“Are You Saved?”

November 22, 2026

VII. How you finish.

“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:13 (NIV)

- ❖ The word “believe” in 1 John 5:13 is a present participle expressing a _____ or _____ action.

- ❖ A Christian, although at times may struggles in their faith, will _____ in the faith and continue believing in Christ.

A. Scripture gives many examples of people who externally may have _____ to be _____ for a while but eventually _____ that they _____ were really saved.

“And “But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.” But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.”

Hebrews 10:38-39 (NIV)

“Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. For we also have had the good news proclaimed to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not share the faith of those who obeyed. Now we who have believed enter that rest,” **Hebrews 4:1-3a (NIV)**

“It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace… Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case—the things that have to do with salvation.”

Hebrews 6:4-6, 9 (NIV)

“They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.”

1 John 2:19 (NIV)

B. A true Christian will _____ in faith through trials and persecutions and difficulties in life.

“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching… Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions… But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.”

Hebrews 10:23-25,33-34,39 (NIV)

“The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.”

Matthew 13:20-21 (NIV)

“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)

C. A true Christian could _____ abandon the faith or choose to stop believing in God because of _____ they are in Christ, they will persevere in the faith.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

"No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God."

1 John 3:9 (NIV)

"'For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws."

Ezekiel 36:24-27 (NIV)

"being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

D. Christians are _____ to persevere in the faith.

"You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised."

Hebrews 10:36 (NIV)

"Endure hardships with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus."

2 Timothy 2:3 (NIV)

"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

"How does a Christian persevere in faith?"

1. We persevere in faith in the _____ of _____,.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

2. We persevere in faith remembering God's _____.

"We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised."

Hebrews 6:12 (NIV)

"And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she[a] considered him faithful who had made the promise… By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son,"

Hebrews 11:11, 17 (NIV)

3. We persevere in faith through _____.

"You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised."

"Hebrews 10:36 (NIV)

"By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going."

Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)

4. We persevere in faith by fixing our eyes on _____.

> “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
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> **Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV)**