

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION NOTES

(Teacher Helps)

Lesson 2

Review Last week:

What does the word assurance mean? What other word helps you to remember what assurance means? ("sure", it sounds like this word is right in the middle of ASSURANCE). Assurance means TO KNOW FOR SURE!

Review the picture of the 4 young people. Which of these children have assurance? Which do not? Why is it important to know? Does the Bible say that we can know that we have eternal life? Where does it say this?

How can we know? How can a person be sure? See 1 John 5:13--"IT IS WRITTEN" We know so because God said so!

Could the thief (robber) on the cross have assurance? Why could he? What promise was he given? Can you have assurance? What promise are you given (John 6:47 etc.).

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Page 2 in the notes.

The notes do not give you any verses for the seven points at the top (new birth, new heart, etc.). The following might help:

- 1) A New Birth (John 3:3; John 1:12; 1 Peter 1:23)

(I don't know what the picture at the right is supposed to represent. Have to ask Mrs. Peterson about that)

Why do we need a new birth? Why do we need to be born AGAIN? What happens to a person when he is born again (see John 1:12)? Why do you need to be a child of God? Why do you need to belong to God's family? What two families are there (1 John 3:10)?

Cf.-the birthday song revised: "Happy birthday to you. Just one will not do. Born again means salvation. How many have you?"

- 2) A New Heart (Rev. 1:5; Ezekiel 36:26).

Why do you need a new heart? What is your old heart like?
See Jeremiah 17:9. God gives us a new heart and a new nature
when we are saved.

3) A New Direction (Proverbs 14:12; Matthew 7:13-14)

See illustration at right. Broad way leads to death;
Narrow way leads to life. What direction are you heading in
light of Matthew 7:13-14? Why are MANY on the wrong road and
headed in the wrong direction? Why are so FEW people saved?
Why are there so few people who have eternal life (John 5:40)?
What road are you on?

4) A New Way (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).

The way of the cross the only way to God. There is
no other way! Do people try to get to God other ways? What
other ways do they try? Will these other ways get them to
God (see above verses)?

5) A New Owner (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

If you are a believer, who do you belong to? Who
lives in your heart? (See illustration on right) He is your
Master and you are His servant. Who's servant were you before
you were saved (Romans 6--sin's servant)?

6) A New Rest (Matthew 11:29).

The burden of sin drops at the foot of the cross (see
picture at the right). (The teacher could read Pilgrim's progress,
the part where Pilgrim has a heavy burden on his back and it drops
off at the cross).

7) A New Life (1 John 5:11-12).

See illustration at right. Why doesn't the TV work?
What's wrong with it? It needs to have the right connection!
It needs to be plugged in so that it can enjoy the life and
energy that comes from the electricity. What is wrong with
men and women, boys and girls today? They do not have the

right connection with their Creator. Only when a person believes on the Lord Jesus Christ does he then have the right relationship with God and he can enjoy God's life (a wonderful and real and personal relationship with the living God--John 17:3).

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ASSURANCE AND SECURITY

See definition of assurance on the middle of the page. "Certainty" reminds us again of our word "SURE". I'm certain, I'M SURE that everything is right in my relationship with the living God! The person who can say that is the person that has assurance.

Do all believers have assurance? (go back again, if need be, to the picture of the four children) Is it possible for a person to be saved and not to be sure that he is saved? (and thus not enjoy his salvation as he should). A person can be safe but not sure that he is safe.

What is security? Security means to be SAFE for all eternity! To be safe and secure in Christ forever! The secure person is the person who is free from the danger of hell. He is saved and safe forever! Do all believers have security? Are all believers safe (John 10:27-30; etc.)?

See the illustration on page 2 (God's view and my view) to help explain the difference between assurance and security. Does God know if a person is saved or safe? Can God look at a crowd of 1000 people and know just who in that crowd are saved and are going to heaven and are eternally safe? God knows if you are saved and safe, BUT DO YOU KNOW THIS? How can you know this? (take God at His Word--I know so because God said so!).

Here's a good illustration to show the difference between being safe (security) and knowing that you are safe (assurance). A man came to a river in the middle of the winter and he had to get to the other side. He had no choice but to try to cross the ice. He was not sure how thick the ice was (he did not have assurance. He could not say, I KNOW THIS ICE IS SOLID AND SAFE), and thus he got down on his hands and knees (to distribute his body weight evenly) and began to crawl across the

ice to the other side. As he was about half way across he heard a noise (you should explain also that all along the way he feared that the ice might crack and that he might go through the ice). He looked around and saw a heavy truck driving down the ice! The truck driver looked at the man on his hands and knees and gave him a strange look: "Hey mister, this ice is solid enough for my heavy truck, it's certainly solid enough for you. You don't have to crawl on your hands and knees."

You see, both of these men were safe. Both of these men were on solid ice. The ice was going to hold up both of these men. But only one of these men had assurance and could enjoy that ice. Only one man really knew how solid the ice really was. They both had security but only one had assurance.

(work this illustration with the students until they really understand it and then apply it to salvation)

How can I learn how solid and safe my salvation is? How can I learn whether I am safe or in danger? How do I know that I am saved right now and that I am saved forever?

See bottom of page 2--GOD SAYS SO! God says it, I believe it, that settles it! And thus I have assurance!

Go to page 3 and have the students fill in the blanks by looking up these salvation promises. Explain the verses to them as you go. See top line--"I know I am saved right now!"--this is ASSURANCE! Romans 10:13--Have you called upon the name of the Lord? What does this mean? Did the thief on the cross do this ("Lord, remember me..."). John 3:36; 3:16--What must a person do to be saved or safe? Have you done this? What does it mean to believe?

John 6:37--What will God never do to the person who comes to Him? Have you come to HIM? John 6:39--can a true believer be lost? God not only saves people but He keeps them saved! We cannot save ourselves and we cannot keep ourselves saved. The grace of God can! REview 1 John 5:13..

We will start 1 John 5:9 next week.

MAIN GOAL OF LESSON: Help them understand the difference between assurance and security. Other illustrations can be used. Think of two people on an airplane. One person is scared to death that the plane will crash and the other is perfectly confident because he trusts the pilot, etc.