

Discussion Questions:

How do you define faith? Name some characteristics of faithful people. If you are a believer, how secure are you in your salvation? How do non-believers view security? What could their security be based on?

Review

Article Four: The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity who dwells within believers from the moment genuine salvation takes place. The Holy Spirit convicts believers regarding sin and enables believers to live Godly lives. The Holy Spirit also provides believers with spiritual gifts to build the church and empowers them to testify about Jesus. God has sent the Holy Spirit as the guarantee of salvation for believers.

Part of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives is to strengthen our faith. The Holy Spirit cannot have faith on our behalf, but the Holy Spirit gives us the tools we need to live out faith.

Article Seven: Faith

We believe that the means by which humans receive salvation is by faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. By faith we turn to God with a repentant heart and receive Jesus Christ as our all-sufficient Savior.

What should the faith of a follower of Jesus include?

Faith in the Triune God John 3:16-17, 34-36 John 5:24 John 14:6-7 John 11:25-27

Faith-filled words and actions

Romans 10:9-10 James 2:14-24 Matthew 7:16-18 Matthew 12:33-37 Matthew 13:18-23 Galatians 5:16-24

Faithful confidence in the future ("eternal life")

John 17:1-3 Hebrews 2:8-9 1 John 3:1-2

Article Nine: Security

We believe that the security of genuine believers is resident in the person of Jesus Christ. Believers are "kept by the power of God, through faith, unto salvation." Thus, genuine believers can never lose their salvation. The sure evidence of a believer's salvation is patient continuance and progress in righteousness and true holiness.

Jesus is responsible for providing salvation
The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our salvation
Our response to the Holy Spirit demonstrates that we have reason for confidence of our salvation.

Ephesians 1:13-14 1 Peter 1:3-5 Philippians 2:12-13 2 Corinthians 13:5