



**Sermon Discussion Guide**  
1 John: Searching for Certainty  
1 John 5:13-21  
Jeff Heiser, November 17, 2019

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**Step 1: Reflect on the Text**

Read the Scripture printed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

**Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon**

INTRODUCTION

1. When the Bible speaks about knowing God, it is talking about something much deeper than recognition. What does it mean to know God? Have you known God?
2. What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

FAITH (v. 13)

1. Read John 17:3. What is John talking about when he says “eternal life”? How does this inform our understanding of 1 John 5:13?
2. What does it mean that faith is a means not an end? What is the end of faith according to this verse?

PRAYER (vv. 14-17)

1. Have you understood God as a technique for a better or a fulfilled life? How might prayer draw us from a consideration of God as a tool to God as a person who wants to know us?

IDENTITY (vv. 18-21)

1. What are some of the ways we have (either you or the broader church) made our faith something we do, not something we are? How might we grow to find our identity as “born of God”?
2. Consider v. 21. How does it contrast to v. 20? What does it say about Jesus?

**Step 3: Final Reflections**

1. How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
2. In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?