

“SPIRITUAL GROWTH”

Getting Started

When cured of a serious illness, one of the greatest obstacles to overcome is the fear of becoming sick again. A person notices every strange feeling and pain in his or her body, hoping that it is not a sign of relapse into sickness. The great news for Christians is that we never have to fear a relapse into sin-sickness. We have been freed forever from the spiritual and eternal death that sin causes. The Scriptures teach that once a person is saved they can never lose their salvation. Our relationship with God is eternal and unending! However, like anyone who has recovered from a serious illness, even though they may be healed of the illness itself, they must undergo rehabilitation before they can be restored to complete health. Similarly, sin has taken its toll on our spiritual life, and although as Christians we have been cured of sin-sickness, its impact is still evident in our thoughts and actions. Therefore, we must be rehabilitated from our sinful past if we are going to fully live in a manner that honors God. And the first step in our rehabilitation is overcoming the fear of relapse. In this lesson, we will study what the Bible says about the security of every believer’s salvation so that we never have to worry about losing our relationship with God.

Do you struggle with the thought that you can lose your salvation? Why or why not?

Getting Biblical

God Protects Our Relationship with Him

1. Read John 10:27-30. Who are Jesus' sheep? Where are Jesus' sheep according to verses 28 and 29?

If kept in the hands of Jesus and the Father, what is the only way we could possibly lose our salvation?

2. Read Philippians 1:6. What is the "good work" referred to in the passage? What can we be certain God will do?

Eternal Life Is Based On Faith Only

3. According to John 3:16 what is the only requirement for receiving eternal life?
 - When do we receive eternal life? (John 5:22-24; compare John 17:3)
 - Based on John 5:24, what would God be if he took away the eternal life he has given us?

Christ's Blood Cleanses from All Sin

4. Read Hebrews 10:10. What does it mean to be made "holy"? How have we been made holy?

We Can't Be Separated From God's Love

5. Read Romans 8:35-39. Of all the things Paul lists that cannot separate us from Christ which two most impact you?
 - What is the significance of Paul saying in verse 39 "nothing else in all creation" can separate us from the love of God?
 - After reading this list, is there anything you still fear can separate you from God? Why or why not?

The Holy Spirit Guarantees our Future Destiny

6. Read Ephesians 1:13-14. To what two things is the Holy Spirit compared in this passage?
 - What are seals used to indicate? How does this relate to eternal security?
 - What does a deposit demonstrate about a person making a purchase? How does this relate to our eternal security?

Getting It Applied

1. Kim accepted Christ six months ago. She was a former drug addict. Two weeks ago she took drugs again for the first time since her salvation. After that she did it twice more. Kim thinks that now she has lost her salvation because of her actions. If she came and asked you has she lost her salvation, what would you say? What Scripture would you share with her from this lesson?

2. Does eternal security mean that Christians do not have to worry about how they live? (see Galatians 6: 7-10)
3. After much observation and interaction with a person who claims allegiance to Christ but demonstrates no concern for obedience to him, should you regard him or her as a genuine Christian? Why or why not? (see Matthew 7:21-23).

Getting More

Bible Memory

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; No one can snatch them out of my hand (John 10: 27-28).

Bible Reading

Read 1 Peter 1:3-5. What are the two things God is keeping or protecting in this passage?

How does 1 John 2:1-2 assure us of eternal security? What does Jesus do for us when we sin?