

5 truths that you can know FOR SURE if you are a Christian

Truth #1 - The Assurance that God has Saved You:

Q: What does the word assurance mean? Here is a dictionary definition: Assurance - (noun) *a positive declaration intended to give confidence; a promise.*

Over the next 5 small groups, we are going to be looking at five different truths from God that you can memorize in order to help you trust in what God has done for you in your relationship with Jesus Christ. As a Christian, you can know these things FOR SURE, and trust that God has promised them to you. The challenge for each week will be to commit these key verses to memory. Then you will be able to recall them and think about them whenever you need them. This first week we are going to look at the fact that believers in Christ can know FOR SURE that God has given us eternal life because of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Here is the key passage:

- **1 John 5:11–12 (NIV)** *And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

Let's answer questions about the parts of this passage to help us understand it better:

..And this is the testimony:

- When you hear the words "testimony" or "testify," what do you think of?
- Look up the verse that is located right before our key passage - 1 John 5:10. Who is the one testifying in this passage?
- Why do you think God's testimony is reliable?

...God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

- According to verse 11, Who gives eternal life?
- How would you define eternal life? Look at how Jesus defines eternal life in His prayer to the Father in John 17:1-3. How does Jesus define eternal life? Can you think of some reasons that His definition is a good one?
- How does a person receive eternal life? (Look up John 3:16)

...Whoever has the Son has life;

- What do you think John means when he says that someone "has the Son" (Look up John 1:12)
- According to John 5:24, what three things does Jesus promise those who hear His Words and believe the testimony of the Father?
- What does Jesus promise His followers in John 10:27-28?
- How are these promises comforting to you if you are a believer in Jesus?

...whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

- Who is John referring to when he speaks of those who do "not have the Son of God?"
- What does John mean when he says that these people do not have life? (Look up John 3:18)

- Have you received eternal life? It is found in the gospel, which means “good news.” Look at the GOSPEL as explained below: (You don’t need to look up these verses right now).

G – God created us for a relationship with Him. (Genesis 1:27)

O – Our sins separate us from God. (Romans 3:23; 6:23)

S – Sin can’t be removed by doing good deeds. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

P – Paying the price for sin, Jesus died on the cross and rose again. (1 Peter 3:18)

E – Everyone who believes/trusts in Jesus alone receives the gift of eternal life. (John 3:16)

L – Life that is eternal means living in relationship with God now and throughout eternity. (John 17:3)

- Have you believed this good news and received eternal life? If you haven’t done this before, ask your leader to help you do it today.
- Does knowing that those who do not have the Son do not have eternal life, cause you to want to share the good news with others?
- Finally, let’s read 1 John 5:13 to reassure us that we can **know** that we have eternal life.

1 John 5:13 (NLT) *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.*

At the bottom of the page are two memory verse cards. Pick the translation that is easiest for you to understand. Cut out one of these cards and carry it around in your pocket or Bible to help you memorize it. You will receive 4 more cards in the coming weeks.

Assurance of Salvation:

1 John 5:11–12 (NLT) And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God’s Son does not have life.

Assurance of Salvation:

1 John 5:11–12 (NIV) And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.