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.
- 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.

September

- Week 1 (9/10)
- Read: WCF 20.1
- Memorize: John 7:38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'
- Study questions:

Section 1

1. What has been your understanding of "Christian liberty" in your life so far?

2. How does this paragraph define Christian liberty? (What has Christ purchased for believers?)

3. What changed under the New Testament regarding our liberty?

Week 2 (9/17)

- Read: WCF 20.2
- Memorize: Acts 5:29
 - But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.
- Study questions:

Section 2

4. We are free—we have Christian liberty. What one thing binds our consciences?

5. What "doctrines and commandments of men... contrary to His Word" do you see in the Church or world today?

Week 3 (9/24)

- Read: WCF 20.3-4
- Memorize: Gal. 5:13

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

- Study questions:

Section 3

6. Are there any limits to Christian liberty? Why might someone answer "no"?

7. What are the limits to Christian liberty?

Section 4

8. What kind of tension exists between the powers God has ordained in society and the freedom we have in Christ?