



## LIVING THE LIFE

### “Walking in Confidence” 1 John 4:7-5:21

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In this world there is no shortage of grounds for doubts and fears. Christians are not exempt, but they should learn to overcome their doubts and fears and live with confidence.

#### **I. Confidence—We Know We Live in Him and He in Us. 4:13**

- A. By acknowledging that Jesus is the Son of God. v. 15
- B. By recognizing the transforming work of love in our lives. v. 12
  - 1. God is not visible to human eyes.
  - 2. God’s love is visible in us when expressed towards each other.
  - 3. So we “know and rely (confident) on God’s love for us (in us).” v. 16

#### **II. Confidence—We Know “In This World We Are Like Him.” 4:17**

- A. The expression of God’s love in our lives makes us in some way like Him.
- B. Knowing that we are like Him gives us confidence in the “day of judgment.”
- C. Because it is evidence of His saving grace.
- D. This knowledge takes away our fear because we know He bore our punishment.

#### **III. Confidence—We Know We Love the Children of God. 5:2**

- A. Those who are “born of God” love Him.
- B. Those who love the Father love His Son.
- C. Those who love Father and Son love the children of God—it’s a command!
- D. Our obedient loving is evidence we love God and have been born of Him.

#### **IV. Confidence—“You May Know You Have Eternal Life.” 5:13**

- A. The historical testimony that Jesus is the Christ—water and blood.
- B. The heart testimony concerning Jesus—the work of the Spirit.
- C. This is God’s testimony to us concerning His Son.
- D. “He who has the Son has life”—God has given to us eternal life.

#### **V. Confidence—“We Know that He Hears Us.” 5:15**

- A. Those who experience eternal life want what He wants—His will.
- B. They ask Him, He hears and He answers in accordance with His will.
- C. Example—praying for a believing brother who sins—He can be restored.

#### **VI. Confidence—“We Know the One Born of God Keeps (Us) Safe.” 5:18**

- A. “The whole world is under the control of the evil one.” 5:19
- B. “We know also the Son of God has come and has given us understanding.”
- C. “Anyone born of God does not continue to sin”—“the One keeps him safe.”
- D. “We are in Him who is true.”

**Points to Ponder:** Confidence does not give freedom for casualness or cockiness—“keep yourselves from idols!”