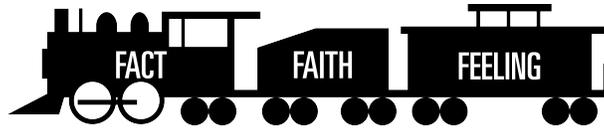


ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Read 1 John 5:11-13. What does this verse say about someone who has given their life to Jesus Christ?



Fact

Read John 8:32. What is the fact or truth in this verse? _____

Faith

Read Hebrews 11:6. What does this verse say about faith? _____

Feeling

Read this statement: "God's real no matter how you feel" (Rick Warren, Purpose Driven Life) What happens when we allow our feelings to control our lives? Are they always reliable?

The Fact About Your Faith

1. Read Colossians 1:27 and Revelation 3:20. How do these verses describe our relationship with Jesus?

2. Read John 10:28. What does this verse say about eternal life? When does it start? When does it end?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What does this verse say about when you become a Christian?

4. Read Hebrews 10:12 and 1 Peter 3:18. What do these verses say about your sins?

Also look up Hebrews 10:14, 17. Is there any sin that we can commit that God cannot forgive? How do these verses help your fight in not feeling guilty for past mistakes?

5. Read Romans 8:38-39. According to this verse, what can separate you from the love of God?

6. According to the following verses, how does God view you once you have accepted Christ in your life? John 1:12, Romans 8:15-17, Colossians 1:13

- (Father/Son Illustration)
7. According to Titus 3:5 and 1 Corinthians 3:16, who lives in you now and what is His role in your life?

8. Read Colossians 1:13-14 and Psalm 34:7. According to these verses, who does God protect you from, how does He protect you, and how does that help you to live better?

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Before Christ	After Christ
I was a sinner (Romans 3:23).	I am a Saint—Who occasionally sins (Romans 1:7).
I was separated from God (Isaiah 59:2).	I am in God's family (John 1:12).
I was headed for hell Revelation 21:8).	I am headed for Heaven (John 14:1-4).
I could not please God (Hebrews 11:6).	I'm given power to please God (1 Corinthians 10:13).
I was an enemy of God (Colossians 1:21).	I am a friend of God (John 15:13-15).

Your New Identity

Which of the following have you experienced since giving your life to follow Christ? Check all that apply.

- Love for God
- Inner peace
- Joy
- Desire to read the Bible
- Desire to do what is right
- Deeper love for people

Discipleship Challenge: If you were to die tonight and stand before God, and He were to say, "why should I let you into my heaven?" What would you say? If you were to die today, what percentage chance would you have of going to heaven? Memorize 1 John 5:13.

LEADER'S GUIDE

Goal

The goal of this lesson is to help your disciple gain a deeper understanding of their assurance of salvation through Christ and to begin to live out that assurance in their daily lives.

Getting started

Take a moment before your one-on-one to pray for your disciple. Pray that God will help them gain a deeper understanding of their assurance of salvation through Christ and that they will walk securely in their new identity in Christ. Take a few moments to catch up with your disciple. Ask them about their week, their relationship with God and others, and any follow-up from previous meetings. Remember that your discipleship lesson should always be done through the context of relationship. If your disciple is simply a meeting in your schedule to you, they will feel like that as well.

Going through the lesson

There are many verses to look up in this lesson. It is important to help your disciple see and understand each verse and question and how it relates to their new identity in Christ. Take your time going through this lesson. Assurance of salvation is a core foundation to the Christian walk and is necessary for further growth in the Christian life.

Fact, Faith, Feeling Train Illustration

This is a simple illustration that helps your young disciple understand that our faith in Christ is not feelings-driven but driven by the fact that we have accepted Christ and what our faith in Christ has done for us. The engine (first) is the fact. We have accepted Christ into our life. That can never be undone. The coal car (second) is our faith. Just as the coal drives the engine, our faith in Christ drives the fact that we have accepted Christ. The caboose (third) is our feelings. Feelings are part of life, but we do not let them drive our life. A Christian will have good and bad days. Their feelings might not always fall in line with the facts and their faith. It is important to help them to remember to always trust God.

Father/Son Illustration

When you were born into your family, you became a member of that family biologically. There is nothing you can ever do to reverse that fact. Relationships within family can become distant and even absent, but the biological relationship cannot. In the same way, when we accept Christ into our lives, we are born into the family of God. Nothing we can do will ever change that. We can choose to ignore our relationship with God, but we cannot become un-born in God's family.

Wrapping Up

Finish the lesson by going through their new identity in Christ. Help them see where they were and where they are now (i.e. I was a sinner, now I am a saint). Challenge them to memorize 1 John 5:13.