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# WEEK 1

## CONFIDENT IN CHRIST

### GROUP DISCUSSION 1

Welcome to *Discipleship Explored*.

### TALK

### PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11

➤ Use this space if you'd like to make notes.

## GROUP DISCUSSION 2

- 1 Was there anything in the talk you didn't understand, you disagree with or that you found particularly interesting?**
- 2 According to verse 6, what confidence should we have as Christians?**
- 3 In the midst of daily life, why is verse 6 sometimes hard to believe?**
- 4 What can we hold on to when we lack confidence in our salvation?**
- 5 What difference should this confidence make to our lives?**
- 6 What is the result of God's "good work in you" and when will it be complete? (see verses 6, 10, 11)**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Each week, THE WEEK AHEAD gives you a plan to help you read the Bible every day. The studies this week help to explain how we can be confident of our salvation.

### SUNDAY

- *Read the passage that will be preached at the church service you attend.*

**On the other six days...**

### DAY 1

- *Re-read Philippians 1:1–11 and think about the answers you gave to the questions in GROUP DISCUSSION 2 on the opposite page.*
- *Thank God that he will complete the “good work” that he began in you.*

### DAY 2

- *Read 1 John 1:5 – 2:1.*

John wrote this letter in around 90AD and it is probably a circular letter intended for a number of churches.

#### **1 What is “walking in the light”? (see verses 6 and 7)**

(Clue: Walking in the light apparently needs the purification of the blood of Jesus, so it can't mean “being perfect”. Remember the chief characteristic of light is to reveal things. Take a look at John 3:20–21.)

*continued* ➤➤

**2 So, what is “walking in the darkness”? (see verses 5 and 6)**

**3 Put verse 8 into your own words.**

**4 How can we be certain that confessing sin will result in our forgiveness? (see verse 9)**

**5 What is encouraging about the balance of chapter 2 verse 1?**

› *Spend a few minutes thanking God for the secure faith you have, which is based upon what Jesus has already done for you.*

## DAY 3

› *Read John 6:35–40.*

These verses are taken from a discussion the crowd are having with Jesus after the feeding of the 5,000. The crowd demand a miraculous sign like the one Moses gave when he fed the people of Israel with manna in the wilderness.

Jesus reminds them that it was his Father in heaven who fed the people. And in any case, says Jesus, the “true bread” is “he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

*continued* »

**1 What “life” does Jesus bring? (see verse 35)**

(Clue: Look at what John 3:16 says about the reason Jesus was sent.)

**2 Look at the promise in verse 37. How can you be sure that you are included in this promise?****3 God’s plan for us is clearly given in verses 39 and 40. What is God’s part in this plan?****4 What is our part?**

➤ *Use these verses to thank God for what he is doing in your life and to pray about the coming weeks at **Discipleship Explored**.*

**DAY 4**

➤ *Read Ephesians 2:8–10.*

Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus. These verses explain very clearly how we have been saved.

*continued* ➤➤

**1 According to verses 8 and 9, what is it that saves us?**

**2 What is it that Paul says has no power to save us?**

(Note: He mentions these because it is all too easy to rely on them rather than God.)

**3 Put verse 8 into your own words.**

**4 Verse 10 is packed with meaning. What are the three things we learn? All three are God-centred and God-initiated.**

➤ *Pray that God would enable you to rely solely on him.*

## DAY 5

➤ *Re-read the Bible passages you've read over the past week. Choose a verse that you found particularly helpful, write it down in the space below and memorize it.*

## DAY 6

➤ *Read Philippians 1:12–26 in preparation for **Discipleship Explored**.*