

EVERY TRACK EVERY WEEK

WEEK: 28 Leader Discussion Guide

Once Saved Always Saved?

-Welcome!

-Intro: Thanks for being here! Revisit last week's points

****point everyone to PODCAST! Fcamx.com/gospeldrivenathlete**

**give brief overview of program- goal is entire state, same curriculum, cumulative, same schedule, different leaders each week, etc.*

**Exchange numbers or invite attendees to join your ETEW Facebook group.*

**Encourage group participation as necessary for a quality bible study.*

-Ice Breaker Question: What is the hardest thing you've ever stuck with, over a long period of time? Maybe going to college? Maybe sticking with a job situation that was less than ideal? Maybe training for a big race? Maybe a strict diet?

Leader intro: *Hi, and welcome to Every Track Every Week. My name is _____ and I am involved with Texas FCA Motocross through _____. I've been involved with FCA MX for ____ years and my favorite thing about the ministry is _____.*

This week's discussion is based upon episode #97 of our podcast "The Gospel Driven Athlete", titled "Once Saved Always Saved?" This week we are continuing our look at the Westminster Confession of Faith, in efforts to discover what the Christianity of history has openly claimed to believe about all kinds of important issues found in the Bible. This week we are going to look at a doctrine known as "Perseverance of the Saints" and attempt to answer the question, "can we lose our salvation?"

-Question 1: What does it mean to persevere?

***Answer:**

1) To stick with something. To keep on going. To follow through with something. To stick it out to the end...

-Question 2: Once we are saved (meaning once we have placed our hope and trust in the person and work of Jesus Christ), are we always saved? Or can we go



“in and out” of a state of salvation? Or to put it another way, can we lose our salvation?

***ANSWER:**

1) Read Section 1 of Westminster Confession of faith Chapter 17.

Section 1.) They, whom God hath accepted in His Beloved, effectually called and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace; but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved.

(1) [Php 1:6](#); [2Pe 1:10](#); [Jn 10:28,29](#); [1Jn 3:9](#); [1Pe 1:5,9](#).

2) Romans 8:30 says it this way, **“And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.”** This tells us that all those who are called will one day be glorified (raised in perfection with Christ upon their death). This is a promise from God and it’s spelled out clearly in scripture.

3) Jesus Himself affirms this, in John 6:37-40 when He says with complete authority that **“³⁷ All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”**

Question 3: How does knowing that once we are saved, we are always saved give us comfort?

***ANSWER:**

1) This is actually one of the most comforting doctrines of the Bible. If you are trusting in the perfect work of Christ, there is nothing that can snatch you from God’s hand.

2) Romans 8:31 says it for us, **“If God is for us, who can ever be against us.”** There is nothing that can change God’s eternal decree, and nothing can ever stand between God and his elect.



3) Listen to what section 2 of the Westminster says on this chapter,

Section 2.) This perseverance of the saints depends not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father; upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ; the abiding of the Spirit, and of the seed of God within them; and the nature of the covenant of grace: from all which ariseth also the certainty and infallibility thereof.

(1) [2Ti 2:18,19](#); [Jer 31:3](#). (2) [Heb 10:10,14](#); [Heb 13:20,21](#); [Heb 9:12-15](#); [Ro 8:33-39](#); [Jn 17:11,24](#); [Lk 22:32](#); [Heb 7:25](#). (3) [Jn 14:16,17](#); [1Jn 2:27](#); [1Jn 3:9](#). (4) [Jer 32:40](#). (5) [Jn 10:28](#); [2Th 3:3](#); [1Jn 2:19](#).

4) If it was up to you and me we would blow it; but since it is up to God's goodness and His election, we can be totally confident and rest in the fact that however weak we are, God will finish his work in us to completion and we will die victorious in the faith that God has provided.

-Question 4: Why is it so important that we get this doctrine right?

ANSWER:

1) It reminds us where we should be looking. God is the one who affects change in the sinner's heart. He is the one who justifies and glorifies. If we in any way put the responsibility of maintaining a right standing with God on our work, or our faith, or anything that we can produce, it will be a very shaky and subjective foundation.

2) God wants us to rest in the objective and finished work of Christ. God wants us to rest in the Holy Spirit he has provided that woos us to him by the power of the gospel. It is here we find rest. A losable salvation is not a resting one. It is God's desire that we rest in him. (Hebrews 4:11, Matt 11:28)

-Question 6: How should these realities and truths drive our attitudes, actions, and lives?

Answer:



1. Being reminded of this solid rock we stand on should make us surer of our hope in the gospel. God will not leave any of his children behind and we can rest in that.
2. It is in this rest and assurance that we can find hope and joy and a life that acts in accordance with redemption.

-Lets pray.

