

## Wednesday Teen Small Group: Teacher Guide | The Security of the Saved #2

### Pre-Huddle Information for Huddle Leaders to Study and meditate on before class on Wednesday:

For Teen Small Group, we will continue 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 discussed a little further of how we can be confident in our salvation.

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 Heavenly Father.

Richard discussed examples of why this is important. He said the confidence in our salvation as humans:

- Allows our fears of death to be dealt with
- Gives us confidence for our work on earth instead of always worrying about "doing good enough"
- Offers the emotional stability we need

Now let's examine Ephesians 2:8-9.

***For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; <sup>9</sup> not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.***

How do grace and mercy fit into salvation and the security of it? And what do they really mean?

- Mercy is when God doesn't give you what you do deserve.
- Grace is when God does give you what you don't deserve.
- Another way to put it is that Grace is God's undeserved, unearned, freely-given act of kindness.
- Due to our sinful/selfish lives, we deserve death and eternity in hell but we don't get that (mercy); instead, God gave us Jesus and the ability to be forgiven so that we can live with him even though we don't deserve that gift (grace).

Scripture even tells us that we can know that we are saved:

***1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. 3 And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. 1 John 2:1-3***

*Propitiate is a verb which means to win or regain favor.*

***8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 1 John 1:8-10***

God wants us to have peace and joy in the security of our salvation

***Restore to me the joy of Your Salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit. Psalm 51:12***

***15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery [a]leading to fear again, but you have received [b]a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we***

**are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. Romans 8:15-17**

Sometimes as viewed by others, nonbelievers think that Christians think they never sin. This, as we know is certainly not true. Let me repeat this...THE LORD'S PEOPLE SIN TOO! God doesn't want us to sin, but knows that we will.

We learned on Sunday that **deliberate/intentional and rebellious sin is the worst kind of transgression** anyone can commit because one is doing it as an act of defiance to God. This is shown in 1 Samuel 15:22-23.

- *“Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.*
  - Here, I read that God would rather us obey him and pay attention to his commands rather than for us to sin then ask forgiveness.
- *23 “For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king.”*
  - Here, I read that God says rebellion and insubordination (defiance or refusal to obey orders) of his commands are just as bad as witchcraft, immoral behavior, or worshiping idols.

But the Bible teaches that **faithful children of God do not send this way** if they are trusting God and walking in the light.

As Christians, we can sin in Ignorance and in weakness.

- Ignorance:
  - ***Even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief. 1 Timothy 1:13***
- Weakness:
  - ***Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. (Gal. 6:1)***
    - We are encouraged to restore one another (Christians) if we sin.
  - ***33 But Peter said to Him, “Even though all may [a]fall away because of You, I will never fall away.” 34 Jesus said to him, “Truly I say to you that this very night, before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” 35 Peter \*said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You.” All the disciples said the same thing too. Matthew 26:33-35***
    - Even Peter and the other disciples (in moments of weakness) denied Christ but were forgiven.

1 John 5:13 says, “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.” Because of this Grace and because of our Lord Jesus Christ we do not have to live lives full of guilt of past sin and fear for the future but we can know we will live with him again one day. And because of this, we don't have to worry about our post-mortal existence, we can have confidence to

do the Lord's work without worrying about the future and if we are doing good enough, and we can have emotional stability without this worry.

# Wednesday Night Huddles: Teacher Guide

## Security of the Saved

### Discussion Guide for Huddles

#### 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. Review from Last Week:
  - a. Talk about Grace
  - b. Talk about Luke 22:54-62 and the “test” for the view of God when Jesus looked back at Peter after he had denied him.
  - c. Talk about how God forgives Instantly, Completely, Repeatedly, and Freely
2. Again, this week, ask the students if they died right now are they certain that they are going to heaven.
  - a. This may be a hard subject to discuss, but continue speaking truth and love into them.
  - b. Ask them why if the answer is no and they are saved Christians.
3. Read Ephesians 2:8-9
  - a. Ask what is important about this verse. Pick out important words that may be in this scripture.
    - i. Grace: God’s freely earned, underserved kindness.
    - ii. Saved through Faith: Knowing that God will save you is what can save you
    - iii. Gift from God: Undeserved...unearned
    - iv. Not a result of works: You can do nothing to earn the grace. No amount of good deeds helps you to earn it.
4. What is the difference between Grace and Mercy?
  - a. Grace is when God gives you what you don’t deserve.
  - b. Mercy is when God doesn’t give you what you do deserve.
  - c. According to the Bible, we have all sinned (Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8). Because of that sin, we all deserve death (Romans 6:23) and eternal judgment in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:12-15). With that in mind, every day we live is an act of God's mercy. If God gave us all what we deserve, we would all be, right now, condemned for eternity...but he doesn’t give us that.
  - d. We deserve nothing from God. God does not owe us anything. Anything good that we experience is a result of the grace of God (Ephesians 2:5). Grace is simply defined as unmerited favor. God favors, or gives us good things that we do not deserve and could never earn. Rescued from judgment by God's mercy, grace is anything and everything we receive beyond that mercy (Romans 3:24)

5. Many people are uncertain in their salvation (don't know where they will go when they die). But what do verses like Psalm 51:12, Romans 8:15-17 and 2 Timothy 1:7 teach us of how our attitudes should be?
  - a. That we can have joy, excitement, peace, and confidence in salvation
6. What do verses like 1 John 1:8-10 and 1 John 2:1-2 teach us about our lives?
  - a. 1 John 1:8-10
    - i. We are all sinners and don't need to act like we are not
    - ii. If we ask for forgiveness with a heart of repentance, we will be forgiven
  - b. 1 John 2:1-2
    - i. If we do sin, Jesus' death has made it possible to be a substitution for our sins so we can be forgiven.
    - ii. Christ died so that we don't have to.
7. What does it mean to sin willfully/deliberately and rebelliously?
8. Is this an "ok" sin to commit? Read 1 Samuel 15:22-23.
  - *"Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.*
    - Here, I read that God would rather us obey him and pay attention to his commands rather than for us to sin then ask forgiveness.
  - *23 "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king."*
    - a. Here, I read that God says rebellion and insubordination (defiance or refusal to obey orders) of his commands are just as bad as witchcraft, immoral behavior, or worshiping idols.
9. Christians do sin and sin in ignorance and weakness.
  - a. How do you sin in ignorance?
  - b. How do you sin in weakness?
10. What are things we can do each day to help ourselves and others from sinning less?
  - a. Pray, Read Bible, Associated with other Christians
  - b. Make plans of what you will do when temptation arises so when you are faced with that temptation, you already know what to do to combat it
  - c. Etc.
11. Read 1 John 5:13
  - a. What is John wanting each Christian to KNOW?

### **Closing Prayer**

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