

1 John 4:13-16

Knowing God

What does it mean that “we abide in God, and God abides in us” ?

Abiding implies:

- Acceptance by God
 - Relationship with God
 - Permanence of our standing with God
 - Love from God
 - In summary: Assurance, a sense of certainty about where we stand with God
-

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

1 John 4:13-16

How do we gain assurance?

1. God’s Spirit assures us that God dwells among us (4:13)

Q: But how do we know that we have God’s Spirit?

A: Because of the effect that the Spirit has in each Christian, namely by leading them to believe in Jesus and then teaching them to love one another

How do we gain assurance?

1. God’s Spirit assures us that God dwells among us (4:13)
 2. Our confession of Jesus assures us that God dwells among us (4:14-15)
 - Our confession is based on reliable, historical evidence: the eyewitness accounts of the apostles.
 - The content of apostles’ testimony is: The Father sent the Son to be Savior of world.
 - “The death of the Son of God is the only and most perfect sacrifice and satisfaction for sin, and is of infinite worth and value, abundantly sufficient to expiate the sins of the whole world.” (Canons of Dort, 2.3)
-

How do we gain assurance?

1. God’s Spirit assures us that God dwells among us (4:13)
 2. Our confession of Jesus assures us that God dwells among us (4:14-15)
 3. Our sense of God’s love for us assures us that He dwells among us (4:16)
-