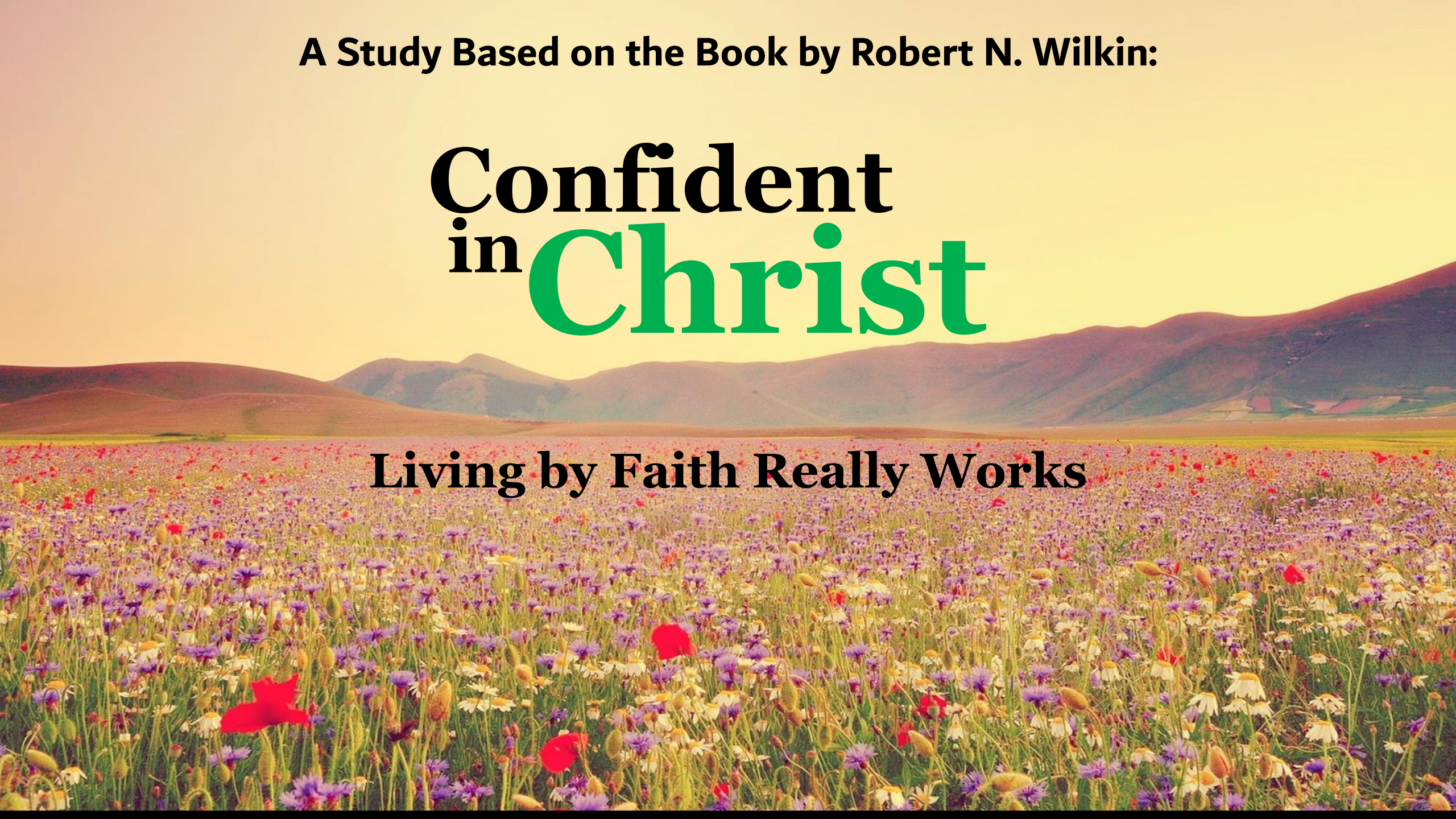


**A Study Based on the Book by Robert N. Wilkin:**

# **Confident in **Christ****

**Living by Faith Really Works**



# Purpose of this Study

The purpose and desired results of this study may vary, depending upon where an individual's beliefs are at the time, they begin this study.

Purpose:	Desired Outcome:
For individuals with little or no prior knowledge of biblical scripture.	This study will lead them to examine biblical truth and may result in them becoming a believer in Jesus Christ and His promise of eternal life.
For individuals who are recent converts to the Christian faith.	This study will provide an excellent beginning into the true biblical message as taught by Jesus and His disciples.
For individuals who are long time Christian believers.	This study may provide some new insights into the Christian faith that may challenge what you believe and how you interpret and understand the bible.

**Overall, the main purpose of this study is to provide a true scriptural understanding of the Gospel message, and how impactful it can be in this life and the life to come.**

**In any case, we hope you'll choose to be open to the truth of the scriptural evidence presented in this study.**

# What You Will Need - The Book "Confident in Christ"

This study is based on the book "Confident in Christ"  
by Dr. Robert N. Wilkin.

This book (\$22.00) is required for this study and available from:

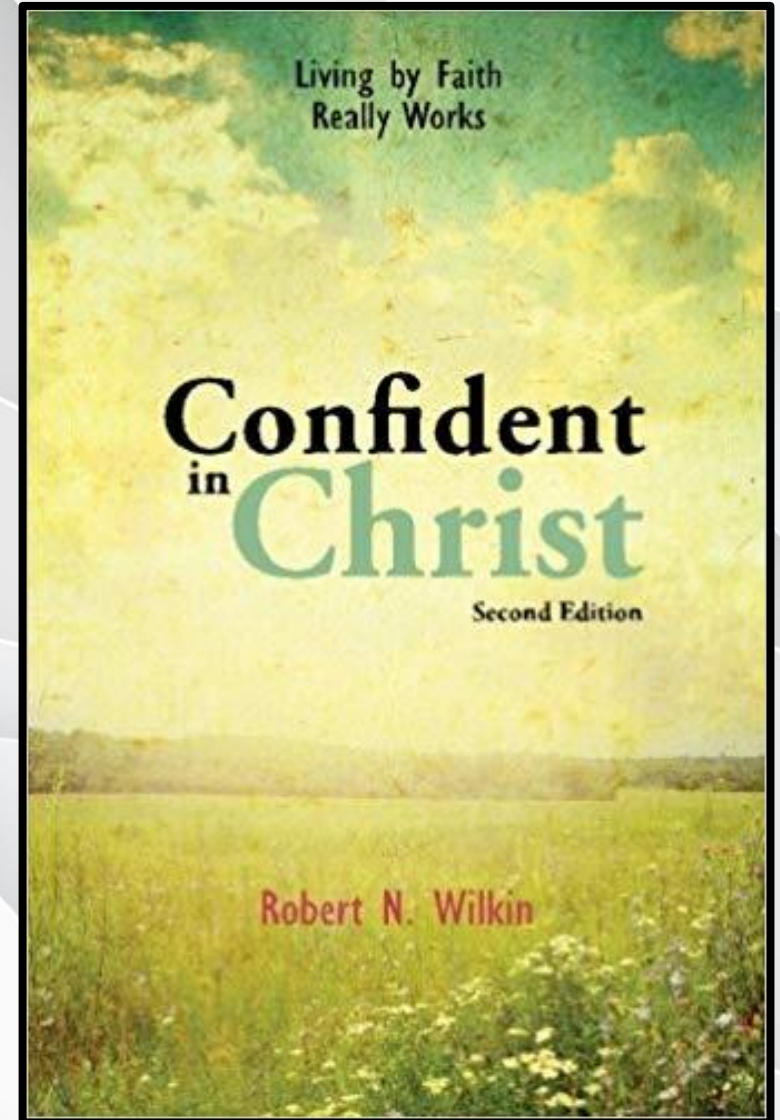
[Grace Evangelical Society \(GES\)](#) (\$22.00 preferred source – Supports ministry)

[Amazon Site](#) (Kindle version \$0.00 - \$2.99)

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr. Bob Wilkin (Th.M., Ph.D., Dallas Theological Seminary) has served as an evangelist on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, a hospital chaplain, a pastor, and a college professor of Greek and Bible. Bob is founder and Executive Director of Grace Evangelical Society (GES). GES is an educational Christian ministry whose aim is to promote clear proclamation of the free gift of everlasting life.

**Note: Additional visual and audio resources will also be included when appropriate to help supplement the material presented in the book.**



# You Will Also Need

- First and foremost, a Bible (*preferably the New King James Version [NKJV]*)
- A copy of *Confident in Christ* by Robert N. Wilkin
- One of the following internet-capable devices:
  - Computer (PC/APPLE)
  - MAC or Android Tablet
  - Cell phone (*NOTE: A computer or tablet is highly recommended for easier navigation and readability.*)
  - A **FREE** Google account may be helpful if you don't already have one.
  - **The link below may be helpful:**

➤ [Google Account Sign-up](#)

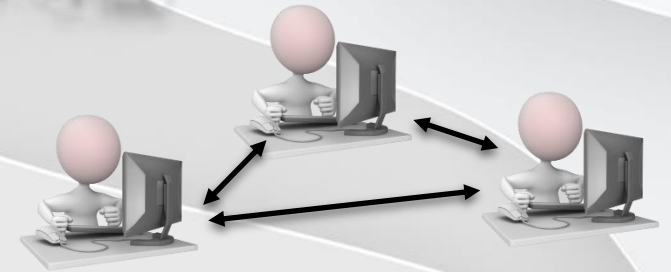


**If you encounter any technical issues or constraints during this study, please contact me at: [AAJSiebert@comcast.net](mailto:AAJSiebert@comcast.net)**

# Different Methods of Conducting this Study

For the sake of understanding the different approaches that may be taken to conduct this study, let's begin by looking at the number of ways to conduct a class or study. Among the four most basic are:

1. **Meeting in person** - This is the most traditional study approach. The study is conducted in person at a specific place and time.
2. **Online - (Synchronous)** In this approach all participants are in the study at same time via audio, video or both (*e.g., Zoom, Skype, etc.*)
3. **Online - (Asynchronous)** With this approach, all the study materials, feedback, questions and tests are delivered online and done at a time that is convenient for each participant in the study.
4. **Blended** - This approach consists of both the online elements mentioned above with an occasional meeting in person, or an online live session with all participants attending. This may be enhanced via video conferencing.



