

# **A Faith to Live By**

An Independent Study of the  
Westminster Confession of Faith

How to use this study guide effectively each week:

1. **Pray** that the Holy Spirit would use the week's material to increase your knowledge of God and His Word. (see Psalm 119:1-8)
2. **Read the Confession of Faith** (WCF) sections listed. Read the proof texts too.
3. **Memorize the Scripture** verse(s) listed.  
(Sometimes they may not line up with the particular WCF sections, but they all build to give good memory references for the overall chapter.)
4. **Work through the discussion questions.**  
It is best to write down your answers.  
The questions may sometimes be difficult. Think, pray, ponder. Don't worry if you don't have answers to everything! We will discuss at our monthly meeting.  
Our main goal is thoughtfulness on the matters of God's Word, not getting everything right or clear the first time through.
5. **Come to the monthly discussion** prepared to interact with the material.

## August

### Week 1 (8/7)

- Read: WCF 9.1

- Memorize: Deuteronomy 30:19

*I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.*

- Study questions:

### Section 1

1. What has been your understanding of “free will” over your life? What have you been taught about it?
2. From where in Scripture do we understand that man has a free will?
3. What aspects of nature influence what we choose to do or not do?
4. Are our wills under our control?

*Note: The freedom of the will is limited according to the nature of man, as he exists in one of four possible states: innocency, sin, grace, and glory. Each of the remaining paragraphs in chapter 9 addresses one of these states.*

Week 2 (8/14)

- Read: WCF 9.2-3

- Memorize: Ecclesiastes 7:29

*See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.*

- Study questions:

Section 2

1. What state of man does this paragraph address?
2. When was man in this state of innocence? Who are the only people to ever live in the state of innocence?
3. What capability did man have in the state of innocence?
4. What does it mean that man was “mutable” in this state?
5. In his state of innocence, did man have free will?



Week 3 (8/21)

- Read: WCF 9.4-5

- Memorize: Colossians 1:13

*He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,*

- Study questions:

Section 4

1. What state of man does this paragraph address?

2. When and how is man brought into this state of grace? Who lives in the state of grace?

3. In the state of grace, from what has a man been freed? What is he now enabled to do?

4. In his state of grace, does man have free will?



Week 4 (8/28)

- No reading this week.
- Catch up or work ahead on reading.
- Review memorization.

**Monthly Discussion: Thursday, September 1 @ 7:00pm**