

Q: (v.10) How does helping God's people demonstrate love to God?

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Q: (v.11) What is the author's great desire?

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Q: (v.12) How does sluggishness/laziness relate to 5:11-14?

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Q: (6:18) What do we learn about God's character and why is this important to us?

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Q: (6:19) What is our "steadfast anchor of the soul"?

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Q: What are you currently facing that you need this reminder?

*Pray: Thank you Lord that you chose to rescue me. I don't deserve it, but by your grace, you sent Jesus to pay for my sins, and set me free from the penalty and power of sin in my life. Thank you for making me holy and righteous. Help me to turn to you each day for your wisdom, through your Word, your guidance and leading through your Holy Spirit. Help me to daily be assured and rest secure in the Truth of your Word that I am your forever child. Help me to live out these truths and obey and follow you each day for your glory and honor! Amen.*

# Harvest Growing Deeper

Evangelical Free Church

A Disciplemaking Tool of Harvest Evangelical Free Church  
(for personal and/or small group study)

Week of October 27, 2019

Hebrews 5:11-6:20

*Hebrews 5:11-6:8 is a stern warning especially to immature believers (those tempted to revert back to old ways) and those who are not believers but perhaps think they are. It warns them of the grave dangers of rejecting God's free offer of redemption and grace, through faith in Christ alone. The term "fall away" is used only here in the NT. The author is most likely addressing those who knew much about the gospel or even made a so-called profession of faith, but who themselves had not embraced it fully and personally. Apart from receiving God's grace and salvation through Christ alone, they will never be saved. Hebrews 6:9-20 addresses genuine followers of Christ, reminding them of God's promises. God will never go back on any of His promises. In short, it is impossible for those who have truly placed their faith in Christ, who have been made new (2 Cor 5:17) to lose their salvation, which is a free gift from God by His grace (Eph 2:1-10). We are kept secure in Christ (John 10:27-30).*

Q: (5:11-14) What are the spiritual deficiencies the writer is concerned about?

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Q: (11-14) In contrast, what are key marks of spiritual maturity?

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Q: (v.14) How can we grow & learn to discern good from evil?

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Q: List ways you have grown in your faith and in your knowledge of God's Word. (Praise God! And ask Him for continued growth).

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\*Pray for daily "divine appointments" and that you will seize those opportunities to simply share what you have learned with others. \_

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(6:1-3) Salvation is found only by placing our faith in the Messiah Jesus Christ. We are to (leave) or build upon the foundation of the "elementary doctrine of Christ" and be carried along by God to **maturity in Christ**. We are to repent (turn from evil and turn to God—Rom 6:23), and place our faith in Christ alone (Acts 4:12). Washings could refer to an outward ceremonial cleansing, representing an inner heart change, similar to baptism. The laying on of hands in the OT would refer to the transfer of sin to an animal, sacrificed in our place, or perhaps the Spirit's blessing.

Q: What's the connection between 5:11-14 and 6:1-3?

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(6:4-6) *This is undoubtedly one of the most challenging passages in Scripture. Christian scholars have typically interpreted this passage in one of three ways:*

- 1) *Christians could lose their salvation by arrogantly intentionally throwing it away, and thus will suffer eternal judgement.*
- 2) *The passage refers to professing believers or those who hang around the church (who think they are saved) but show no evidence of a changed life, therefore are not true Christ followers.*
- 3) *It is a hypothetical situation to strongly warn against apostasy. It is clearly a stark warning NOT to revert back to their old ways, their old religious beliefs, therefore rejecting Christ.*

*But notice the author uses the pronouns "us/we" in 6:1-3; switches to "those/they" in 6:4-6; back to "us/we" in 6:9-12.*

(6:9) implies that the author is confident in the salvation of those to whom he wrote. He did not feel they could lose their salvation. Thus this passage (6:4-6) is not about true Christians losing our salvation which is **eternal** (not "temporarily eternal").

Q: Look up the following verses to help bring a deeper understanding regarding our eternal security in Christ: (John 6:37-40, 10:27-30; Rom 8:29-39; Phil 1:6; Eph 1:13-14, 2:8-10; 1 John 2:19; 1 Jn 5:11-13). Write what you learn about the confident assurance all Christ followers can have based on the Truth of His Word.

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(vv.4-6) This passage, written to the church, does not use phrases typical of true Christ-followers (i.e. those who have been "made perfect, holy, sanctified, saved" etc.). To be "enlightened" (have an understanding) is not the same as being regenerated (saved) - John 1:9-12. Anyone can "taste the heavenly gift, share in the Holy Spirit, taste and experience God's goodness (Mt 5:45; 7:21-23; Acts 8:13-24) yet still not receive Him as Lord and Savior. (consider Judas was also granted power and authority by Jesus as one of the 12 (Mark 6:7-13), yet ultimately rejected Christ (1 John 2:19).

==> Faith that endures to the end is another evidence we truly have been saved by God's grace through faith in Christ alone (2 Tim 2:12). God helps us endure (1 Cor 10:13). We all stumble and fall, but it is God who draws us to Himself, saves us (John 6:44; Eph 1:4-14; 2:8-9), carries us along in our faith (Phil 1:6), so we can endure to the end (Heb 3:14).

Q: How do verses 7-8 relate to the context (5:11-6:6)?

How does this resemble Jesus' parable of the soils in Mark 4:2-20?

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Q: (6:4-8) What is the author's main warning here? (see also 2 Cor 13:5)

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Q: What evidence (fruit) does your life demonstrate to others that you are a true follower of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

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