

Mark Nielsen

FOF Lesson 6 – Salvation

Additional Notes on “Marks of a True Believer”

I. Marks of a True Believer (not nearly an exhaustive list)

A. Love for God

Mark 12:28-32 – 28 One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "**What commandment is the foremost of all?**" **29 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! the Lord our God is One Lord; 30 and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'**

What are we commanded to do? – love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, strength
Do you? All of your heart, soul, mind, and strength?

John 14:21 - 21"**He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father,** and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

How do we show our love for God and Christ? – obedience to them
Are you showing your love for God and Christ through obedience?
Is your obedience grudging, or is it the desire of your heart?

B. Love for Others

John 13:35 – **By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another**

How do we know if we belong to Christ? – if we love one another
1 Corinthians 13:4-7 – READ – this is how we love one another

Are you showing this kind of love to others?

C. Good Works/Fruit

James 2:14-18 – What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? **Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.** But someone may well say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and **I will show you my faith by my works.**

What is dead faith? – faith without works

Is James saying that we are saved by works? – No
What is he saying? – that we show the genuineness of our faith by our works
What are some examples of good works?
What examples does James use?
Do others see your faith by your works?

Galatians 5:22-23 - the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

What does “fruit of the Spirit” mean? – the result of a Spirit-filled life
Are these characteristics present in your life?

D. Pattern of Obedience in Our Lives

1 John 2:3-4 - By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

How does John say that we show that we know Christ? – obedience
What are we to think if someone claims to know Christ but is not obedient? – he is a liar
Does this mean perfect obedience? – No. It should be the pattern of our lives

1 John 1:10 – If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

How do we make God a liar? – by claiming we have not sinned

E. Hunger for the Word

1 Peter 2:2 – like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.

What are we to long for? – the word
What does it mean to “long for”? – crave, desire
Do you crave the word? How often are you in the word?
What is the benefit of craving the word? – spiritual growth; sanctification