

# ASSURANCE

## INTRODUCTION

Today we are going to talk about the assurance we can have with God because of what Christ has done for us!

## KEY QUESTION

Discuss this question with the person next to you:

- *How sure are you of going to heaven when you die and why? (0-100%)*

However you answered, the bible teaches we can have certainty of being with God when we die. If we have faith in Jesus, we will be with God in heaven. That's not dependent upon anything we have done. It's about what Jesus has done for us. Today's Action Group should help us feel confident in this.

## LEADER'S NOTES:

Remember to book or think of the space you will meet. Notify students in your AG of the time and place.

## SUMMARY

This week, we'd love members to come away with a good understanding of the assurance they can have of their standing with God. That assurance is not dependent upon anything we have done. It's all about what Christ has done for us, and our faith in that. We have this topic very early in Action Group because we think it matters that people are assured of their standing with Christ. To share the gospel with conviction, people need to truly know what an incredible thing Jesus gives us. We must appreciate for ourselves that Jesus has saved us! Our desire to put our faith into action must come from a deep gratitude of what Jesus has done for us, rather than out of a fear that we must please God in order to be saved.

## AT THE START

Welcome back! While we wait for everyone to arrive, let's find out how uni is going for us. Take turns to share your experience of uni so far. Are you happy with how it's going?



## JOHN'S GOSPEL

One after the other, read:

### John 1: 12

*But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,*

### John 3: 16

*16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

### John 5: 24

*24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*

### John 6: 37; 47

*37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.*

*47 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.*

### John 10: 27-29

*27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 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.*

- What do these scriptures tell us is true if we believe in Jesus?

John further emphasises this in **John 20:30-31** where he states his purpose for writing this gospel.

### John 20: 30-31

*"Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."*

When we believe, we have eternal life in his name!

## JOHN'S LETTER

John didn't just write about the life of Jesus. He also wrote letters to encourage Christians in their faith in Jesus. Let's check out a relevant passage from one of those letters.

Read **1 John 5:9-13** and answer the following questions:

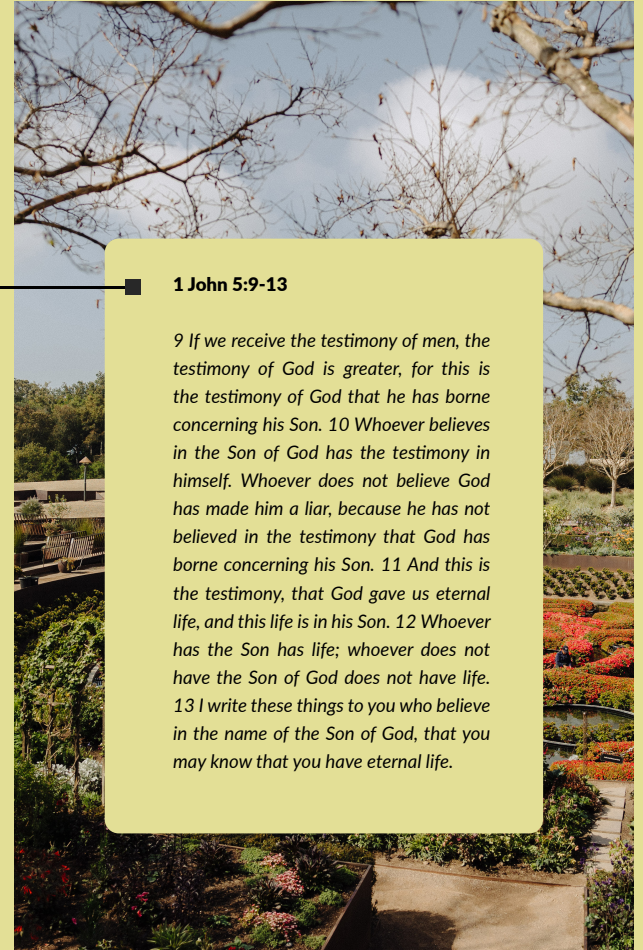
- In verse 11, what is John saying is God's testimony?
- From verse 12, what's true of us if we have the son, and what's true of us if we don't?
- What can we learn from verse 13 about what John wrote?
- What do these scriptures tell us is true if we believe in Jesus?

### HELPFUL ANSWERS

- God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his son
- If we have the Son, we have eternal life. If we do not have the son of God, we do not have eternal life
- If we believe in Jesus, he wants us to know that we have eternal life

### 1 John 5:9-13

9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. 10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. 11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 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.



## DISCUSS

Discuss these questions with the person next to you:

- *Do you believe in the Son?*
- *Do you have eternal life?*

Discuss these questions with the group:

- *We began today's discussion asking ourselves "How sure are you of going to heaven when you die and why?" Have your answers changed in light of today's discussion?*
- *Is there anything still stopping us having 100% assurance?*
- *How do you think having assurance with God benefits those of us who believe?*

## SUMMARY

If we believe in Jesus Christ, we can be assured of our standing with God. When we die, we will have eternal life! This separates us from all other world religions and cults. For them, success is generally dependent upon our ability to perform and obey certain rules. If we fail, we lose. But with Christianity, it's the opposite. We trust in what Jesus has done for us. It was his ability to perform that saves us. No amount of our failure changes his success. He has promised in his word that if we believe in Him, we will have eternal life!

## PRAYER

Spend some time praying and thanking God for what he's done for us in Jesus Christ. Ask God to help us grow in our confidence in him.

### Campus Notices

Check with staff for weekly or one off events that need to be announced.