Introduction

- Having assurance of salvation means that I am ______ that I belong to Christ and Christ belongs to me.
- There are three ways God gives us assurance of our salvation:
 - The Word of God _____ us that we are saved.
 - The Holy Spirit bears _____ in us that we are saved.
 - The presence of good works gives _____ that we are saved.
- 1. The Word of God tells us that we are saved.
- _____ character is the primary basis of our assurance, not our character.
- The Bible is also full of unchanging promises that tell us that what God began in our life He will also ______.
- 2. The Holy Spirit bears witness in us that we are saved.

<u>Eph 1.13-14</u> In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were **sealed with the promised Holy Spirit**, who is the **guarantee** of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the _____ that we belong to God.
- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the _____ that the promised heavenly inheritance belongs to us.
- God has put the Holy Spirit within us as _____ of His grace toward us.
- As true Christians, we often _____ our salvation because instead of seeing the evidence of God's grace toward us,
 - We see our _____.
 - We see our _____.
 - \circ We see how _____ we are of God's grace.
 - We _____ ourselves.
 - We become greatly _____.

- The work of the Holy Spirit within us is to give us assurance of our salvation by helping us to ______ and _____ the evidence of God's grace toward us.
- The Holy Spirit's work of bearing witness within us is His work of ______ us that we belong to Christ and Christ belongs to us.
- A. The _____ of the Spirit's witness.

Rom 8.16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

- The reason that the Holy Spirit bears witness within us is _____ we would be assured that we are children of God.
- There are many things that ______ true Christians from having full assurance of their salvation:
 - Our ongoing ______ and _____ can threaten our assurance.

<u>Gal 5.17</u> For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

- Our state of _____ can threaten our assurance.
- **Psa 42.5** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation

• Our life _____ can threaten our assurance.

<u>Psa 42.10</u> As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"

• _____ accusations toward us, and his attempts to create doubts and suspicions about Christ can threaten our assurance.

<u>Rev 12.10b–11</u> for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

• False teachings about _____ or _____ favor with God through good works can threaten our assurance.

<u>Rom 11.6</u> But if **it is by grace**, it is **no longer on the basis of works**; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

- B. The ______ of the Spirit's witness.

Rom 8.16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

- The Holy Spirit causes us to _____ that God's promises of salvation have been fulfilled toward us.
- The Holy Spirit causes us to inwardly ______ of the trueness of our salvation.
- The Holy Spirit causes us to _____ God as our Heavenly Father.

<u>Gal 4.6</u> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

2. The Holy Spirit makes us aware of the _____ He's done in our lives.

<u>1 John 2.3</u> And by this we **know** that we have come to Him, **if we keep His** commandments.

<u>1 John 3.14</u> We know we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers.

<u>**1**</u> John 3.24 Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we **know** that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

3. The Holy Spirit changes our _____ so that we'll love righteousness and hate sin.

Rom 7.22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being

<u>Rom 8.5</u> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds of the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds of the things of the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit has given us a desire to live ______.

Rom 8.14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

• The Spirit _____ us of our sin.

John 16.8 And when he comes, he will **convict the world concerning sin** and righteousness and judgment:

• The Holy Spirit helps us to _____ sin.

<u>Col 3.5</u> Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

<u>Rom 8.13</u> For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Gal 5.16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

• The Holy Spirit _____ us from sin.

<u>**Rom 6.6**</u> We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, **so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin**.

Rom 8.2 For **the law of the Spirit** of life has **set you free** in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

The Holy Spirit _____ us from sin.

<u>1 Cor. 6.11</u> And such were some of you. But **you were washed**, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and **by the Spirit of our God**.

<u>1 John 1.9</u> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4. The Holy Spirit ______ our lives through the Word of God.

John 16.13a When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth

• The Holy Spirit uses the Scriptures to teach us greater _____ so that we can make wise and holy decisions.

<u>Col 1.9</u> And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be **filled with the knowledge of his will** in all spiritual **wisdom and understanding**,

God's will is always found in God's _____.

<u>Col 1.10</u> so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Isa 8.20 To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak **according to this word**, it is because they have no light.

Gal 5.16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

• The Bible equates being controlled by the Holy Spirit to being filled with God's

<u>Eph 5.18b–19</u> ... be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

<u>Col 3.16</u> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Conclusion:

- The Holy Spirit bears witness within in us that we are truly saved by:
 - Inwardly affirming that we are children of God.
 - Making us aware of the work He's done in our lives.
 - Changing our desires so that we'll love righteousness and hate sin.
 - Guiding our lives through the Word of God.
- He truly is our _____!