

# Wednesday Night Teen Small Group: Teacher Guide

## Security of the Saved #3

### Discussion Guide

#### **Meet Back for Worship at 7:45**

#### **Peaks and Valleys**

- What is a peak of your week (good thing; how did you see God working in your life this week) what is a valley of your week (a struggle or difficulty)

#### **Prayer**

- Prayer Requests?
- Pray together.

#### **Lesson**

1. **Ask:** What is salvation?
  - a. deliverance from sin and its consequences
2. **Ask:** How are we saved? Works? Good deeds?
  - a. We are saved by grace and can do nothing to earn it.
  - b. Remind the students that all these topics aren't Richard's, mine, yours, or some random author's thoughts, but they are all found in scripture in the Bible.
3. **Ask:** What is Grace?
  - a. God's unearned and undeserved kindness.
  - b. When God gives us something we don't deserve.
4. **Discuss:** Tell the students that grace is what gets you to heaven.
  - a. Hearing about God, Belief in Him and his plan for you, and Faith that he is going to do what he says he will do are important because without these three, you wouldn't know about or trust God.
  - b. Repentance is important because you are saying you don't want to live in sin anymore.
  - c. Baptism is important because you are dying to your old life and being born anew as Christ did.
  - d. Although these 5 are important, without grace, they would be nothing.
  - e. Personally, I believe that you do not do these 5 things to "earn" heaven. You do these things to accept God's grace which is "out for the taking." You do not do these things to earn grace. These processes are how you accept this freely given kindness.
5. **Review Question:** Why is salvation important?
  - a. Answers may include but not limited to: It allows fears to be dealt with, it gives us confidence for the work at hand, and offers us emotional stability so we aren't always worried about hell.
6. **Review Question:** How does God forgive?
  - a. Completely, Repeatedly, Instantly, and Freely
7. **Discuss:** Talk about how this lesson tonight is not for non-believers but is for Christians...those who have accepted the grace and are baptized and are continuing in the faith.
8. **Ask:** In your opinion, why do you think it is difficult for some Christians to accept the fact that they are saved and that they can be confident of such teaching?
9. **Ask:** How can these thoughts of not knowing if you are going to heaven be overcome?

10. **Ask:** Why is it important to teach others that the gospel is bad news (that we are all sinners and don't deserve heaven) and good news (but God loves us enough to let his son die on the cruel cross so that we can receive grace).
- Without Darkness, you wouldn't know what was light...without sadness, you wouldn't now what was joy.
11. **Read:** 1 John 1:7
12. **Ask:** What two promises are we given in this verse?
- We have fellowship with one another (fellowship with each other and God)
  - We will be purified of sins.
  - These are true IF we walk in the light. Notice how the verse says IF...this is a conditional basis for you if you WALK IN THE LIGHT.
13. **Ask:** Explain and discuss the differences between sinning as a Christian while you are "walking in the light" (1 John 1:7) and sinning while "living in sin." (Romans 6:1-2)
- Walking in the Light means you are living as a Christian. Everyone sins, but when you sin while you are walking in the light, you feel guilt/bothered and you realize you are doing wrong. If you sin while living in sin, you no longer feel the guilt and it is so normal that you don't even realize or care that you are sinning.
  - Therefore, don't be discouraged when you sin and feel the guilt because this means that you are still walking in the light. It is when your sin stops bothering you that you are now living in the sin.
14. **Ask:** What goes through your mind when you sin?
- If student answers that they feel bothered by the sin (or something similar), reassure them that if this sin bothers them, then they are still walking in the light. And if they repent of this, God will forgive them repeatedly, completely, instantly, and freely.
15. **Re-read:** 1 John 1:7 and discuss it again breaking it apart bit by bit.
16. **Ask:** If you die right now, are you going to heaven?
- Discuss these answers and concerns students have.
17. **If you have enough time, Discuss:** Grace in the Life of Paul
- Give a little history lesson about Saul/Paul and how he murdered Christians but was forgiven.
  - Read verses: Eph. 3:8, Rom. 7:15, 1 Tim 1:15 (Paul talks about how he is a sinner).
  - Contrast them with Paul's writings in: Romans 8:31-39, 2 Cor. 5:17-21
  - Talk about how Paul knew he was a horrible sinner and was bothered by this sin but he still realized how God loved him and was working in his life and would forgive him.

### Closing Prayer

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