

Dear Jr. High Youth Worker,

I'm so glad you are holding this resource in your hands! When I sat down to write this curriculum I asked myself, "what are the things that every junior high student needs to understand about life and faith in Christ?" I'm sure there are other topics that could have been included, but I think the eight lessons we chose for this study really are the basics for a fulfilling relationship with Jesus. In case you're reading this and have no idea what topics are in this curriculum, let me share:

- Confident in Christ: How to Know You Are Saved
- What a Book!: Understanding the Importance of the Bible
- Let's Communicate: How to Talk to God
- He's the Boss: How to Let God Lead You
- The Big Test: How to Handle Temptation
- Here Comes Trouble: How to Benefit From Life's Problems
- Give It Away: How to Share Your Faith
- Friends Forever: How to Build Positive Relationships

None of our small group curriculum is overly extensive and that's because we want to leave lots of room for your students to discuss the material, ask questions and engage in meaningful conversation . . . even if it's a bunch of 7th grade guys!

Like just about everything at Simply Junior High, this resource has the ability to be easily tweaked, twisted, and turned inside out in order to make it fit the needs of your students more specifically! This material is simple to use and will save you lots of time, which will allow you to focus on loving your students and training volunteers.

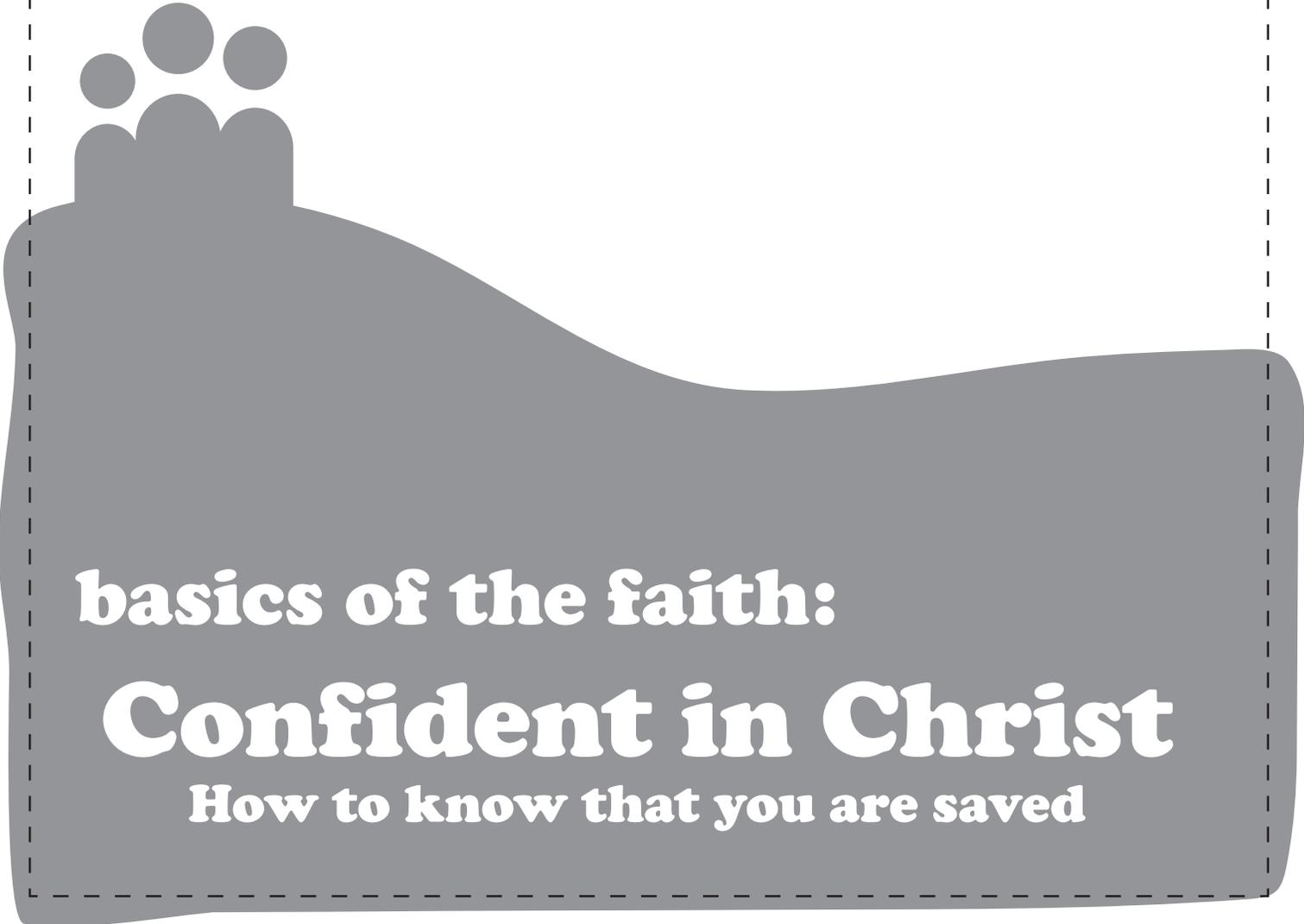
Thanks for allowing Simply Junior High to partner with you from a distance!

