


CONFIDENT

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

The Opening Question

What is something you do that you are CONFIDENT you can do well? Don't get all humble on me. Let's hear it! What is something you are CONFIDENT at doing?

Watch the Video Clip

Key Teaching Points

FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE RESULTS IN ETERNAL LIFE.

Salvation isn't just a moment; it's your life.

Justification = I AM SAVED = the beginning

- yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. (Galatians 2:16, ESV)

Sanctification = I AM BEING SAVED = the journey

- God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2:8-10, NLT)
- And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6, ESV)

Glorification = I WILL BE SAVED = the new beginning

- And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. (Matthew 24:11-13, ESV)
- Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. (Hebrews 10:35-36, ESV)

Next Step: BELIEVE!

Scriptures

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. We know we love God's children if we love

God and obey his commandments. Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God. And Jesus Christ was revealed as God's Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross—not by water only, but by water and blood. And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony. So we have these three witnesses—the Spirit, the water, and the blood—and all three agree. Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the greater testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son. All who believe in the Son of God know in their hearts that this testimony is true. Those who don't believe this are actually calling God a liar because they don't believe what God has testified about his Son. And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life. I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

1 JOHN 5:1-15, NLT

Discussion Questions

What was your biggest takeaway from today's teaching?

In what ways do you personally battle the assurance problem in your life?

What specific things can serve as triggers, causing someone to doubt their salvation?

What helps you have greater assurance (confidence) in the salvation and eternal life Christ has given you? What helps you conquer the assurance problem?

Is there a better way to explain salvation so that people don't accidentally see faith as just another religious box to check rather than a real relationship with Jesus? How would you explain it to a friend?

If Jesus could audibly tell you one thing about your faith right now, what do you think He would say?

Pray

As you close in prayer, give thanks to God that through His Son Jesus Christ, HE paid it all! He accomplished it all! Our confidence and faith can only be in HIM, and that's amazing news. Pray for one another to have greater assurance and confidence. If someone in your group is still searching and hasn't made a faith decision yet, pray for God to continue to reveal Himself to people in your group that are on that journey. And finally, pray for God to use everyone in your group to proclaim this amazing news of salvation to the lostness around them.