

## **The Essentials of Our Faith – Studies In I John #20**

The Value of Knowing Is Doing!

I John 5:13-21

Intro – VS13

“I want you to know you have eternal life. By your belief, by your practice, by what comes out of you. Eternal life is seen, felt and certain.”

### **I. Certainty About Prayer VS 14-15**

- A.** We live in God’s presence
- B.** There’s more to be said about prayer
- C.** Confidence or boldness
  - Hebrews 4:16
  - Hebrews 10:19-20
- D.** Certain that your prayers are heard
  - According to His will
  - Not what we want
  - Wrong motives – James 4:3
  - The Spirit helps us to know – Romans 8:26-27
  - Everything in the catalogue
- E.** Certain that you have what you asked for
  - If it’s heard, then we have
  - God never says no to anything that is His will
  - II Corinthians 1:20
  - Not just for special people, but for all believers
  - The only issue is when – God’s timing
  - Matthew 7:7, 9-11

### **II. An Illustration VS 16-17**

- A.** To show how one believers’ prayer for another believer is powerful and effective
- B.** An encouragement to pray for each other
- C.** Not an evaluative tool to judge the depth of others sin.
- D.** Not categories
  - Mortal
  - Venial
- E.** Some sin is so deep only God can deal with it
  - Through sickness
  - Through brokenness
  - Through death

- I Corinthians 11:27-30

**F.** Believers not unbelievers

### **III. Certainty In Safety VS 18-21**

- A.** Kept safe by Christ
- B.** In a world controlled by Satan
- C.** In the face of lies we can know the truth,
- D.** Through Christ – the true God and eternal life
- E.** Stay close to Jesus and far from substitutes

### **IV. Thoughts**

- A.** I John 1:1-4
  - Know these things
  - Don't be led astray
  - Certainty leads to life
- B.** The quality of our certainty is determined by our boldness in the presence of God
  - Through prayer
  - In ministry and service
  - In life
- C.** Confidence is conditioned by familiarity
  - Get familiar with God
  - He will – Word
  - His presence
  - Fellowship with others
- D.** Great decisions for the New Year.