

Getting Started

1. This week we talked about security. We all want to feel secure or stable. What would you say is one of your greatest fears?
2. What advice would American culture give to a young person about finding security in life? To what extent do you agree or disagree with this advice?

Into the Bible

3. Understanding that the Holy Spirit is inside of all believers is critical to understanding our security in salvation. Below are other verses that teach this truth. What do these verses teach about how those with the Spirit live, and how those without the Spirit live?
 - a. **Romans 8:1-11** Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.
 - b. **Galatians 5:16-25** Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations
4. Part of what it means to be sealed by the Holy Spirit is that the Spirit working in our life becomes the mark that we are authentic – in other words, that we are really God’s children. A great illustration of this truth is found in an interview with Phil Robertson. Watch the interview here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FjqccYmx13w>

What happened in his life that showed he was truly a changed man? Can you remember a time when you did something that gave evidence you were truly changed? If so, please share.

5. What are some traits or “evidences” that the Holy Spirit is living inside of someone?

Connecting the Dots

6. The Bible says that trials test our faith – our faith that God is good and loving and working in our best interests. We tend to ‘feel’ loved by God when He acts in accordance with our desires, but we ‘feel’ unloved (or at least unsure) when what He is doing doesn’t make sense. Has there ever been a time in your life that you expected God to do something in particular, but He didn’t? If so, and you’re comfortable sharing, share the experience and what you learned.
7. Miroslav Volf said, *“There is God. And there are images of God. And some people don’t see any difference between the two.”* (*Free of Charge*, p. 21). How does an improper view of God (see below) distort what Paul is teaching in these verses, and end up destroying our security?
 - a. God the Santa Claus
 - b. God the Negotiator
8. If the truth that we are going to live in Heaven for all eternity permeated our hearts and we were absolutely certain of that, how would that affect our daily lives?