**Although this course was designed primarily for the “Online Asynchronous method”, it easily adapts to any of the above methods.**

## Choosing a Method of Delivery for the Course

It is time to choose a delivery method for conducting your study. As previously discussed, you can use any method of delivery to conduct this course. Let's take a closer look at how to implement each of the different methods:

1. <b>Meeting in Person</b> - This is the most traditional study approach. The study is conducted in person at a specific place and time.	If using this method, either you or your participants may print out the various resources using the links within each lesson and use them during the live in person meeting.
2. <b>Online - (Synchronous)</b> In this approach all participants are in the study at same time via audio, video or both ( <i>e.g., Zoom, Skype, etc.</i> )	If using this method, you can have participants either access the resources themselves or pull them up yourself and share your screen with the class for discussion.
3. <b>Online - (Asynchronous)</b> With this approach, all them study materials, feedback, questions and tests are delivered online and done at a time that is convenient for each participant in the study.	If using this method, the various course resources will be accessed and completed online. <a href="#"><u>Click see the benefits to this method.</u></a>
4. <b>Blended</b> - This approach consists of both the online elements mentioned above with an occasional meeting in person, or an online live session with all participants attending.	This method is simply a combination of the various methods described above. This allows for some flexibility in conducting the course.

Be sure to send a copy of this PDF file to all participants in the study.

# Confident in Christ Study Index (Select a Lesson by clicking on it.)

This study consists of four major topics and twenty individual lessons:



<a href="#"><u>1. Saving Faith in Focus</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>6. Assurance in Focus</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>11. Eternal Security in Focus</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>16. Perseverance in Focus</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>2. The Original Nic at Nite</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>7. Assurance and God's Approval</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>12. A Punishment Worse Than Death</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>17. Are Believers Free of All Bad Habits?</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>3. Faith on the Rocks</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>8. The Place of Feelings in Assurance</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>13. The Burned Branches</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>18. The Danger of Falling Away</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>4. Will the Real Believer Please Stand Up?</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>9. Confirming Your Call and Election</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>14. Falling from Grace</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>19. Dangerous Road Ahead</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>5. Free at Last</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>10. Believer, Do You Know God?</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>15. Erasers in Heaven?</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>20. Obedience and Disobedience</u></a>

# Lesson 1

## Saving Faith in Focus

As we begin our journey through **Confident in Christ**, we find that there is much confusion over the assorted theological options that we are all presented with when it comes to defining real faith and scriptural truth.

Unfortunately, many people seem to simply reject all the options because of all this confusion, while others, including professing Christians have no idea what the truth is or are confused over what they believe.





# Lesson 1 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To gain an understanding of how all this confusion came about and how we can overcome the confusion.
- To learn some of the different gospels you may encounter or have already encountered.
- To discover that it is ultimately our responsibility to discern what true faith is and is not.
- To understand that the Bible is the only reliable guide to the gospel.
- To understand and be able to articulate what faith is.
- To know the difference between head faith, heart faith and mind games.
- To know that there are no additional steps beyond simple faith in Jesus's promise in order to receive eternal life.



# Lesson 1 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 1 - Saving Faith in Focus (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What's Required to Have Everlasting Life in John 3:16?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read John chapters 1 - 3 in your Bible (or use the *Living Water* booklet; see below)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [The Hydra's New Head: Theological Legalism - Zane Hodges](#)
- [Alp Upon Alp - Lon Gregg](#)
- [Living Water Gospel of John](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Saving Faith - Discussion Boards](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Lesson 1 - Saving Faith in Focus - Questions](#)



## Lesson 1 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- To learned about some of the different gospels you may encounter or have already encountered.
- That is our responsibility to discern what true faith is and is not.
- That the Bible is the only reliable guide to the gospel.
- How to articulate what faith is.
- To know the difference between head faith, heart faith and mind games.
- There are no additional steps beyond simple faith in Jesus's promise in order to receive eternal life.

### On Your Own Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**How can you share differently now with people when you introduce them to Jesus?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 2**

## Lesson 2

# The Original Nic at Nite

To begin lesson 2 , let's start with a question. So, who was the "Original Nic at Nite"? Have you figured it out yet? You might remember the story of Nicodemus who came to speak with Jesus under the cover of night. Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews (John 3:1), a member of the Sanhedrin. In this lesson we'll revisit this story and see how what Nicodemus learned applies to us. Nicodemus was open to the truth. That is a wonderful attitude to have.

We will also look at Moses and the Serpent in the Wilderness. This is a key point from that story. "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

The logo for "NICK at NITE" is displayed in a stylized, bold, white font with black outlines. The word "NICK" is at the top, "at" is in a small circle in the middle, and "NITE" is at the bottom. The logo is set against a blue, jagged-edged background that resembles a torn piece of paper or a banner.

*There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ...*

## Lesson 2 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To gain an understanding of the simple truth of John 3:16.
- Learn what you need to do to take part in the kingdom of God.
- Discover what it takes to be truly born again.
- To understand what everlasting is and when it begins.
- To learn how you can be sure that you have everlasting life.
- How to explain what Jesus meant by “born of water and the Spirit.”



## Lesson 2 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 2 - The Original Nic at Nite (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Read [Born Again](#) (*Time 5 minutes*)
- Reread John chapter 3 in your Bible (or use the *Living Water* booklet; see below)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [The way of the Master - Bob Wilkin](#)
- [Living Water Gospel of John](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Saving Faith - Discussion Boards](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Lesson 2 - The Original Nic at Nite - Questions](#)



## Lesson 2 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- The understanding of the simple truth of John 3:16.
- What you need to do to take part in the kingdom of God.
- What it takes to be truly born again.
- What everlasting is and when it begins.
- How you can be sure that you have everlasting life.
- How to explain what Jesus meant by “born of water and the Spirit.”

### On Your Own Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**Are you ready, able and confident in sharing that eternal life begins the moment of belief in Jesus ?**

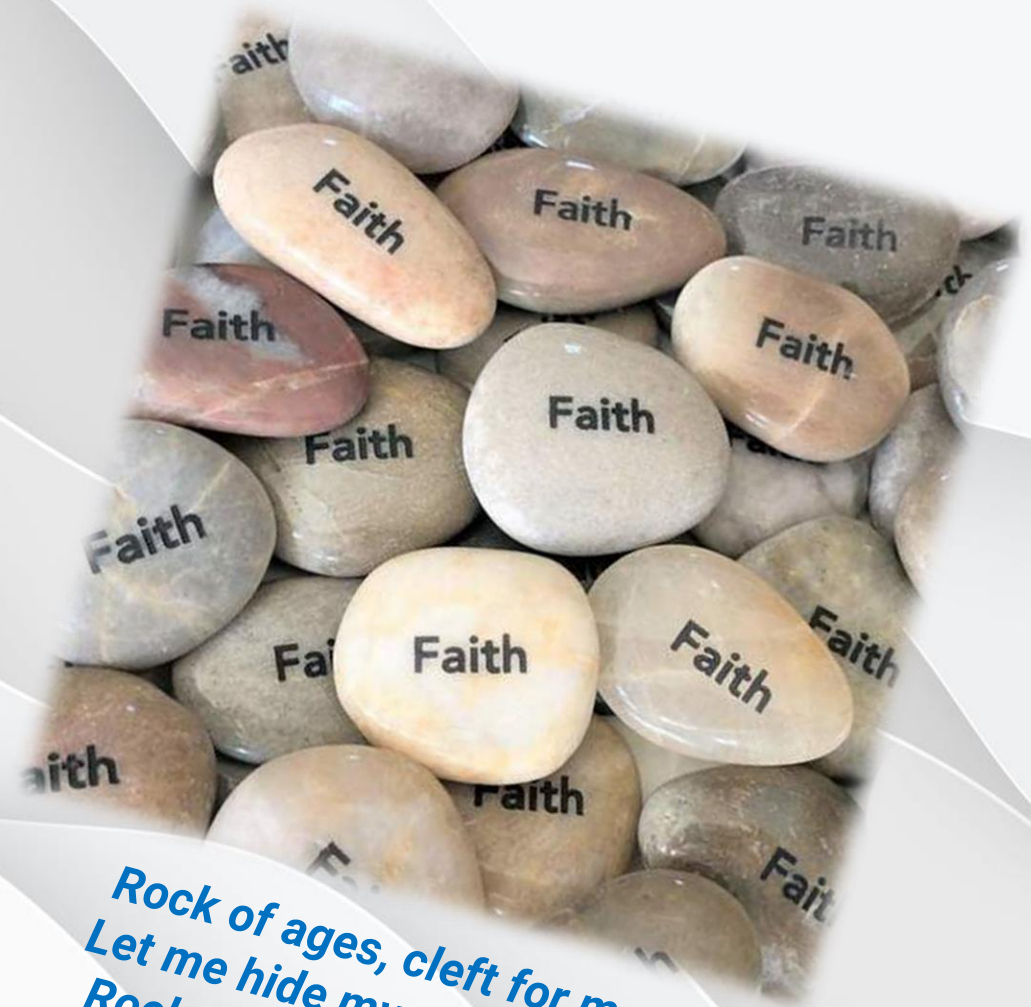
## Please Proceed to Lesson 3

# Lesson 3

## Faith on the Rocks

Have you ever experienced hardship that shook your faith? Even if you haven't, you probably realize this as a possibility. None of us can be sure that our experience of faith will remain intact until we go to be with the Lord. Thus, it is vital that we know what the Bible declares about believers whose faith falters.

In lesson 3 we will look at the parable of the "Sower, the Seed, and the Soil." You might discover a different view of this famous parable when reading this lesson. We'll take a dive into what Jesus is really saying in this message.



*Rock of ages, cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee  
Rock of ages, cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee*



## Lesson 3 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To understand what the bible declares about believers whose faith falters.
- To explore the message of “The Sower, the Seed, and the Soil.”
- To discover that even temporary faith results in everlasting salvation.
- To learn what being “Called to be Productive” means.



