



## Leader Guide

# You Can Know

*April 24, 2022*

### Main Passage: 1 John 5:11-13

### Theological Theme

Those who are truly in Christ will persevere until the end because they are preserved by God. Their love for God and obedience to His Word is evidence of God's preserving work in their lives.

### Introduction

- ❓ Have you ever craved something so much that you couldn't think of anything else?
- ❓ What is the hungriest or thirstiest you can remember being? Why did this moment stick with you? When have you experienced this spiritually?

The apostle John is known as the beloved disciple. God appointed him to write an account of the life of Jesus Christ, three letters, and the Revelation of Jesus Christ to be preserved for the church so that the church through the ages might be encouraged and preserved. The book of 1 John is an epistle written to believers. The exact occasion for its writing is uncertain, but it appears that those to whom it was written were also acquainted with John's gospel because he referenced material from it.

In the text we are studying today, we find the heart of John's letter. The main idea of the letter is to assure believers of their position in Christ before God the Father as well as to warn them against false teachers. In these three verses, we are reminded of God's promise to save His people, the nature of that salvation, and the comforting assurance that this salvation is maintained by Christ Himself.

## 1. The Promise (1 John 5:11)

The foundation of John's argument concerning the certainty of salvation for those who trust in Christ is the testimony of God. John answered the question, "Has God truly saved sinners?" His answer pointed to God's own testimony. In other words, the certainty that God has provided salvation for sinners lies in the fact that God has said that He has.

## 2. The Life (1 John 5:12)

It is critical for Christians to approach the Word of God rightly. This means they read the Scriptures with both right posture and the right method. A danger Christians must avoid is claiming promises that aren't there. Some promises have applied only to certain persons in certain contexts. Students of the Scripture must be diligent to consider the context of the passage and the broader teaching of Scripture.

## 3. The Assurance (1 John 5:13)

A Christian isn't a person with a license to sin but a person who has been transformed by the gospel and transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light. This means they live in a different way. If someone goes on sinning without fear or repentance, then there is little evidence that they are following Jesus, no matter what they say.

## Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

- ❓ What does this passage say?
- ❓ What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about man?
- ❓ What does this passage demand of me?
- ❓ How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
- ❓ How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?