**Day 29 – The Real Deal**

5:20-21

Let’s remind ourselves what John has tried to do in this chapter. His goal has been to give us assurance of our salvation, that we may KNOW we have real life… eternal life. The key phrase has been “we know”.

Note: “Know” is the word for experiential knowledge. It is important to understand the Greek word John has used. To explain this “experiential knowledge”, the Vines Dictionary tells us that this knowledge is obtained, **not by mere intellectual activity**, but **by operation of the Holy Spirit** consequent upon acceptance of Christ. It’s a knowing that comes only after we are born again; it comes by the reading and studying of God’s Word (knowing truth) along with the operation of the Holy Spirit… inspiring, witnessing and assuring us that what the Bible says is real… is true!!

In **verse 5:13**, we find the main reason that John wrote this letter. What was it?

2. What else do “we know” just in chapter 5?

V2

V14-15

V18

V19

When we know these things, we can’t help but be assured of our salvation.

Now, in the verses for today, we will find something else “we know”.

**Read verses 20 and 21**.

3. What do we know? (two things!)

4. He has come and given us understanding why?

5. The word true is repeated 3 times. List the three things we learn about that which is true.

Note: So what do we know?   
“We know” that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding that we may know Him who is true. Here, in the conclusion of this letter, John returned to his major theme: fellowship with Jesus Christ. We must know Him by experience. And that’s how Jesus wants us to know Him.

6. The work of Jesus in us gives us “an understanding”, and the ability to “know Him”, and to be “in Him”. To be in Him is the abiding life of fellowship that John invited us to back in 1 John 1:3. Write out the verse below.

Note: Significantly, this “understanding” must be what? Given.

7. More than any other way, God has revealed Himself to us by whom? (V22)

8. Then John tells us Jesus is what? (v22)

9. John had declared He was a man in 1John 1:1, 4:2, and 5:6. Take time to go back and read those verses.

The truth about Jesus is that He was totally man and the true God and eternal life. John never promotes one over the other. They are both important.

10. John ends this chapter and letter by commanding us to do what?

Note: It may seem at first glance that this is a strange command to end this letter with. But is it?

11. What has been the main theme of the letter?

12. Yes, real life… having a real, living relationship with God. What would be the enemy to fellowship with God?

Embracing a false god, or a false idea of the true God is idolatry. John closes this letter with this warning, after having spent much of the book warning us against the dangers of the false Jesus many were teaching in his day. (3:18-23, 4:1-3, 5:6-9)

**Application**

Here’s the reality. Jesus Christ is the true God. We know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true. That’s how we have that sharing of the life of Jesus. We have “the real deal”.

Do you personally “know” all the things John talked about when he said “we know”?

Take some time to thank God and praise Him for this amazing “real life” that He has given us and what you “know” as a result… and take anything else to Him in prayer, that is on your heart as a result of studying this book!