

The Journey of Faith

Session 2

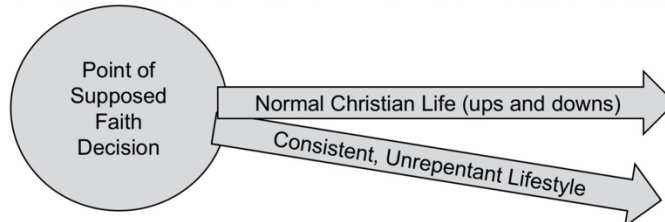


Eternal Security

Teaching Chart

SECURITY FOR THE IMPERFECT CHRISTIAN

GET YOU THINKING – Can a person who lives a consistent, unrepentant lifestyle be secure in Christ?
 “You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. How foolish! Can’t you see that faith without good deeds is useless?” (James 2:19-20, NLT)



“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.” (John 10:27-29, ESV)

Characteristics of the Sheep

Listens to the Voice of the Shepherd (Reading Bible)
Known by God (Relationship with God)
Follows the Shepherd (Obedience)

Characteristics of the Shepherd

Giver of Eternal Life (God Gives)
Keeper of Eternal Life (God Sustains)
Protector of Eternal Life (God Guards)

Three Critical Beliefs of Security

Nothing Can Separate Us From the Love of God (Romans 8:38-39)
Salvation is a Past Act of God in Christ, Not a Current Act of Man (Ephesians 2:8-9)
Security is Rooted in Facts, Not Feelings (1 John 3:20)

Lesson

- Overview: You have probably wondered, “Now that I have trusted Christ for salvation, can I do anything to lose my salvation?” The answer is no. We believe in a doctrine (teaching) called eternal security which simply means that once you have trusted Christ for salvation, God has promised eternal life in heaven regardless of circumstances in your life.
- Purpose: To assure the believer that once he has trusted Jesus Christ as Savior, his place in heaven is secured.
- Verses: **John 10:27 (ESV)** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. **28** I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. **29** My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.

- I. How do I know for sure that I am saved?
 - A. Jesus Christ said that those who trust Him will be eternally secure.
 1. God cannot take away your salvation.

(John 6:37)

2. Man cannot take away your salvation.

(John 10:27-29)

- a. Oftentimes in the Bible, sheep represent Christians (v.27).
- b. Jesus Christ is the "Giver of eternal life" (v.28).
- c. Man cannot "steal" God's sheep from Him because God is the "Keeper of eternal life" (v.29).

- B. Salvation is not about what you do (works), but about what Jesus Christ already did (grace).
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

1. Salvation is a gift.

- a. A gift cannot be earned.

- 1) The gift is free to the receiver.
- 2) The giver has already paid the price for the gift.

- b. A gift must be received.

- 1) The reception of the gift is the choice of the receiver.
- 2) The receiver must be willing to accept the gift.

2. If you could do anything to earn salvation, Jesus Christ's death on the cross would have been a waste.

(Galatians 2:21)

II. Can anything (sin) or anyone (others, the devil, etc.) cause me to lose my salvation?

- A. No! There is nothing in or out of this world that can cause you to lose your salvation.
(Romans 8:38-39)

1. You cannot lose salvation when you die.
2. You cannot lose salvation during your lifetime.
3. Angels (or demons) cannot take salvation away from you.
4. Government cannot take salvation away from you.
5. The devil cannot take salvation from you.
6. Present circumstances cannot take your salvation away from you.
7. Future circumstances cannot take away salvation away from you.
8. Nothing above you can take away your salvation.
9. Nothing below you can take away your salvation.
10. In case anything was left out, nothing can cause you to lose your salvation.

- B. Your salvation is secure because of your new relationship with God (child of God).

1. When you trusted Christ as Savior, you were born into God's family (father/child relationship).

(John 1:12-13)

- a. You will always be your earthly father's child even if you change your name. Nothing could ever change that fact.

- b. Once you are a child of God, nothing you do can ever change that fact.

2. When you trusted Christ as Savior, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit.

(Ephesians 1:13)

III. What if I do not "feel" saved?

- A. Feelings change.

1. Salvation is not based on our feelings.

(1 John 3:20)

2. Salvation is based on fact.
(*Romans 10:9*)
(*Romans 10:13*)
- B. Facts do not change.
1. You must believe that God will do what He said He would do.
 2. You can seek counsel from a church leader.

Review

1. Name two ways you can know for sure that you are saved.
2. Will God reject anyone who asks Him for salvation (give a scripture reference to support)?
3. Who is the one responsible to keep your salvation (give a scripture reference to support)?
4. Can someone else take your salvation away from you? Why or why not?
5. Can you do anything to lose your salvation? Why or why not?
6. What scripture reference tells you that you can know for sure that you have eternal life?
7. Salvation is based on _____, not _____.
8. Give two scripture references that promise salvation to those who ask.
9. Briefly describe the purpose of this lesson.

False Teachings

Some churches, organizations, or groups are promoting the following false teachings:

- Salvation is based on the works that we do in this lifetime.
- Every time we sin, we lose our salvation.