## Lesson 3 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 3 - Faith on the Rocks (*Time 12-15 minutes*)
- Listen to [The Four Soils in Luke 8](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read Luke 8:11-13 in your Bible

Additional material for your consideration:

- Read to [How Long Must You Believe to be Saved?](#) (*Time 5 minutes*)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Saving Faith - Discussion Boards](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Lesson 3 - Faith on the Rocks - Questions](#)



## Lesson 3 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- What the bible declares about believers whose faith falters.
- About the message of “The Sower, the Seed, and the Soil.”
- That even temporary faith results in everlasting salvation.
- That as followers of Jesus, we are called to be productive.

### On Your Own Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

What can you do to be more “Productive” for Jesus?

**Please Proceed to Lesson 4**

## Lesson 4

# Will the Real Believer Please Stand Up

Since the Apostle John was not constrained by some modern theological construct, he was free to write about believers who did not confess Christ, since they valued the praise of men more than the praise of God. While that doesn't fit some forms of theology, it does fit the theology of the Fourth Gospel and of the New Testament as a whole (Gal 2:11-21; 2 Tim 2:12-13).

In this lesson, among other things, we will see if people who never confess Christ are truly saved. Will our eternal salvation be lost if I never confess Jesus with our tongue? How about if we never say a "special prayer?" What if we seek the praise of man more than the praise of God?



*For God so loved the world that He gave His  
only begotten Son, that whoever believes in  
Him should not perish but have **everlasting life**.*  
John 3:16

*If **everlasting life** can be lost,  
then it has the wrong name!*

# Lesson 4 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To understand and be able to explain why publicly confessing Christ is not a requirement for salvation.
- To explore three options regarding believers in Christ who fail to confess him.
  - Will they lose their salvation?
  - Will they prove that they didn't really believe in Christ in the first place?
  - Will they remain everlastingly secure, since believing in Christ is the only condition of salvation?
- To understand why some believers, such as the Pharisees in Jesus's day as well as believers in our own day fail to confess Jesus.



## Lesson 4 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 4 – Will the Real Believer Please Stand Up (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [Is it Necessary to Confess Christ in Addition to Believing in Him for Salvation?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read John chapter 12 (*emphasis on vs. 42-43*) in your Bible (or use the *Living Water* booklet; see below)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [The Litmus Test of True Believers? – 1 Corinthians 12:3](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Saving Faith - Discussion Boards](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Lesson 4 - Will the Real Believer Please Stand Up - Questions](#)



## Lesson 4 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- Although publicly confessing Christ is not a requirement for salvation, it is both a wonderful privilege and awesome responsibility.
- That believers in Christ who fail to confess him will they remain everlastingly secure, since believing in Christ is the only condition of salvation?
- Why some believers, such as the Pharisees in Jesus's day failed to confess Jesus, as well as why believers in our own day fail to confess Jesus.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**Pray that you may become comfortable with publicly confess Christ.**

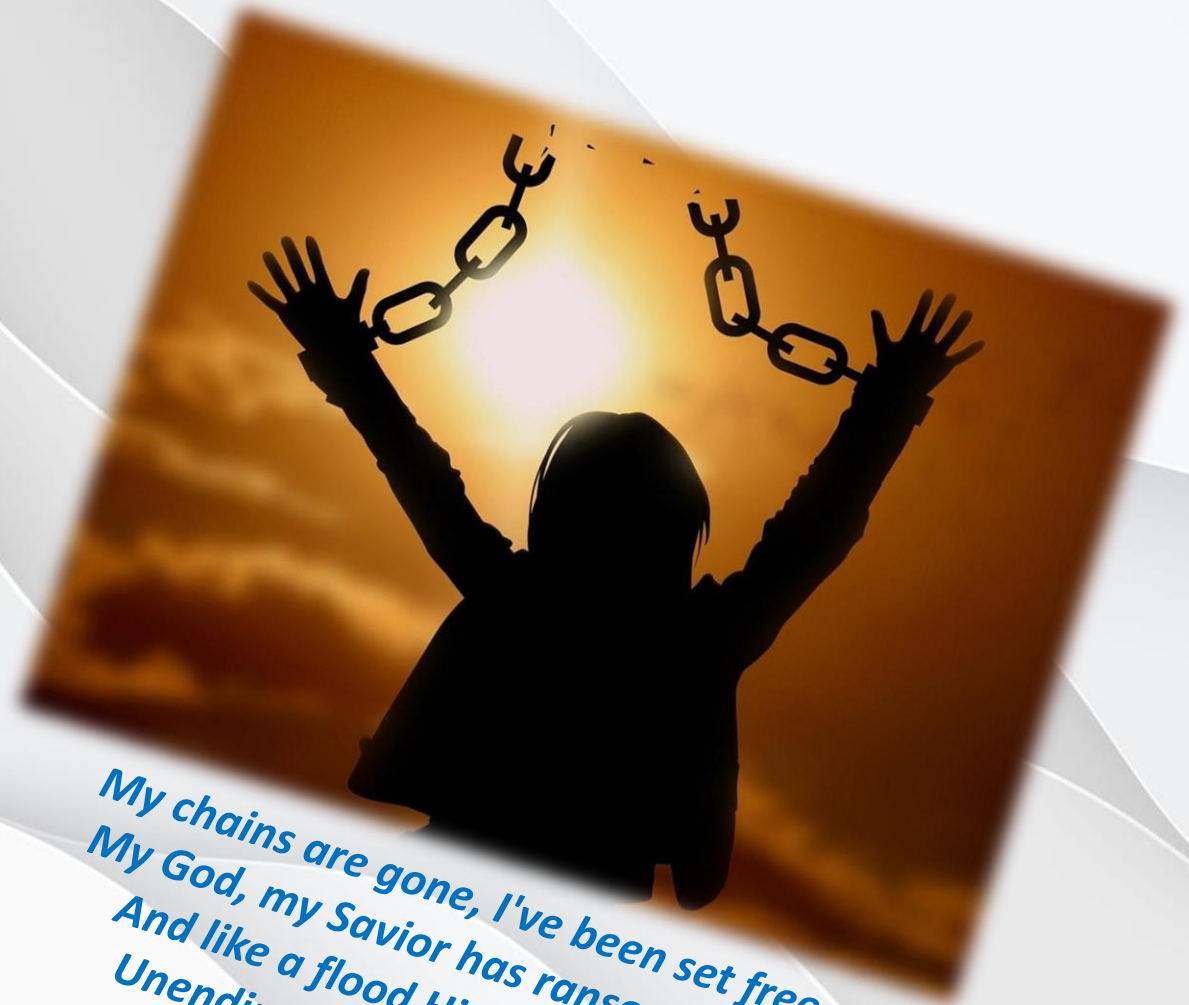
## Please Proceed to Lesson 5

# Lesson 5

## Free at Last

So, let's begin this lesson with a few questions. When are we set free from sin? Is it before we are saved? When we accept Jesus? Or is it when we persist in our faith until death?

The freedom of discipleship is the wonderful privilege of every believer. Won't you take advantage of that privilege? It makes no sense to be enslaved by sin when God is ever ready to set you free: "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."



*My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love, amazing grace.*



# Lesson 5 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To learn there is only one “Faith.” There is not an “Everyday Faith” and a “Saving Faith.”
- You’ll learn why Jesus called unbelievers “Children of the Devil.”
- To understand why it takes more than “Saving Faith” to be a disciple of Jesus.
- To understand that it takes more than faith in Christ to experience freedom from bondage to sin.
- To learn that after being saved a believer should then follow Christ in discipleship by abiding in His teachings.



# Lesson 5 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 5 - Free at Last (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Did Jesus Mean When He Said, “The Truth Will Set You Free?”](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read John chapter 8 in your Bible (or use the *Living Water* booklet; see below)

Additional material for your consideration:

- PDF File - [The Truth Will Set You Free \(John 8:30-32\)](#)  
Bob Wilkin (*Time 5:00 minutes*)
- Audio File - [The Truth Will Set You Free \(John 8:30-32\)](#)  
David Janssen (*Time 51:01 minutes*)
- [Living Water Gospel of John](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Saving Faith - Discussion Boards](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Lesson 5 - Free at Last - Questions](#)



## Lesson 5 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- There is only one “Faith.” The “Saving Faith” of John 3:16.
- Why Jesus called unbelievers “Children of the Devil.”
- It takes more than “Saving Faith” to be a disciple of Jesus.
- Every believer is already free from sin.
- That if you abide in His word, you are His disciple indeed. And you now know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

How can you better follow and abide in Jesus’s teachings to become a true disciple?

**This concludes section 1. Next, we’ll look at section 2 - Assurance.  
Please Proceed to Lesson 6**

# Lesson 6

A [link to remind us of our Freedom in Christ](#)

## Assurance

Moving on in our journey through **Confident in Christ**, we now look at assurance. What exactly is assurance? Can I really have assurance that I will live eternally with Jesus?

Unfortunately, once again there are different teachings throughout the Christian communities on whether you can really have assurance. After all, you might do something in your future such as murder or adultery. Surely you can't expect to have eternal life if you fall into these major types of sin. So how can you be sure of your assurance? This section will help you see that yes, you can have assurance of everlasting life with Jesus.



## Lesson 6 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- You'll learn to differentiate between faulty views of salvation and assurance and *real assurance*.
- You'll discover that assurance is the essence of saving faith.
- To explore how truly amazing God's grace really is.
- To learn that you can be sure of your eternal destiny.



## Lesson 6 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 6 – Assurance in Focus (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [Is Assurance of Salvation Even Possible?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read (1 John 5:9-13) (Eph 2:8-9) (Rom 4:4-5) (John 11:25-27)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [Assurance Made Simple](#)
- [Assurance Made Simple](#) (*Download a Free E-Book*)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 6](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 6 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 6 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- How to differentiate between faulty views of salvation and assurance and *real assurance*.
- That assurance is the essence of saving faith.
- How amazing God's grace really is.
- That you can be sure of your eternal destiny.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

Can you think of a way you might explain assurance to someone who doubts their eternal security?

**Please Proceed to Lesson 7**

# Lesson 7

## Assurance and God's Approval

What was Jesus really teaching when He said, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? - unless indeed you are disqualified." *2 Corinthians 13:5*?

