

Strong and Sure

Certain of Jesus – I John 1:1-4


Discussion Points

May 3, 2020

Read/Reflect

1. Read the entire letter of I John (all 5 chapters). (If this is part of a group study, commit to reading it straight through before you discuss it). Pay attention to the times John gives a reason for writing (e.g. “we write this so that. . .”) What themes or emphasis do you notice in John’s writing?
2. Read I John 1:1-4 aloud, then quietly reflect on what you’ve just heard. Then read the passage again (aloud), and notice the one word or phrase that stands out for you. What is God saying to you?
3. How convincing is John’s argument in verses 1-4 for the people he’s directly writing to, do you think? How convincing (helpful) is it for you, today?

Explore

4. What kinds of uncertainties do you face right now? How does that impact your faith life?
5. How does faith in Jesus change when you emphasize the very physical and human aspect of Jesus’ existence, as John does in I John 1:1-4?
6. Where would you place the needle of a “joy meter” that measured the source of joy in your life right now? The two sources of joy being: 1) The objective (physical) existence of Jesus (left side of metre), and 2) your circumstance in life (right side of metre).
7. How do you best think of fellowship with God? What is the pro and con of that?
 - In my head (intellectually)
 - In my heart (emotionally)
 - Through gathering of believers (physically)

Pray

Dear Father in heaven, we confess that we have trusted in the things we see now as uncertain, and the things that are certain we have not believed with our whole heart. We pray for your mercy and forgiveness. Lord, we believe, help us in our unbelief. Teach us what it means to fellowship with you even as we learn what it means to fellowship with each other in this time of physical distancing. In Jesus name, AMEN.