



May 3, 2020

Pastor Caleb Bowman

## What Do You Really Know?

1 John 5:13-21

Pursuing God's will provides \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in a world of uncertainty!

What can you know when you are pursuing God's will?

1. We know we have \_\_\_\_\_
2. We know God \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_
3. We know we have \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ
4. We know we are \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
5. We know that \_\_\_\_\_ is always \_\_\_\_\_!

## Digging Deeper Discussion Questions

1. Read through 1 John 5:13-21. Note each statement in these verses that begins with "We know..." Write out, in your own words, what each statement says a Christian can be certain about.
2. Which of these certainties seems most elusive or difficult to accept in your life? Do any one of them seem "less certain" than John seems to make them out to be? What could remedy that situation?
3. What is something that you know is God's will but you have resisted or are reluctant to pursue because you aren't convinced it will be best? What is holding you back? How can you get started today?

### **Sam and Amy Slobodian**

Romania, Ukraine, Russia (B.I.E.M.)

We are glad to be serving with you during these challenging times brought about by the corona virus. Like everyone else we are longing for this period of shut-downs and closings to be over and to get back to normal. In our fields overseas Christians and worship has been affected much like here in the United States. That means that many businesses are closed, social distancing is being practiced and church services can only be conducted through various internet video programs. Our Seminary session in Kyiv currently under way is being done online as well.



Though much of the world is in lockdown the Word of God is not bound and believers are able to shine the light of the Gospel in various ways. Even in the restricted countries where it is even more challenging because most people do not have internet our missionaries report that believers have found ways to evangelize almost nightly. One reports that they have seen 6 former Muslims come to Christ in a two-week period. You may have seen on our Facebook page that in another restricted country we had an opportunity to air a Christian film on national TV during Easter called "King of Glory. This resulted in contacts from interested people and decisions for salvation. Praise God!

In a long-awaited answer to prayer we are glad to report that our container shipped to Ukraine has finally been released and our personnel in Ukraine are able to distribute the contents of clothing, medical supplies and ministry equipment and supplies. This load includes many items for churches, such as tables, chairs and musical instruments including a couple pianos. In the light of how difficult it was to get this container through Ukrainian customs and concern that Ukraine may prohibit the shipment of used clothing in our last prayer letter we put a temporary hold on receiving used clothing. Now there appears to be an amazing opportunity to send a container to one of the restricted countries where we have national missionaries. Please pray that this indeed would become a possibility so that we can resume received used clothing to ship overseas. Such shipments open hearts for the Gospel and lifts the testimony of the church.

We thank and praise God that on April 25<sup>th</sup> two more grandchildren arrived! Twins Hunter (5 lbs 7 oz) and Haley (5 lbs 5 oz) were born to proud and grateful parents Sharon and Ashton Brandyberry.

Many have been praying for our grandson Noah who has gone through many medical challenges relating to his heart transplant as an infant. Recently his heart has gone into rejection and his kidney failure has progressed from stage 3 to stage 5 full renal failure very quickly. Noah has received outstanding medical care from the Riley Children's hospital which is one of the best children's hospitals in the world. However, due to Noah's medical complexities there are no viable medical options left for Noah and he has been put on hospice at home. There has been an amazing outpouring of love, support and prayers for Noah and his family from the community and from many who have been praying for him during these difficult times. Noah and his twin sister Madison's 8<sup>th</sup> birthday was April 30. On April 22 there was an amazing birthday parade past their home. It was a beautiful sunny day. Noah and Madison along with parents Mat & Susan Harvey and little brother Shane were able to enjoy the parade from their front yard that was decorated with beautiful huge signs. Hundreds of cars drove by including police cars, fire trucks, a motorcycle brigade, antique cars, and even the batmobile that Noah was able to ride in. Indianapolis TV Channel 59 news covered this grand event! The family was truly overwhelmed by the huge amount of birthday gifts and birthday cards received. We are so grateful for the prayers, concern and love demonstrated by so many at this time. May God bless you all!