There are a variety of different teachings surrounding 2 Corinthians 13:5. In this lesson we'll take a deeper look into the different ways this verse is often taught in churches today, as well as what Jesus was really saying. Our goal in this lesson is to firm up our assurance that once we believe in Jesus for eternal life, we also have lifelong assurance.



*"Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? -unless indeed you are disqualified."  
2 Cor 13:5*



## Lesson 7 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To examine some of the different interpretations and teachings of 2 Corinthians 13:5.
- To discover Paul was addressing true believers in 2 Corinthians and thus he was not telling them to examine themselves to see if they were real believers, but for another reason.
- To understand that the word “disqualified” in 2 Corinthians 13:5 is not referring to the loss of eternal life, but rather the loss of God’s approval and rewards.
- To evaluate if God is **approving** us in our individual walk with Christ, or just **accepting** us based on our belief in Christ.



# Lesson 7 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 7 - Assurance and God's Approval (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What's the Difference in Being Approved and Accepted?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [The Difference between God's Acceptance and His Approval](#)
- [An Incorruptible Crown \(1 Corinthians 9:14-27\)](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 7](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 7 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 7 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- That some teachings do not track with what Jesus was really teaching in 2 Corinthians 13:5.
- Paul was speaking to true believers in 2 Corinthians and that he was not telling them to examine themselves to see if they were real believers, but to seek the approval of God, and not just His acceptance.
- The word “disqualified” in 2 Corinthians 13:5 is not referring to the loss of eternal life, but rather the loss of God’s approval and rewards.
- What you need to do to gain both God’s acceptance and His approval.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**Take some time this week to do a self-examination and how you might better seek God’s approval.**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 8**

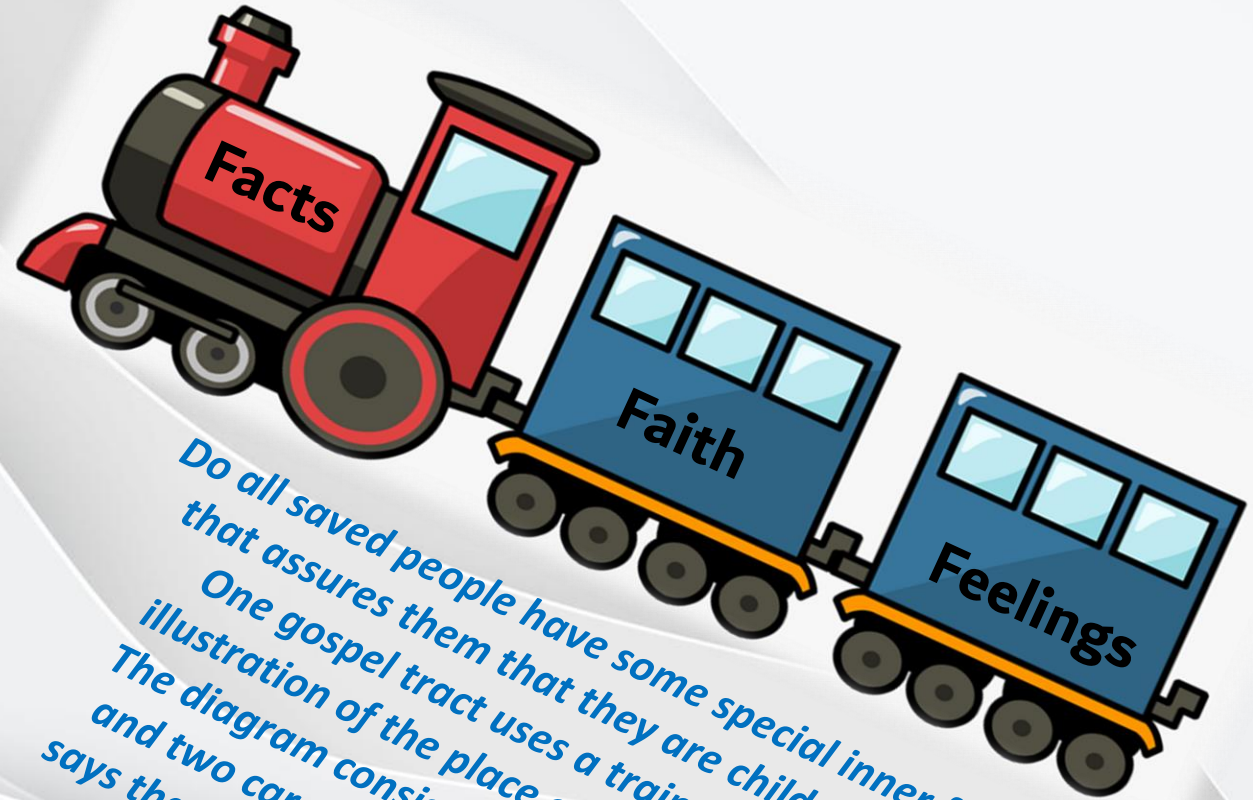
# Lesson 8

## The Place of Feelings in Assurance

<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba,<sup>[e]</sup> Father.” <sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

***Romans 8:15-17***

Should we use our faith or our feelings to be assured of our salvation? Some people feel that a special inner feeling is needed to know that we are truly saved. What do you think?



Do all saved people have some special inner feeling that assures them that they are children of God? One gospel tract uses a train diagram as an illustration of the place of feelings in assurance. The diagram consists of a locomotive called facts and two cars, called faith and feelings. The tract says that we should put our faith in the facts of the gospel, not in our feelings.

## Lesson 8 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To discover the real meaning behind Romans 8:15-16.
- To understand that faith is a better guiding fact than feelings.
- To know that God's promises are all we need to have our assurance of salvation.



# Lesson 8 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 8 - The Place of Feeling in Assurance (*Time 5-10 minutes*)
- Listen to [Is There an Objective Way to Have Assurance of Your Salvation?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read Romans chapter 8 with special attention to 8:15-16.

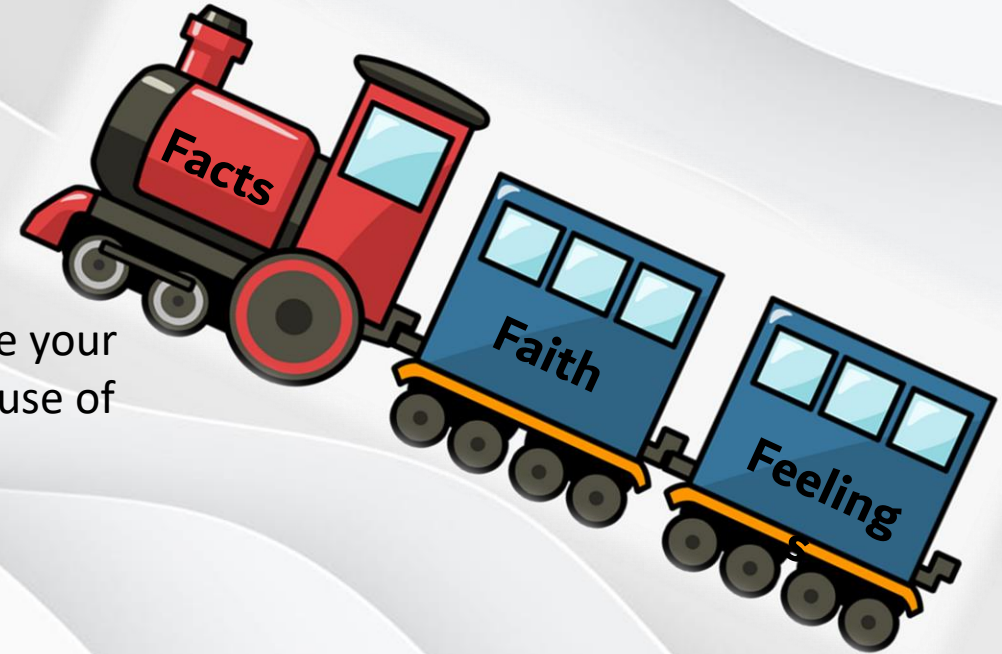
Additional material for your consideration:

- [We Believe in: Assurance of Salvation](#) - Zane Hodges

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 8](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 8 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 8 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- The real meaning behind Romans 8:15-16.
- That faith is a better guiding fact than feelings.
- God's promises are all we need to have our assurance of salvation.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

How about you? Do you gain assurance of your salvation from feelings or God's Promises?

**Please Proceed to Lesson 9**

## Lesson 9

# Confirming Your Call and Election

What exactly was Peter saying when he asks us to “Confirm Your Call and Election”? Was he talking about confirming our eternal salvation? Or was he asking us to confirm something else? If so, what was he asking?

Perseverance is one of the major battlegrounds in the debate over the gospel. In 2 Peter:1 Peter commands believers to add Christian character qualities to their faith so that they might make their calling and election sure, so that they might not stumble, and so that they might be supplied with an abundant entrance to the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



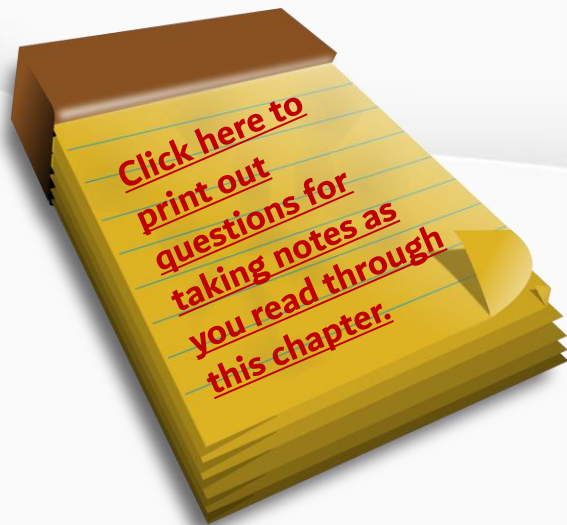
*Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Pet 1:10-11).*



## Lesson 9 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To explore why the term election means something other than how God elects people to everlasting life.
- To understand that 2 Peter 1:10-11 need to be taken in the context of verses 5-9.
- To discover if we add certain character qualities to our faith, then God will add to our everlasting life experience.
- To explore everlasting rewards, to lay up treasure in heaven.



