

## Assurance (Am I saved?)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

For we walk by faith, not by sight; we are of good courage. 2 Corinthians 5:7-8

Have you ever second-guessed your salvation thanks to unwanted thoughts, feelings, or behaviors? Well, you're not the only one. Nagging doubt can stir up fear of rejection, abandonment, and punishment from God. Debilitating doubts prevent anyone from receiving God's promised healing, freedom, and victory. Doubt originates in our thoughts or feelings, which are unreliable sources of truth. Father God does not want you to doubt your salvation. Jesus is our guarantee of salvation.

### What is Assurance?

Assurance is the absolute belief that you are saved because of the faithfulness of God. Our feelings, intellect, or lack of fruitfulness are not indicators of salvation because they are subjective. **You can be assured that you are saved by grace through faith because, at a specific time, you sincerely prayed the prayer of faith.** Faith is believing what the Bible says despite contrary feelings or thoughts.

- Lack of assurance may come from doubtful thoughts or teachings about salvation.
- Lack of assurance may come from not feeling saved. (Salvation is not a feeling but a fact.)
- Lack of assurance may come from no breakthrough. (Behavior is not an indicator of new birth.)
- Lack of assurance may come from lies that seem to make sense of trauma.
- Lack of assurance may be because you are not born again.

### Christ is the Guarantee of Salvation

#### 1. Describe the time when you confessed Christ as Lord and Savior.

- a. You are saved if you believe in your heart and confess that Christ is Lord. (Romans 10:9-10)
- b. You who believe in Jesus, you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:10-13
- c. Consider reviewing the *What You Need to Know About Salvation* handout.

#### 2. Are you looking at your behavior instead of setting your mind on your life in Christ?

- a. Salvation is the gift of faith. It is not based on nor maintained through your behavior.
- b. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Colossians 3:4

#### 3. Are you relying on feelings instead of God's word?

- a. Salvation is the gift of faith. Feelings are unreliable. Salvation is guaranteed by Christ.
- b. You who believe in Jesus... you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13
- c. Remember feelings originate from thoughts and beliefs. To eliminate those nagging feelings, take thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:5)

#### 4. Are you doubting your sincerity at the time of salvation?

- a. We are not saved by complex, intellectual faith. We are saved by childlike, heartfelt faith. Faith is the assurance of things not seen.
- b. If you are not sure, pray and confess that Christ is Lord. (Romans 10:9-10) If doubtful feelings arise, pray and thank the Lord that you are saved.