p><b><u>New King James Version (NKJV)</u></b></p> <p>Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.</p>	<p>Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.</p> <p><sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>King James Version (KJV)</u></b></p> <p><u>Public Domain</u></p>	<p><b><u>New International Version (NIV)</u></b></p> <p>Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by <u>Biblica, Inc.®</u> Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.</p>	<p><sup>21</sup> Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God’s place in your hearts.<sup>[c]</sup></p> <p><b>Footnotes</b></p> <p>a. <u>5:16</u> Greek <i>a brother</i>.</p> <p>b. <u>5:20</u> Greek <i>the one who is true</i>.</p> <p>c. <u>5:21</u> Greek <i>keep yourselves from idols</i>.</p> <p><b><u>New Living Translation (NLT)</u></b></p> <p><i>Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of <u>Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.</u>, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.</i></p>
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