

- Christianity gives certainty – but doubts still hit the Christian

1. **You can have confidence in Christ – v4-12**

- v5,11,12 – This certainty comes only through faith in the Son of God
- Begs question – How do I know I can trust Jesus?

a) **Witness 1 – Jesus’ Baptism (Water)**

- Jesus baptised as a mark of identifying with sinners

b) **Witness 2 – Jesus’ Death (Blood)**

- The prophecies about his death, the events surrounding it, and his triumph over it confirm his identity

c) **Witness 3 – The Holy Spirit**

- The Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus (Baptism), in the life of the church (growth), and in the life of the individual (Gods’s word)
- When you find doubts creeping in, don’t focus on feelings or performance, focus on the facts about Jesus Christ.

2. **Confidence rooted in Christ bears great fruit – v11-20**

- Christ-based confidence breeds humble confidence

a) **Believers can have confidence about eternal life – v11-13**

- Christ has brought you into eternal life
- Confidence isn’t arrogance, but taking Christ at his word

b) **Believers can have confidence in prayer – v14-17**

- Christ brought you into a relationship with a loving powerful father
- The Father keeps his promises (his will v14) – we need to learn to plead his promises (ask according to his will)

c) **Believers can have confidence facing sin – v18**

- Christ has brought you under new management
- You can resist temptation with his resources

d) **Believers can have confidence about belonging – v19**

- Christ has brought you into his family

e) **Believers can have confidence about reality – v20**

- Christ has brought you into the truth
- All else is a mirage – don’t lose your focus on Christ for the mirage

3. **Don’t place your confidence elsewhere – v21**

- Focusing on Christ brings all this and a confidence in it
- If we make something else more important then we lose our assurance, maybe even our faith proves unfounded



Sabbath 4th May 08
n e w l i f e f e l l o w s h i p

S E R V I N G J E S U S C H R I S T T H E K I N G

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Notices

Sab	Evening meeting at Mark & Judith’s	8pm
Tues	Book Study - Disciplines of a Godly Man/Woman - ch 9 Mark & Judith’s	8pm
Wed	Presbytery meets at Faughan Church	7.30
Sat 10th	Family Day Conference - Self worth, Identity and Stress in Childhood Speaker Brenda Kelso - 10.30am-3pm Details on poster - application forms available	
Sat 17th	Ladies invited to Breakfast with Vicki Faughan R.P. Hall - Come along, enjoy a leisurely Breakfast, followed by a talk by Mrs Vicki Graham on the topic: Woman and Beauty: Is beauty only skin-deep? What is the secret of lasting beauty? Find out what the Bible says...	9.30–11.30am

Denomination News

Day Visitors to Castlewellan Conference

If you aren’t able to go to the conference/holiday week in August you are welcome to go as a day visitor. Please fill in a forms if you intend to go as a day visitor.

Cooks for Senior Camp

R.P. Senior Camp require at least three cooks for this summer. The camp begins on Sat 5th July and finishes on Sat 12th July. If you are available and willing to come along and help as a cook, either for the whole week or for part of it, please contact Robert or Lynn Robb on 048 7772 2136.

Next Sabbath sermon topic: Justification - Rom 3:10-28, Zech 3:1-7

Opening Psalm: 76

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie

Oversight elders: Graham Fallows 048 7130 1641 William Lynch 048 7139 8002