**Assurance: How to Be Certain About Your Eternity**

1 John 5:11-13

**1 John 5:11 (ESV)**And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

**1 John 5:12 (ESV)**Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

***Assurance***is certainty and confidence that you are truly saved, are a child of God, and have eternal life in Heaven.

1. **The Availability of Assurance**

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

**2 Timothy 1:12 (ESV)**But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.

**Romans 8:38 (ESV)**For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

**Romans 8:39 (ESV)**nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***What causes people NOT to have assurance? (build list)***

*False teaching.*

*Lack of understanding.*

*Chronic doubt.*

*Stress and trials.*

*Habitual, unconfessed sin.*

*Never saved.*

1. **The Foundation for Assurance**

**1 John 5:11 (ESV)**And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

**John 10:28 (ESV)**I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

**John 10:29 (ESV)**My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.

1. **The Test for Assurance**

**1 John 5:12 (ESV)**Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV)**Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

**2 Peter 1:10 (ESV)**Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

***1. Are you trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation?***

**John 20:31 (ESV)**But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

**Acts 16:31 (ESV)**And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

***2. Has Jesus Christ changed the way you live?***

**Matthew 7:21 (ESV)**“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.”

**Titus 1:16 (ESV)**They profess to know God, but they deny Him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

**1 John 2:3 (ESV)**And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

***3. Does the Holy Spirit provide an inner assurance that you are saved?***

**Romans 8:16 (ESV)**The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.