



WELCOME TO
"STARTING POINT"

Laying The Foundation for Growing In Christ

SESSION TWO: DISCOVERING YOUR ETERNAL CERTAINTY

"And he is able to keep you from slipping and falling away, and to bring you, sinless and perfect, into His glorious presence with mighty shouts of everlasting joy." Jude 24 (LB)

QUESTIONS:

How do I know I have eternal life? How do I know I will never lose it?

INTRODUCTION:

When we become Christians, Satan loves to cast doubt on God's word. He desires to undermine our assurances in this Christian life. Because we tend to rely on our feelings rather than God's word, he will say something like this: "You couldn't be a Christian. Look at your conduct. If you were a Christian, you wouldn't act like that."

When this comes ...

How do I know I have eternal life?

1. Because of the _____, not your work.
"He saved us not because of righteous thing we had done.... He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, "
Titus 3:5 (a), 6
2. Because the Holy Spirit will get you to _____.
"And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in You, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who lives in you." Romans 8:11
3. Because Christ _____ you, when you invited Him into your life.
"Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone opens the door I will come in..." Revelations 3:20
"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me..." Galatians 2:20
4. Because _____ Christ, you possess _____.
"And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life, he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. " I John 5:11,12
5. Because the Holy Spirit _____ us.
"The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children, Romans 8:16



How do I know I'd never lose it?

1. Because Christ will _____ leave you.
"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us." Romans 8:35,37
2. Because the Holy Spirit _____ it.
"Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal. The promised Holy Spirit who is a deposit guarantee in our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession ---- to the praise of His glory." Ephesians 1:13,14

Test Your Confidence:

On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 -low, 5-medium, 10-highest) Rate yourself on your level of assurance on the following statements:

1. I know Christ is in my life.
2. I know that Christ will never leave me.
3. I know that when I die, I'm going to heaven.

STARTING POINT GROWING IN CHRIST STUDY SESSION #2

CASE STUDY: Where will I end up in eternity?

Let's say a couple attends, by invitation, a Christian Businessmen's Conference. They both felt moved to invite Jesus Christ into their lives. As a result, they start attending church regularly and eventually decide to be baptized. However, six months later the husband and wife's marriage begin to deteriorate. They are regularly in heated arguments about their level of intimacy, finances, and the lack of the husband's support in raising the children. After several months of this, the husband decides to leave. Shortly thereafter, the wife discovers (through a mutual friend) that the husband is having an affair. The wife's attempts for reconciliation with the husband are continually rejected. The husband is not willing to forego his new relationship, nor is he willing to admit that he has a commitment to Christ any longer.

Case Questions:

1. Do you think the husband's commitment to Christ at the Christian Businessmen's Conference was legitimate? Why or why not?



2. Why has he conducted himself this way after supposedly committing his life to Christ? Explain?

3. Do you think, if he died next week, he would go to heaven? Why or why not?

What is the evidence that you are a Christian from the following verses?

1. *"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation."*
1 Peter 2:2
2. *"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us."*
1 John 1:3
3. *"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."*
1 John 1:8
4. *"We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, 'I know him', but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him."* 1 John 2:3 – 4
5. *"Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble."* 1 John 2:9 –10
6. *"Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you--unless, of course, you fail the test? And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test."* 2 Corinthians 13:5-6