

What is Assurance?

(1 John 5:11-13)

When you look up the meaning of “assurance” in the dictionary, it means “a positive declaration intended to give someone confidence in a promise.” The apostle John provides his assurance with a statement of evidence:

And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. The one who has the Son has life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. (1 John 5:11-13, CSB)

1. What evidence does the apostle John have to back up his claim? Is it firsthand or secondhand?

2. When you share the gospel, do you have evidence for your good news?

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Teacher Notes

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1. What evidence does the apostle John have to back up his claim? Is it firsthand or secondhand?

Ask the student: what do you know about the apostle John? What does he mean, “I have written these things to you?”

John was one of the twelve disciples who spent three years with Jesus and His ministry. He was an eyewitness to Jesus’ works of miracles, His crucifixion, and His resurrection. He saw and experienced everything firsthand, and wrote the New Testament books: John, 1 John 1, 1 John 2, 1 John 3, and Revelation.

2. When you share the gospel, do you have evidence for your good news?

Ask the student: what evidence do you have to support what you are saying is true? How do you give someone confidence in the truth of what you are saying?

The Bible, God’s word, is a true historical record of God’s interaction with man. No other religion can make this claim.

Archaeology has found evidence of people, places, and events that has been mentioned in the Bible. Jesus Christ is a historical person who was recorded by non-Christian historians.