# Lesson 9 - Content

**For this lesson please:**

- Read chapter 9 - Confirming Your Call and Election (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Does the Bible Mean When it Talks About Election?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read 2 Peter 1 Chapter 1, Eph 4:17-32, Heb 13:1-17, Jas 4:7-10 3 John 11

**Additional material for your consideration:**

- [The Biblical Blueprint - Joe Lombardi](#)
- [Making Your Calling and Election Sure - Zane Hodges](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 9](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

**After completing the above assignment, please advance to:**

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 9 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 9 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- The term election means something other than how God elects people to everlasting life.
- 2 Peter 1:10-11 need to be taken in the context of verses 5-9.
- We need to add certain character qualities to our faith, then God will add to our everlasting life experience.
- We need to lay up treasure in heaven, it leads to everlasting rewards.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**If you are not doing it already, what are some ways you might start “Laying Up Riches for the World to Come”?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 10**

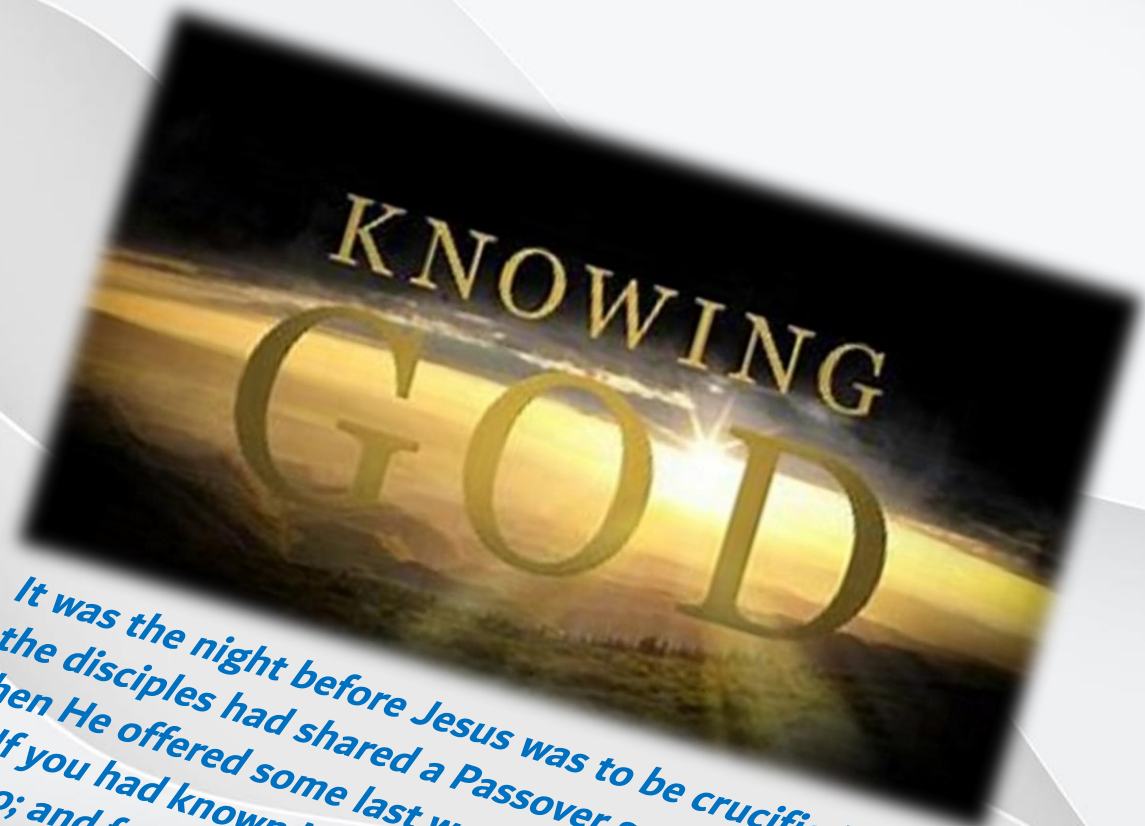
# Lesson 10

## Believer, Do You Know God

A couple might have been married for 50 years and yet not know each other very well at all because there was no fellowship during that time.

The same is true with knowing God. A person may have been a born-again Christian for decades, yet not know God well. To know God means more than to be one of His children. It means to know Him *in our experience*.

**Bob Wilkin**



*It was the night before Jesus was to be crucified. He and the disciples had shared a Passover supper together and then He offered some last words, at one point remarking, "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him" (John 14:7).*

# Lesson 10 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To examine the purpose of First John.
- To discover how to abide in Christ as He abides in us.
- To explore the Biblical relationship between obeying God's commandments and knowing God.
- To gain insight on how to better know God.



# Lesson 10 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 10 - Believer, Do You Know God (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Does it Mean to Know God?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read 1 John in your Bible

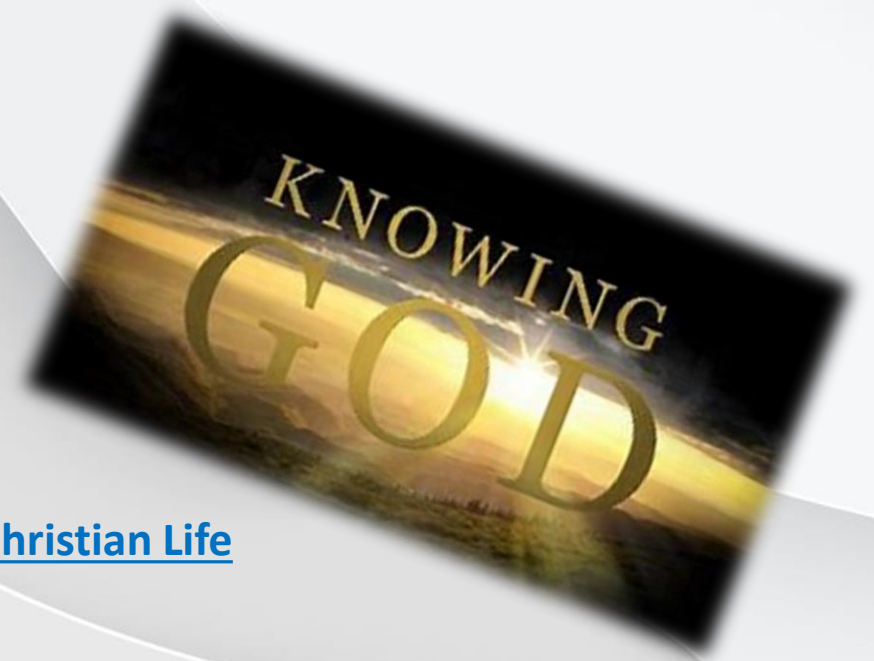
Additional material for your consideration:

- [Knowing Him in Our Experience \(1 John 2:3-11\) Nine Principles of the Christian Life](#)
- [The Privilege of Knowing God](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 10](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 10 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 10 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- The purpose of First John.
- How you might better abide in Christ.
- The Biblical relationship between obeying God's commandments and knowing God.
- How to better know God.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

What actions might you take to get to know God better?

**This concludes Assurance. Next, we'll look at Eternal Security.  
Please Proceed to Lesson 11**

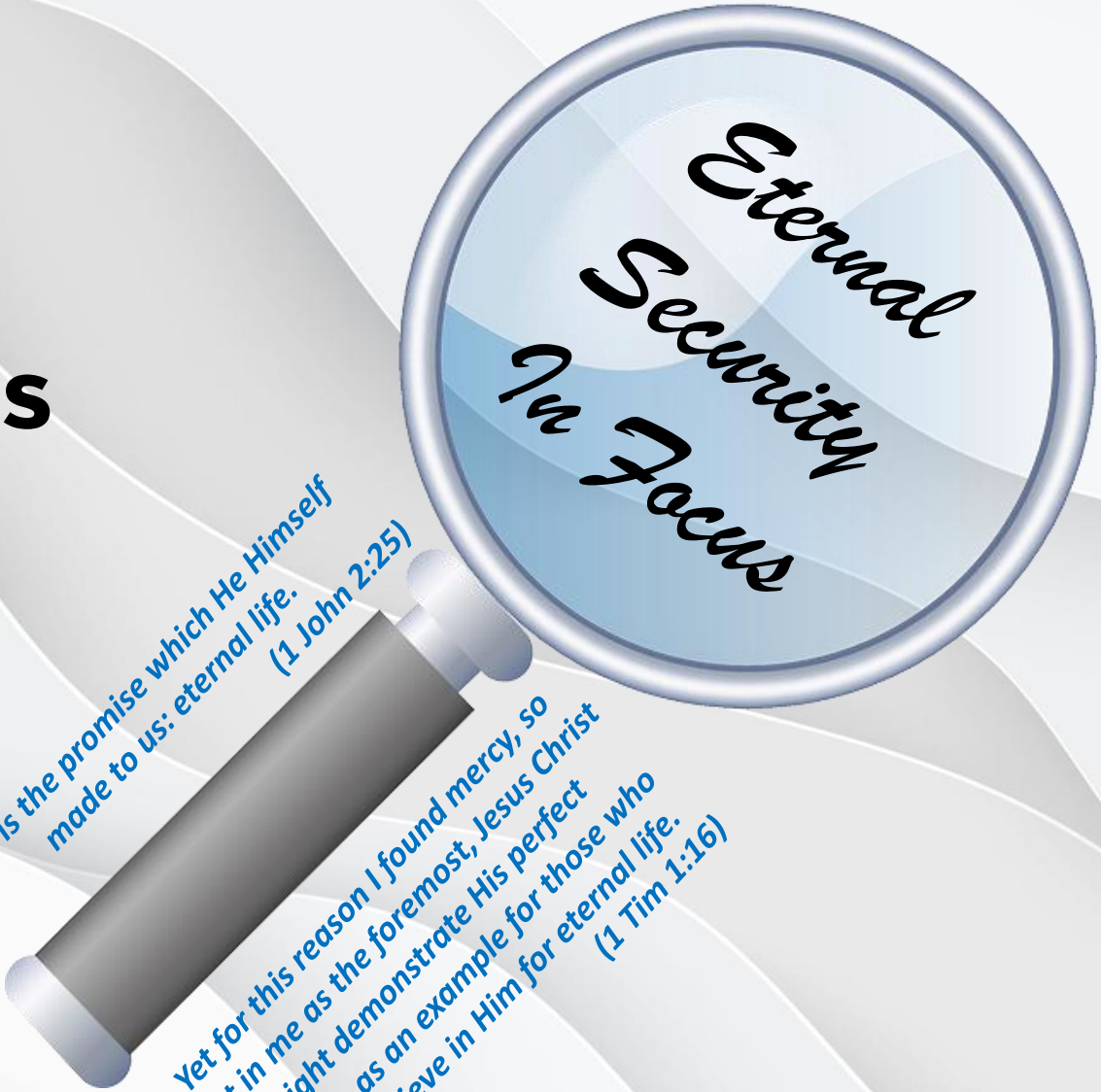
# Lesson 11

## Eternal Security in Focus

What do you think about your eternal security? Do you have it? Do you doubt it? Can anyone be sure of it? In this lesson we'll take a closer look at a biblical teaching on this subject.

