

chosen & choosing

How God's life becomes ours

Week 6: *Till Death Do Us Part?*

Examine yourselves to see if you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Don't you understand that Jesus Christ is in you? Unless, of course, you fail the test.
~ The Apostle Paul

INTRODUCTION – What's the Big Idea?

What's the Big Idea?... God will never abandon, reject, or eject you. But, if you abandon him, there may be a point at which he lets you go your own way.

1 Timothy 4:1-2

DINE IN – Perseverance of the Saints

- 1) God keeps his promises.
Psalm 37:23-24; Ephesians 1:13-14; Philippians 1:6; Thessalonians 5:23-24; John 6:39; 10:27-29; Romans 11:29; 2 Timothy 2:13
- 2) God's irresistible grace will cause us to keep our faith.
Romans 8:29-30
- 3) Those Christians who abandon their faith were never truly saved.
1 John 2:19

BUT...

Exodus 32:33; Matthew 6:14-15; 10:22/24:13; 18:21-35; Luke 8:4-15; Romans 11:17-29; 1 Corinthians 9:23-27; 15:1-2; 1 Timothy 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 2:12; Colossians 1:22-23; 1 John 5:16; 1 Corinthians 9:23-27; 15:1-2; Hebrews 3:12-14; 4:1; 6:4-6; 10:26-31; 2 Peter 2:20-22; Revelation 3:5, 15-21

LOOK TO THE BOOK – Testing Our Salvation

2 Corinthians 13:5

We can know we are God's children by...

- 1) Our faith in Christ.
(John 3:16, 36; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9; Galatians 3:27; 1 John 2:23; 3:20; 5:13)
- 2) Our growth in Christ-like love.
(John 13:34-35; 2 Peter 1:1-15; 1 John 2:3-6; 3:10, 14; 4:7, 17).
- 3) Internal confirmation of the Spirit.
(Romans 8:14-16; 1 John 2:27; 3:24; 4:13)

TAKE OUT – I'll Have That to Go Please

God empowers us to grow, but we must do the work.
God supplies the energy – we supply the labour.
God is our trainer – we fight the fight.
God pays for our gas – we do the driving.

Philippians 2:12-13

CONCLUSION – Something to Agree On

Jude 1:24-25

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. After reviewing the message, talk about what most perplexed or encouraged you.
2. Is it mistaken to say "we do the driving" in the TAKE OUT? Shouldn't God be in the driver's seat of our lives? Can you think of any more analogies for the TAKE OUT?
3. How did you do on the "Salvation Test"? How does God most clearly confirm his love and salvation to you?

Look to the Book...

4. A lesson in context. Some people use **Romans 11:29** as evidence that we can never lose our status as God's people once we are saved. How do **verses 17-28** challenge that assumption?
5. Read **2 Peter 1:3-15**. A) What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why? B) Is there a moral struggle in your life that has you feeling like you just 'can't' be good? How does **verse 3** help? What form might God's power want to take in this area of your life? C) Review the list of qualities in **verses 5-7** in different translations. For each quality, list a real life example. Rate yourself out of 10 and identify one thing you could do this week to partner with God for your growth in that area. D) Notice the wisdom in **verse 10**. The way to avoid stumbling in one area is not to focus on not stumbling, but to fill your life with godly choices. Have you seen this principle at work in your life? How so? E) Peter seems to think it's important to keep reminding each other of what we already know. Why do you think that is? What are some ways we can do that for each other?

So What?...

6. Greg Boyd has written, "Unless we wrap our resolutions with accountable, structured, intentional community, we will tend not to follow through with our own best intentions." What are some "best intentions" that you tend not to follow through on? Could the people you're with now help you follow through? Why not try this week?

Homework!...

7. Read the book of **1 John** through multiple times this week in multiple translations. Take notes and be prepared to talk about your discoveries next week.

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Notes are available online at themeetinghouse.ca/teaching