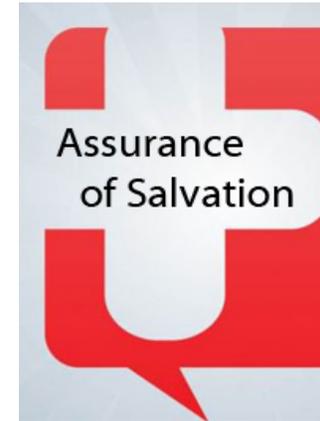


### **For Older Students**

Challenge them to read a chapter each day from the book of 1 John. It will take them five days to read the whole book.

### **Working Out Salvation**

Don't expect an instant solution for someone who has been dealing with doubts for a long time. Show them the truth of God's Word, challenge them to follow facts (God's Word) instead of feelings, to hold to the truth regardless of what they might feel or think. Give them Scripture to memorize and let them know that you'll be there to help them as they "work out" their salvation with the Lord. It helps greatly also if someone can talk with them who has experienced this journey through doubt as well.



## **ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

### **Where to Begin...**

Begin by reviewing their original salvation experience. Ask questions like:

- When was the first time you asked Jesus to come into your life and be your Lord and Savior?
- When you did this, what did you want God to do?
- When you did this, did you mean it?

*If they express that their salvation experience was genuine, use the following verses and illustrations to help them understand the security they have in Christ.*

*If they express that it was *not* genuine, share the plan of salvation with them in the same way that you would for a student who wants to be saved.*

### **Talking Tips**

Take time helping them examine their original salvation experience. Sometimes doubts come in, not because the decision wasn't genuine, but because they either don't remember a lot of the details or because they haven't grown in their walk with Christ.

Be careful not to be too quick to just lead them in a prayer and help them "nail it down." For people who are repeatedly doubting their salvation, making another decision can compound the problem by giving them one more thing to look back at and doubt. In other words, deal with the root of the issue instead of a quick-fix.

**Find more resources at [www.330resources.org](http://www.330resources.org)**

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## Nothing Can Take You Out Of God's Hands

### John 10:28-29

*"I give eternal life to them. They will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of my Father's hand."*

**Point:** Nothing can take you out of God's hands.

**Illustration:** Put a piece of paper in one hand and close your fist around it. Tell the student that just like the piece of paper is in your hand, when he asked Jesus into his life, he was placed in Jesus' hand.

Ask the Student: Can you pull my hand open and snatch the paper out? Let the student try. Then tell him that he is in Jesus' hand, (showing the paper in your fist) and that Jesus is in God's hand. Now place your other hand over the fist and tightly clench them. Tell the student to try to pull your hands open. Will it be harder? Sure it will... "But if someone came in who was stronger than me, they could get it out. But nobody is stronger than God. God is greater than all and since He is greater than all, no one is able to take you out of His hands."

## Nothing Can Separate You From God – Not Even You.

### Romans 8:38-39

*"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

**Illustration:** Ask the student to reach out and clasp arms with you. (Reach beyond his hand and hold onto his arm and instruct him to do the same to you.)

SAY: When you gave your life to Jesus, you were like this (referring to your hold on one another.) Now let's say you do something wrong and for a moment you let go of God. (Ask the student to let go of your arm, but you

keep holding on.) Will God ever let go of you? No, God will never let go of you. Once you are a part of His family, you are forever a part of His family.

## Once you're born, you can't be unborn.

### John 3:3

*"Jesus answered him, 'Most assuredly, I tell you, unless one is born anew, he can't see the kingdom of God.'"*

**Point:** Once you're born, you can't be unborn. Once you are a part of a family, nothing you do can remove you from being a part of that family.

**Illustration:** Let's say you and I are brothers. One day I'm walking down the hall and out of nowhere, you jump from the woodwork and punch me in the nose. Are we still brothers? Of course. Just because you did something wrong didn't change our family. The same is true with God. When you trusted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you became a part of God's family. Now if you do something wrong, like the brothers, are you still a part of the same family. Of course. But, if we were brothers and you punched me in the nose, would we be right with each other? No. So what would you need to do for us to get right? Say you're sorry. It's similar with God and us. As a Christian, when you do something wrong, you still ask

God to forgive you. You're asking Him to forgive you, NOT to go to Heaven—you're already going there; NOT to be saved—you're already saved; you're already a part of His family, but so you can be in a right relationship with Him. God didn't just save you to go to Heaven; God saved you to walk with you here and now.

**Caution:** If you ever mention that God is a person's Heavenly Father, especially a child's, be careful to clarify what kind of "Father" He is. If a person has been abused by an earthly father, he may have a severe misconception of what a Heavenly Father might be like and how this new Heavenly Father might treat him.

## God Can't Lie

### Romans 10:9, 13

*"That if you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved... For, "Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

**Point:** God said that He would save you if you called on Him and trust Him as the Lord of your life. Have you done this? Yes. Can God lie? No. God promised if you would give your life to Him, that He would save you. So if you have given your life to Christ, did He save you? Absolutely.