Eternal security is the Biblical teaching that once a person receives everlasting life, he is secure forever. That is, once a person is saved, he remains saved-everlastingly. For that reason, another expression for eternal security is once saved, always saved.

Wilkin, Robert N.. Confident in Christ: Living by Faith Really Works (Second Edition) (pp. 103-104). Grace Evangelical Society. Kindle Edition.



*This is the promise which He Himself  
made to us: eternal life.  
(1 John 2:25)*

*Yet for this reason I found mercy, so  
that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ  
might demonstrate His perfect  
patience as an example for those who  
would believe in Him for eternal life.  
(1 Tim 1:16)*

*Eternal  
Security  
In Focus*



# Lesson 11 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To gain an understanding of how Eternal Security is a firm Biblical Teaching.
- To discover when Eternal Security begins.
- To explore why it is not up to us, but to Jesus to keep us saved.
- To understand what happens if you reject Eternal Security.
- To understand that gratitude for our eternal life is one of the most powerful motivators for serving Jesus.



# Lesson 11 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 11 - Eternal Security in Focus (*Time 15-20 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Kind of Salvation Does Jesus Offer the Believer? Part 1](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Kind of Salvation Does Jesus Offer the Believer? Part 2](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)

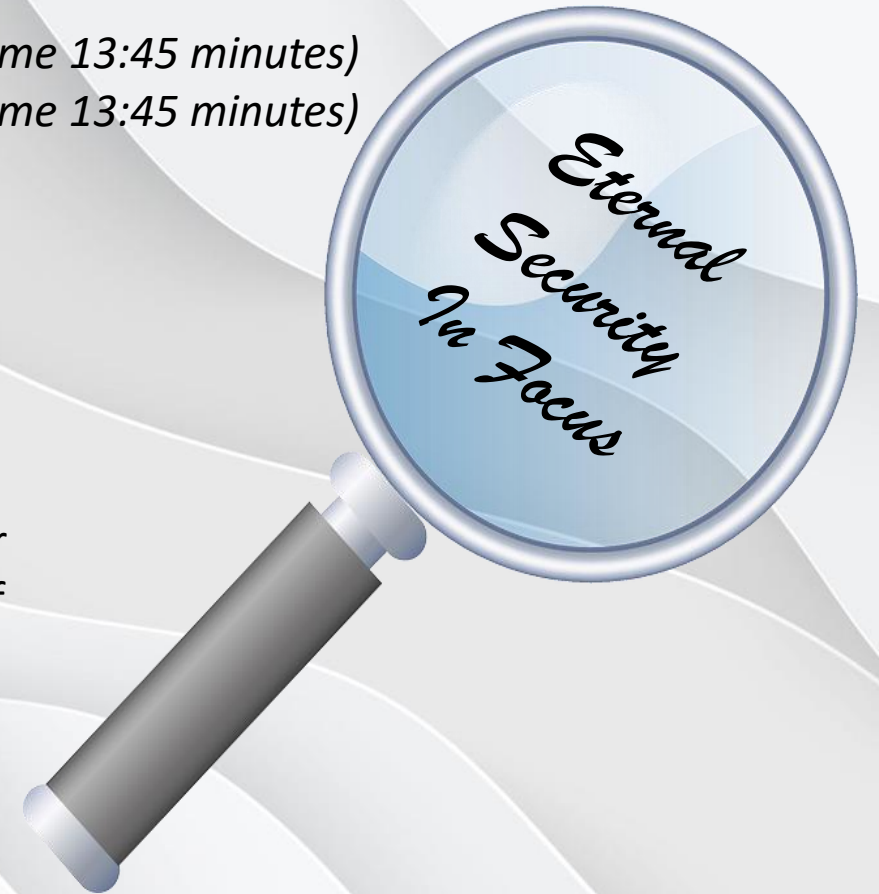
## Additional material for your consideration:

- [What is Lordship Salvation?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- [Do You Think there is a To-Do List to Become or Remain a Saved Person?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 11](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 11 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 11 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- That Eternal Security is a firm Biblical Teaching.
- When Eternal Security begins.
- It is not up to us, but to Jesus to keep us saved.
- The consequences of rejecting Eternal Security.
- Gratitude for our eternal life is one of the most powerful motivators for serving Jesus.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

Would you comfortable sharing “Eternal Security” with another believer who doubts they have it?

**Please Proceed to Lesson 12**

# Lesson 12

## A Punishment Worse Than Death

This lesson may present a different view than what you have heard preached from many pulpits. Take time to study Hebrews 10:26-31 and see if this study gives you a new perspective.

For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Heb 10:26-31).



*Hebrews 10:26-31 stands as one of the most difficult passages to interpret in the entire NT. The thought that there is a sin one can commit that results in God's fiery judgment as a punishment worse than death is sobering.*

## Lesson 12 - Objectives

### OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To gain a Biblical perspective of Hebrews 10:26-31.
- To explore why Hebrews 10:26-31 is not about Hell.
- To discover that these verses are about temporal punishment.
- To understand why an outward life of godliness and morality does not always reflect a true Biblical view.



# Lesson 12 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 12 - A Punishment Worse Than Death (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Does Judgment Mean in the Bible and How Does it Relate to Eternal Security?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read Hebrews 10:26-31 in your Bible

Additional material for your consideration:

- [For Whom Does Hebrews 10:26-31 teach a “Punishment worse than Death”?](#)

by PAUL TANNER Research Professor, BEE World Tyler, Texas

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 12](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 12 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 12 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- A Biblical perspective of Hebrews 10:26-31.
- Why Hebrews 10:26-31 is not about Hell.
- That Hebrews 10:26-31 is about temporal punishment.
- Why an outward life of godliness and morality does not always reflect a true Biblical view.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

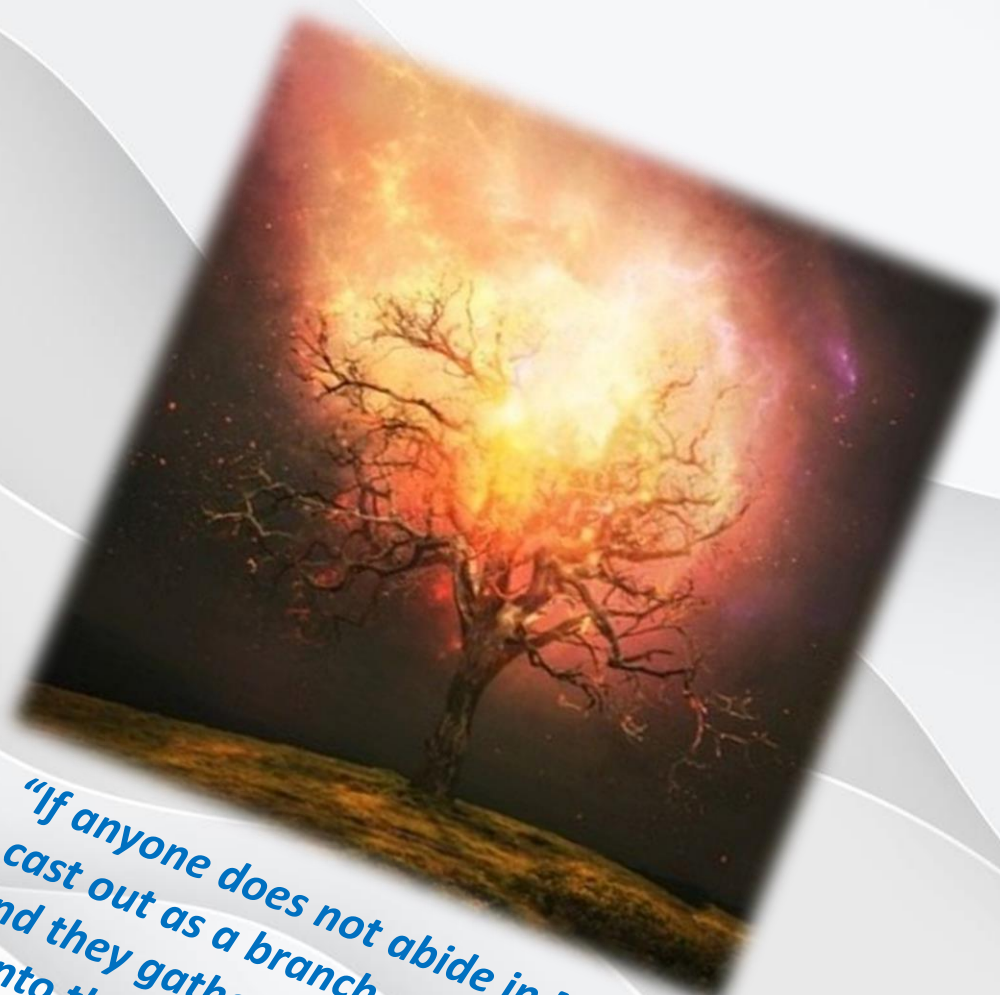
If you have a conflict with this teaching on Hebrews 10:26-31, prayerfully ask God to give you insight.