Living life to the fullest,



Kurt Johnston





basics of the faith:

Confident in Christ

How to know that you are saved

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).

Basics of the Faith Confident in Christ

What's On The Menu?

Have you ever been inside your house and heard a strange noise? Even if you know all of the windows and doors are locked, you still feel unsafe. You get out of bed, turn on every light, and check all the locks. Even if everything checks out, you still feel a little unsafe. Isn't it amazing that even though God promises in His word that all who believe in Christ will have eternal life, we still feel like we are not "really saved," that if we don't keep checking the "locks" on our salvation it could be stolen or taken away.

In this lesson, we are talking about having confidence in our salvation and the promise God makes to us when we choose to believe in Christ. Having this confidence gives you the peace of knowing that nothing can shake your salvation or change the fact that you are "saved."

Appetizer:

1. Discuss salvation and what it means to be "saved."
2. Have you ever doubted that you are "saved"? Why or why not?
3. Have you ever been in a situation when you felt like you could lose your salvation? Why?

A promise is only as good as the honesty of the person who makes it. When we understand the total honesty of God, we can believe His promises. In order to have confidence that we are saved, we just need to believe God's promises! Let's take a closer look at how to know we have eternal life . . .

The Main Course:

There is no better place than the Bible to find confidence in our salvation. Take a look at these passages and see what God has to say about our salvation, where it comes from, and who desires for us to have it and believe in it.

1. Read **1 John 5:11-12**.
 - Who gives eternal life?

 - Where is eternal life found?

 - Who has eternal life?



Basics of the Faith

Confident in Christ

2. According to **Revelation 3:20** . . .

- Where is Christ right now?
- How does Christ enter your life?
- What does Christ promise to do?

3. Read aloud **Philippians 3:7-11** (New Living Translation)

- According to verse 7-8, what do we need to “lose” or throw away? Why?
- What things in your life are worthless and stand between you and your walk with Christ?
- Look at verse 9. Do we need to do good deeds in order to be confident that we are saved?
- Who do we need to trust? Why?
- Check out verse 10-11. What is the only way to really know Christ?
- Are you ready to do “whatever it takes” to experience life in Christ?

4. Check out **1 John 5:13** and **John 20:31**.

- What reason does John give for writing this book?
- What is the greatest thing that happens to us when we believe in Christ?
- What is one thing we need to remember about God’s promise to us?



Basics of the Faith Confident in Christ

Something to chew on:

1. If we trust ourselves and our feelings of doubt, instead of God and His promises, how will this affect our attitudes and actions?
2. If we put our trust in God, no matter how we feel, how does this change our attitudes and actions?
3. What is one thing that stands between you and Christ that you want to get rid of?
4. If you were to die tonight, are you confident that you would be in heaven with God? Or are you going to continue to let "stuff" get in the way of your walk?

Prayer Requests:



Basics of the Faith Confident in Christ

Taking it "To Go" **Memory Verse**

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).

What is the key thing I need to remember about my salvation?

How can I apply this study to my life?

The "To Go" Box

1. Is there a promise for me to claim?
2. Is there a command for me to obey?
3. Is there a sin for me to confess?
4. Is there a lesson for me to learn?

Questions about this study I need answered...

