

Strong Tower Bible Study

Agenda

Lesson #4

Time 6:00pm -7:30pm

Topic: Confidence and Compassion in Prayer

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Scripture text: 1 John 5:14-21

¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

¹⁶ If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should pray about that. ¹⁷ All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death.

¹⁸ We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot harm them. ¹⁹ We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. ²⁰ We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

²¹ Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

Things to know:

- John's first letter addresses those in the church as some others have fallen away.
- John's letters were in hopes to stabilize differences in the church regarding doctrine, devotion, and ethics.

John made four purpose statements:

1. He wrote to promote his readers' fellowship and joy.
2. To help readers avoid the pit falls of sin yet find forgiveness when they stumble.
3. To protect readers from false teachers.
4. John wrote to his readers to remind them of their gift of eternal life.

John affirmed the truth of Christ, Love and the importance of a personal relationship with Christ. Truth, faith, proactive ethics, and fervent love for God and people were key.

Discussion Questions

1. Who is John writing to in Vs 13 and why?
2. How sure are you in knowing God hears your prayers? Vs 14
3. Where does our confidence come from? Vs 14
4. How is John affirming us? Vs 15
5. How should we respond to a brother or sister who commits a sin?
Vs 16
6. What type or "Death" is John talking about?

Diving deeper into vs 16 & 17 (group discussion)

7. Who keeps us safe? Vs 18
8. Is there anyone who escapes the lure of the devil? Vs 19
9. Where does our direction and confidence come from? Vs 20
10. Can you name some potential idols that we face daily?

Faith in Action

- Sit quietly before the Lord for 15 minutes each day.
- Thank God for His Love and Faithfulness each day and tell someone else.

Reach out to a young person with biblical words of encouragement:

Psalm 32:8- "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Isaiah 41:10- "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.

Isaiah 41:13 "For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'"

Challenge of the Week:

In seeking God's Will this week:

1. Make sure that we have repented from all known sin.
2. After confessing and repenting we can ask for God's direction confidently.
3. Read scripture daily with an open heart ready to hear and be obedient to the Holy Spirit.

Scripture Application

Deuteronomy 4:29-How do we seek God with our heart?

James 1:5-6-Share this scripture with the next person who asks for your advice.

1Peter 2:15-How can we silence the ignorance of others.

Ephesians 5:15-17-How can we live this out in real time.

Closing Prayer