**Please Proceed to Lesson 13**

# Lesson 13

## The Burned Branches

One of the key words in John 15:6 is the word “abide.” By definition, the word abide means *“to remain stable or fixed in a state a love that abided with him all his days.”* To abide in Jesus pertains to believers, not unbelievers. Then being believers, they have eternal life which cannot be lost. It’s eternal! What then is John 15:6 talking about? How can believers be gathered and thrown into the fire? What in the world does this mean? In this lesson will look at exactly what this verse means, and how it pertains to us.



*“If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.”*  
John 15:6



# Lesson 13 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To revisit what Jesus taught about the vine and the branches and how the disciples understood what He meant.
- To understand how common viticulture relates to what Jesus is teaching in John 15:6.
- To explore what Jesus meant when He said, “You are already clean.”
- To understand that this verse is not referring to burning in hell, but to difficulties in the here and now.



# Lesson 13 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 13 - The Burned Branches (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [Branches Thrown into the Fire and Abiding in Christ](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read John 15:6 in your Bible

Additional material for your consideration:

- [Believers Who Play With Fire Get Burned](#) by Bob Wilkin

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 13](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 13 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 13 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- What Jesus taught about the vine and the branches.
- How in common viticulture unproductive branches are cut-off and thrown into the fire.
- What Jesus meant when He said, “You are already clean.”
- John 15:6 is not referring to burning in hell, but to difficulties in the here and now.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**What changes can you make in your life to be more abiding in Christ? What does more abiding look like?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 14**

# Lesson 14

## Falling from Grace

People who teach that it is possible to lose your salvation normally use several prooftexts. At first glance the verses do appear to prove their point. However, upon further study it becomes clear that they have taken the verses out of context and forced a meaning upon the text which the author never intended. A case in point is Galatians 5:4.

In this lesson we will look at Galatians 5:4, as well as several other passages to explore what Falling from Grace means.



*I keep falling down, I keep losing pace  
Turn my world around, I keep falling from grace.*

# Lesson 14 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To discover some of the things people add to believing in Jesus in an attempt to be justified by law.
- To understand what it means to fall from grace.
- To know if Paul is addressing believers or nonbelievers in Galatians 5:4.
- To explore why you should fear falling from grace.



# Lesson 14 - Content

**For this lesson please:**

- Read chapter 14 - Falling from Grace (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Does it Mean to Fall From Grace?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read Galatians 5:4 in your Bible

**Additional material for your consideration:**

- [Has This Passage Ever Bothered You? Galatians 5:4 - Can Believers Fall From Grace?](#) by Bob Wilkin

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 14](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

**After completing the above assignment, please advance to:**

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 14 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 14 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- Some of the things people add to believing in Jesus in an attempt to be justified by law.
- What it means to fall from grace.
- That Paul was addressing believers in Galatians 5:4.
- To explore why you should fear falling from grace.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**What are some things you need to specifically avoid to keep from falling from grace?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 15**


# Lesson 15

## Erasers in Heaven?

Revelation 3:5 is one passage that has been very hard for me to understand and clarify. My question is, can a believer lose his salvation or be erased from the book of life if he does not overcome? This seems to contradict John 5:24 and Eph 2:8-9 that appear to view everlasting life as a free and secure gift. or does it mean that a believer who is truly saved will automatically produce good works and overcome? This seems to contradict Romans 6-7 which views the Christian walk as a struggle and a choice that every believer must make for himself.

Wilkin, Robert N.. Confident in Christ: Living by Faith Really Works (Second Edition) (p. 129). Grace Evangelical Society. Kindle Edition.

In this lesson we look at what it means to overcome, and that the bible is really teaching something other than believers losing their salvation. If losing your salvation is not being taught in this verse, then exactly what is it teaching?



*He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.  
Revelation 3:5*



# Lesson 15 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To explore what Revelation 3:5 is actually saying.
- To determine if your name is in the Book of Life.
- To discover what being an overcomer involves. How does a believer become an overcomer?
- To learn about everlasting rewards.
- To understand why believers really need to persevere.



# Lesson 15 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 15 - Erasers in Heaven (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [Are There Erasers in Heaven?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read Revelation 3:5, John 5:24 and Eph 2:8-9 in your Bible

Additional material for your consideration:

- [Will There Be Atheists in Heaven? and 40 References to Rewards in the Teaching of Jesus](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 15](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 15 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 15 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- The meaning of Revelation 3:5.
- That at the moment you believe in Jesus for everlasting life, your name appears in the Book of Life.
- What being an overcomer involves and how you can become an overcomer.
- About everlasting rewards.
- Why believers really need to persevere.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?

Are you now excited and motivated to persevere throughout your life to serve Jesus and gain everlasting life? How will you do it?

**This concludes Eternal Security. Next, we'll look at Perseverance  
Please Proceed to Lesson 16**

# Lesson 16

## Perseverance

In this section, we'll look at what it means to persevere. Is perseverance in our faith a requirement to gain eternal life? If not, then why does the bible talk so much about it? What is the major reason for us to persevere?

All religions proclaim the importance of perseverance in good works. Unfortunately, most religions, including most branches of Christendom, confuse the motivation. Rather than speaking of the profit that comes to the believer now and in the life to come, they speak of the necessity of perseverance in good works in order to go to heaven. In their zeal to motivate perseverance, they destroy the gospel of grace and replace it with a gospel of works.

Wilkin, Robert N.. *Confident in Christ: Living by Faith Really Works* (Second Edition) (p. 142). Grace Evangelical Society. Kindle Edition.



# Lesson 16 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To be able to explain the Biblical reason why Christians should persevere.
- To learn that perseverance is not a condition of everlasting salvation.
- To discover the Biblical motivations for perseverance. (Gratitude, Blessings, and Rewards)
- To understand why you should want to persevere.
- To beware that none of us are guaranteed to persevere.
- To know what the Bible teaches in order to keep ourselves in a state of perseverance.



# Lesson 16 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 16 - Perseverance (*Time 20-25 minutes*)
- Listen to: [To What Does the Biblical Message of Perseverance Refer?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read John 10:10; Luke 18-9-14; Acts 15:1; Gal 1:6-9; Gal 3:1-5)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [The Building Block of Perseverance - \(2 Peter 1:6\) by Joe Lombardi](#)
- [Is Assurance Possible Without Perseverance - by Jody Dillow](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 16](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 16 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 16 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- How to explain the Biblical reason why Christians should persevere.
- That perseverance is not a condition of everlasting salvation.
- The Biblical motivations for perseverance are gratitude, blessings, and rewards.
- Why you should want to persevere.
- That none of us are guaranteed to persevere.
- What the Bible teaches in order to keep ourselves in a state of perseverance.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**Now that you have completed this lesson.**

**Think about how you might share your thoughts on Perseverance with others.**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 17**

# Lesson 17

## Are Believers Free of All Bad Habits

What happened to you when you first became a Christian? Did you change your ways and stop sinning right away? Or over time since you became a Christian have you been slowly moving away from sin, and toward a more Christ like person?

Doesn't 2 Corinthians 5:17 basically say that if we are in Christ, we become a new person? If it is not saying that, then exactly what is this verse saying? Seems like there are a lot of questions surrounding this verse and our behavior when we become a Christian. In this lesson we'll explore if believers are free of all bad habits.



***Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation.***

***2 Corinthians 5:17***



# Lesson 17 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To gain a better understanding of 2 Corinthians 5:17.
- To discover if you are born again, you still encounter temptation and sin.
- To explore how other verses shed light on the meaning of 2 Corinthians 5:17.
- To see how holiness and transformation of life are not automatic and irresistible for the believer.
- To understand that 2 Corinthians 5:17 does not guarantee that all born again will persevere in the faith.
- How to be a good Ambassador for Christ.



# Lesson 17 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 17 - Are Believers Free of All Bad Habits (*Time 15-20 minutes*)
- Listen to [What Changes Happen When One Becomes a Believer in Christ?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read 2 Cor 5:17, 1 Cor 9:24-27, 2 Cor 5:9-10, 2 Tim 2:15, 1 John 2:28 and 1 John 3:2

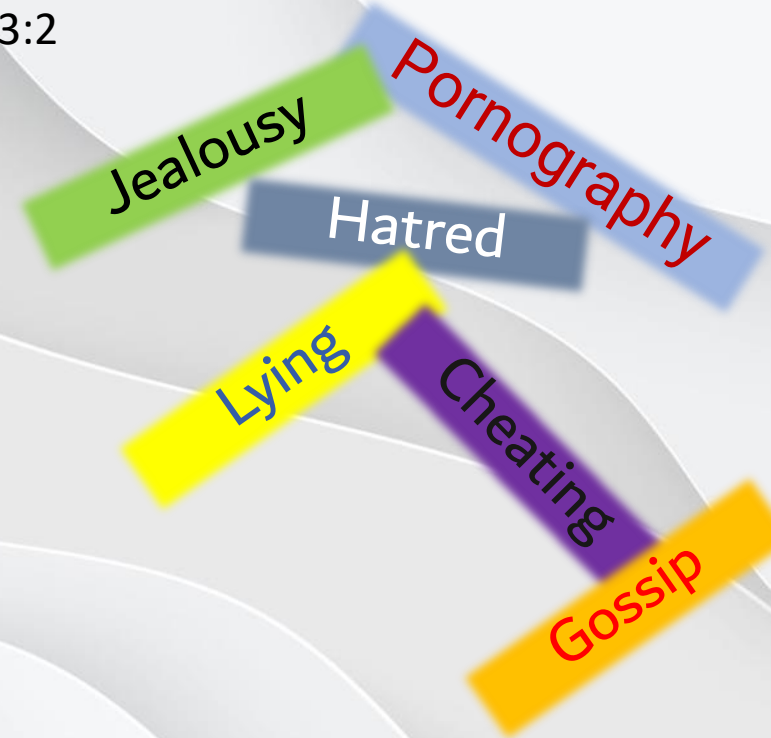
Additional material for your consideration:

- [Does Philippians 1:6 Teach Perseverance?](#) - by Charlie Bing
- [Why Don't Some People "Go on for the Lord"?](#) - by Larry Moyer

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 17](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 17 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 17 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- A better understanding of 2 Corinthians 5:17.
- When you are born again, you still encounter temptation and sin.
- How 1 Cor 9:24-27, 2 Cor 5:9-10, 2 Tim 2:15, 1 John 2:28 and 1 John 3:2 add insight to 2 Cor 5:17.
- That holiness and transformation of life are not automatic and irresistible for the believer.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 does not guarantee that all born again will persevere in the faith.
- How to be a good Ambassador for Christ.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**What are some “Bad Habits” you may have formed over the years that might be impacting your walk?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 18**

# Lesson 18

## The Danger of Falling Away

People who teach that it is possible to lose your salvation normally use several prooftexts. At first glance the verses do appear to prove their point. However, upon further study it becomes clear that they have taken the verses out of context and forced a meaning upon the text which the author never intended.

