



Fall Study Discussion Guide #5

Sermon Title: Everlasting Life

Biblical Reference: John 10:22-36

Date Preached: Sunday, December 4th, 2022, @ 11am

Fall Study Date: Wednesday, December 7th, 2022

Sermon Summary

Last Sunday we learned about the doctrine of eternal security. Eternal security is the teaching that when we are born into God's family, He will never cast us out. He promises to keep us eternally secure. Nothing can ever happen to take away our salvation, and we can never do anything to lose our salvation.

Christians often have times when they question their salvation. This can lead to extreme anxiety and turmoil in a person's life. The insecurity felt has caused some people to develop physical and mental health problems. This loss of confidence leads to a stagnation in their spiritual growth and can even cause resentment toward God. When Christians lay hold of this wonderful truth, they experience an overwhelming peace. The newfound confidence helps individuals to take the next step in their spiritual journey. When we know that our eternity is secure, no matter what happens, we know that God will never leave us nor forsake us.

In John chapter 10, Jesus is telling the Jews that He is the good Shepherd. He teaches them that He has all the care for His people that a good shepherd has for his flock. In His care, the believer is eternally secure, for the hand that was wounded and the hand of our Creator close in a double grasp upon them. They will never perish, and no man will be able to pluck them out of His hand.

Quick Review

In thinking about the doctrine of eternal security from this week's sermon, were there any insights the Lord showed you or anything that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

How did the Holy Spirit speak to your heart from this passage/sermon?

My Testimony

Most Christians have had seasons in their life when they doubted their salvation.

- Do you still have difficulty with this? What has your experience been?
- What caused you to doubt?
- How did the Lord help you overcome that?

- What is your favorite verse that helps you know you are secure and why?

Digging Deeper

1. To Be Secure, You Must Be Saved

In the passage below, Jesus teaches us that people who believe in Him are His sheep. Jesus also teaches us the unbelieving Jews were **not** His sheep. He gives us some of the identifying characteristics of His sheep and teaches about the unique benefits that only His people have. Jesus made it clear that only those who believed in Him had these benefits and the unbelieving Jews did not.

Ask a volunteer to read:

Joh 10:3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

Joh 10:4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

Joh 10:5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

Joh 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

John 10:26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

Joh 10:29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you in these verses?
- What are some of the ways the Lord's sheep were different than the unbelieving Jews in these verses?
- In the above verses we see His sheep hear His voice; they know His voice. Can you give us an example of how you hear His voice and know His voice?

- Jesus made it clear that only His sheep would never perish. Give us an example of how churches unintentionally give unbelieving people a false sense of security?
- How has the picture of security in verses 28-29 have been a help to your heart in uncertain times? What is God teaching you right now?
- Why do you think so many Christians have objections with the doctrine of eternal security?

2. What About My Sin?

In the following verses John teaches us that believers will continue to face the problem of sin in their daily lives. We learn that unaddressed sin in the life of a believer destroys the relationship with God and other believers. John teaches us what to do when we fall into sin. Young Christians often question their salvation when they fall into sin.

Ask a volunteer to read:

1Jn 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1Jn 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1Jn 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Discussion Questions:

- What, in this passage, is the most significant to you? Please explain.
- Was there ever a time in your life when sin caused you to question your salvation?
- Why do you think many Christians believe when they got saved, they would automatically gain the victory over sin?
- What are some examples in scripture to show that saved people sin and do not lose their salvation?

- How can we recognize that we will still sin; yet not give up on getting victory?

Ask a volunteer to read:

Heb 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

Heb 6:2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Discussion Questions:

- How could the above verses be used to help someone struggling with their salvation because of sin?
- What encouragement would you give a young Christian struggling with sin?

3. How Can I Know?

The verses below there are promises that Christians have relied on throughout the history of the church to assure their hearts and the hearts of others. These verses show us that our security is in Christ, not in ourselves. No matter what events transpire in our lives, or what mistakes we make, God will never throw us away and we can rest assured that we will be with Him for all eternity.

Ask a volunteer to read:

1Jn 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Joh 11:26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

Joh 10:29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Php 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

Rom 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Joh 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you in Philippians 1:6?
- What is your favorite verse on eternal security either from the list or in the rest of the Bible and why?
- Why do so many people look to a past profession instead of a present possession?
- In your opinion, what is the biggest difference in the mindset of Christians that doubt their salvation and those that do not?

Taking It Home

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they can do because of discovering the truths and principles in the text:

1. What truth or principle in this text was most impactful for you?
2. How did this truth or principal challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
3. How will you put into practice what you have learned today?