

Wednesday Teen Small Group: Teacher Guide

The Security of the Saved #1

Pre-Huddle Information for Huddle Leaders to Study and meditate on:

For Teen Small Group, we will start using the similar material as all the other small groups with a few minor changes. This material is covering the lessons on Sunday morning. This past Sunday, we reviewed the topic of grace/forgiveness with the lesson topic of Security of the Saved.

For me, Security of the saved means that when I die, I know for certain (only by God's wonderful grace) that I will be going to heaven with my Father.

In the sermon on Sunday, Richard discussed that our assurance of salvation for Christians is essential for our peace of mind because it allows our fears to be dealt with, gives us confidence at the task at hand (because we are not always worrying about death or dying), offers us the emotional stability we need (also coupled with the worry we have). Although, for you to have security of this salvation, you must know that you have obeyed the teaching of Jesus Christ to be saved!

- Sunday's sermon discussed God's Plan for Saving Man: John 3:16, John 14:16, Titus 3:3-5; Eph. 2:8-9
 - Read these verses...they all deal with what Jesus has done for us and not what we can do on our own to be saved.
- Sunday's sermon discussed Man's Response to God's Plan: Rom. 10:17, Jn. 8:32, Lk. 13:3, Matt. 10:32, and Acts 2:38
 - Read these verses...they discuss man's response for what God has done for us. One deals with faith and that it comes from hearing the word of God, one discusses knowing the truth, one deals with repentance, one talks about acknowledging God to others, and the final one deals with repent and baptism.
 - In other words, these verses lay at what one should do in response to God's grace...you do not do these things to earn the grace because it is already there. They are **Hear** the Gospel, **Believe** in Christ, **Repent** of Sins, **Confess** Faith in Jesus, and Be **baptized**. Although, as stated before, GRACE always comes first. We can do nothing without grace.
- Sunday's sermon discussed God's Plan of Restoration: James 5:16, Luke 15:11-32, Eph. 4:20-24
 - One verses states that we should confess our sins for each other so that we can pray for each other, the second set of verses deals with the prodigal son and God's forgiveness even when we do wrong, and after we have been restored, we through off our sinful life and live a life new in Christ.

We also reviewed our different views of God (angry parent vs loving father) with the verses in Luke 22:54-62. In these verses, Jesus looked at Peter after he had denied him 3 times. What do you think Jesus thought as he looked at Peter? If you think he looks with disapproval/betrayal/etc, you may have grown up with an Angry God view. Thinking God is there to punish us. If you think he looks at Peter with a loving/forgiveness/compassionate look, then you may have grown up with the view of God as a gracious, loving father. Although, this is entirely speculative, because we never know individual's view of God.

We then discussed that sometimes Christians still don't "feel forgiven." This can be problematic, because we will always focus on the past and never look toward the future. Verses contradict this view. The bible tells us that God forgives instantly, completely, repeatedly, and freely.

Wednesday Night Huddles: Teacher Guide

Security of the Saved

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 the students if they died right now are they going to heaven.
 - a. This may be a hard subject to discuss, but continue speaking truth and love into them.
2. Ask them if they have ever or have they known of other people who had serious doubts about the security of salvation.
 - a. **Salvation:** Deliverance from sin and its consequences
3. Why do you think Christians have this insecurity/unknowing of their post-mortal existence?
4. What is Grace?
 - a. Grace: God's undeserved, unearned, freely given favor (act of kindness and forgiveness).
5. Can we do anything to earn grace?
 - a. Titus 3:3-5: Have one of the students read this verse.
6. Tell the students that we can do nothing to earn God's forgiveness...It's always there, but we just have to choose to accept it or not accept it. He will never force it upon us.
7. Talk about how in response to God's grace, we can follow the "5 Responses" to this salvation, but let them know that without God's grace, we would never make it to heaven and that these things alone don't "earn our way to heaven."
 - a. **Hear** the Gospel, **Believe** in Christ, **Repent** of Sins, **Confess** Faith in Jesus, and **Be baptized**.
 - b. You can share the verses above in the discussion if students would like to know more...but these things (although extremely great and true) are not the point of this discussion...God's forgiveness and grace is.
 - c. Conclude this topic by letting them know that due to God's Grace we can hear the gospel, we can believe in Christ, and are able to repent of our sins and confess of our Faith in Jesus and

ultimately follow Christ's example and be baptized into a new life with him by becoming a Christian.

8. READ LUKE 22:54-62. Ask them what do they think Jesus was thinking when he looked at Peter.
 - a. Forgiveness and compassion? Anger and disappointment?
 - b. Ask them why do they think some people view Christ as giving Peter a look of condemnation (very strong disapproval), judgment, and disgust?
9. How should we look at people when they sin? Should we look at them with judgement and condemnation?
10. The bible tells us that God forgives instantly, completely, repeatedly, and freely. Discuss these 4 things and how that affects the students walk with God and their perception of God.
 - a. Verses to consider: Instant (Nehemiah 9:17), Completely (Col. 2:13, Cor. 13:5, Jer. 31:34), Repeatedly (1 John 1:9, Matt. 18:21-22), Freely (Romans 6:23, Romans 8:1).
11. Although it sounds morbid, let the students know that one day they are going to pass away, and discuss with them about having the knowledge of the security of their salvation. Let them know if they aren't concerned and worry about dying all the time that they will be able to focus on the work at hand.
 - a. Ask what is the "work at hand": answers may include helping people, spreading gospel, etc.

Closing Prayer

Meet Back for Singing in the Youth Room at 7:45