What then is meant by “The Danger of Falling Away”? Read this chapter and you may gain a new view of what it means to fall away.



*But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.  
1 Corinthians 9:27*

# Lesson 18 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To understand if Hebrews 6:4-8 is referring to believers or non-believers.
- To be able to define what repentance is.
- To learn if it is possible for both believers and unbelievers to fall away.
- To explore if it is impossible to bring a person back to Christ if he falls away.
- To understand that God sometimes takes believers home prematurely due to sin in their lives.
- To discover if it is possible for some believers to be fruitful while other believers are barren.
- To know how to avoid apostasy (abandonment of your faith).



# Lesson 18 - Content

**For this lesson please:**

- Read chapter 18 – The Danger of Falling Away (*Time 15-20 minutes*)
- Listen to [Can Believers Fall Away?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read Hebrews 6:4-8

**Additional material for your consideration:**

- [Has Galatians 5:4 Ever Bothered You?](#) - by Bob Wilkin

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 18](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

**After completing the above assignment, please advance to:**

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 18 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 18 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- Hebrews 6:4-8 is referring to believers, not non-believers.
- How to define what repentance.
- That it is only possible for believers to fall away.
- That it is possible to bring a person back to Christ if he falls away.
- God sometimes takes believers home prematurely due to sin in their lives.
- Some believers are fruitful while other believers are barren. However, they all have everlasting life.
- To avoid apostasy, you should read and study the Word daily; confess your sins before God, pray daily and meet regularly with other believers in a sound Bible-teaching church.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**After completing this lesson do you think you are you in danger of falling away? How can you avoid it?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 19**

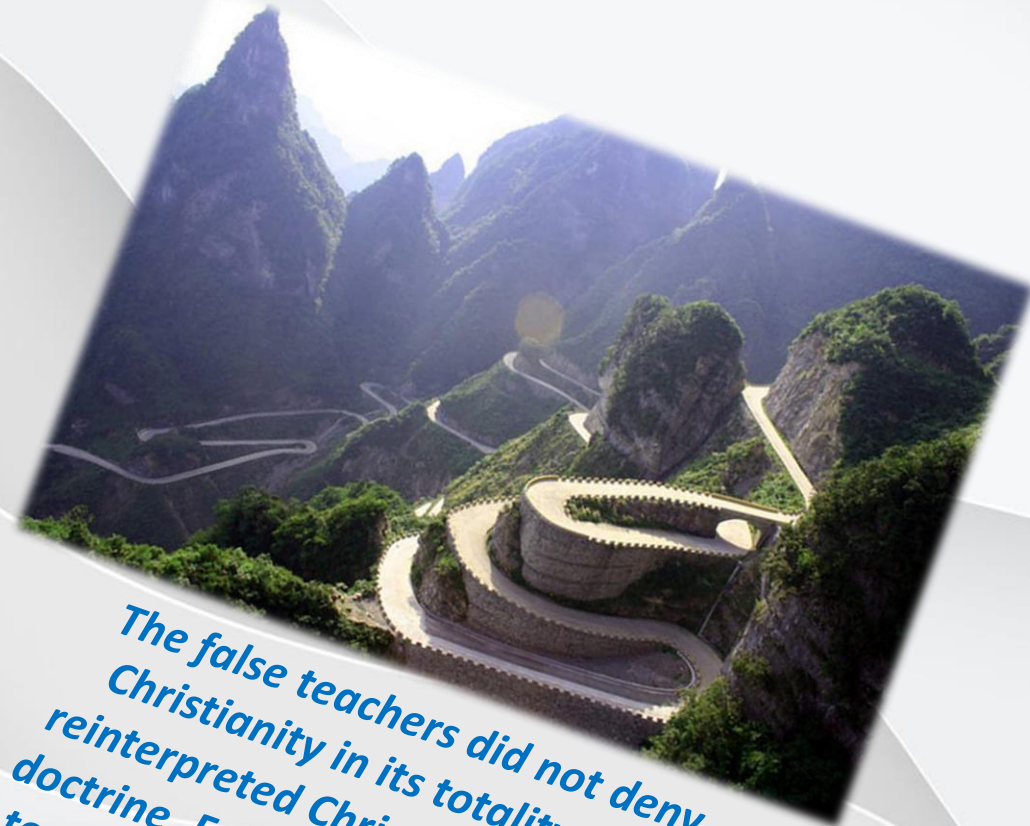
# Lesson 19

## Dangerous Road Ahead

<sup>18</sup> For when they speak great swelling *words* of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who [a] have actually escaped from those who live in error.  
<sup>19</sup> While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of [b] corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into [c] bondage.

2 Peter 2:18-19

Before you begin this lesson, reflect on the rest of 2 Peter 2:18-22 (*Deceptions of False Teachers*). What do you think Peter is teaching here? In this lesson, we'll take a dive into these passages to learn what Peter is actually teaching.



*The false teachers did not deny Christianity in its totality, they reinterpreted Christian history and doctrine. For this reason, these false teachers may be thought of as “the Revisionists,” those who brought a new version of Christianity.*

*The Epistles of John  
A Shorter Commentary  
Zane C. Hodges*



# Lesson 19 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To better understand 2 Peter 2:18-22 and exactly who Peter is referring to in these verses.
- To explore how it is possible for believers to have bad experiences in this life after a mortal fall.
- To avoid being led away with the error of the wicked and grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- To know that even well-known popular teachers can lead believers down the wrong path.
- To understand that not all believers are actual disciples of Jesus and should not enter discipleship flippantly.



# Lesson 19 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 19 - Dangerous Road Ahead (*Time 20-25 minutes*)
- Listen to [Have You Ever Been Duped by a Spiritual Leader?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read 2 Peter 2:18-22 in your Bible

Additional material for your consideration:

- [Removing Spiritual Cataracts](#) - Ken Yates

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 19](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 19 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 19 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- That Peter was referring to both false teachers and their dupes in 2 Peter 2:18-22.
- It is possible for believers to have bad experiences in this life after a mortal fall.
- How to avoid being led away with the error of the wicked and grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- That even well-known popular teachers can lead believers down the wrong path.
- That not all believers are actual disciples of Jesus and should be careful when entering discipleship.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**Do you know of anyone who might be on the “Dangerous Road”? Can you help them?**

**Please Proceed to Lesson 20**

# Lesson 20

## Obedience and Disobedience

Over the centuries people have been told that they need to do more than believe in Christ to make it to heaven. Additional requirements mentioned include giving money to the Lord's work, attending church, confessing one's sins, obeying the golden rule, reading the Bible, praying, confessing one's faith in Christ, being baptized, and turning from one's sins. All these things are commanded in Scripture. The question is, what must be done to gain everlasting life?

Wilkin, Robert N.. *Confident in Christ: Living by Faith Really Works* (Second Edition) (p. 179). Grace Evangelical Society. Kindle Edition.

Again, in this lesson there is a lot to unpack as we focus mainly on John 3:36. Let's get started on this final lesson of Confident in Christ.



Obedience <sup>optional</sup> for  
**SALVATION?**

*If when one asks, "Is obedience optional?" he means, "Is obedience optional in order to go to heaven?" the answer is a resounding yes.  
**No one!**  
Otherwise, no one would be saved.*

**Bob Wilkin**  
*Grace in Focus*

# Lesson 20 - Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THIS LESSON

- To understand that persevering in a life of obedience is not the same as believing in Christ for everlasting life.
- To be aware that ongoing obedience is not a condition of everlasting life.
- To explore if you have obeyed the Son in the sense spoken in John 3:36.
- To know that everlasting life cannot be lost.
- To understand that everlasting life begins at the moment of faith.
- To understand that obeying God's commands is not necessary to get into heaven.



# Lesson 20 - Content

For this lesson please:

- Read chapter 20 - Obedience and Disobedience (*Time 10-12 minutes*)
- Listen to [What is Required to Receive Eternal Salvation?](#) (*Time 13:45 minutes*)
- Read John 3:36 in your Bible (or use the *Living Water* booklet; see below)

Additional material for your consideration:

- [Obedience Is Necessary To Receive Eternal Life](#) - Brad McCoy
- [Is Obedience Optional?](#) - Bob Wilkin
- [What We Believe](#) - GES
- [Living Water Gospel of John](#)

As in any traditional study, we want to give you the opportunity to provide your thoughts and feedback as well as ask questions. This is done through the use of [Discussion Board - Chapter 20](#). Feel free to access this site anytime.

After completing the above assignment, please advance to:

[Confident in Christ - Lesson 20 - Questions](#)



## Lesson 20 Wrap-Up

### In this lesson you learned:

- That persevering in a life of obedience is not the same as believing in Christ for everlasting life.
- That ongoing obedience is not a condition of everlasting life.
- To explore yourself to determine if you have obeyed the Son in the sense spoken in John 3:36.
- That everlasting life cannot be lost.
- Everlasting life begins at the moment of faith.
- Obeying God's commands is not necessary to get into heaven.

### Personal Reflection - Applying What You Have Learned

**Looking above at what you have learned, what are one or two concepts you can apply in your daily walk?**

**Based on what you have learned, what are your thoughts on sharing what you have learned with others?**

*Remember, committing yourself to discipleship is dangerous!*

*While the rewards of following Christ are great, the risk for those who fall is great as well.*

**Congratulations! You Have Completed the Study!**