

Table Talk: Held By God
FAITH Unfolded
(A Fresh Look At The Reformed Faith)

Intro: “Am I going to be OK?”

I. Held By God:

A. People express the notion of being “Held by God” in different ways:

1. “Once Saved Always Saved” “Perseverance of the Saints” “Perseverance of God” or Preservation of the Saints, “Eternal security.”

B. Ephesians 1:13-14 – You were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit

C. 1 Peter 1:3-5 We have an inheritance and God is guarding it for us.

D. John 10:24-30 - No one can snatch us out of our Father's hands

E. Romans 8:29-30 – Links in the chain of salvation.

F. Romans 8:35-39 – Nothing in heaven and on earth can separate us from God's love.

Application: Many think that they can lose their salvation or that salvation depends upon their faith and faithfulness. They're afraid that a lapse in their faith will cause them to fall out of God's hand. The Bible teaches that our eternal security does not depend upon our hanging on to God but on God holding on to us. Believer God is holding on to you. Salvation is completely God's work. You can rest secure in God's loving grip.

II. Questions:

1. Tell about your earliest memory of being held by the strong protective hands (or arms) of a loving adult. How did you feel?

2. The Bible teaches that believers are held by God. How does that truth make you feel? How does it affect your behavior?

3. The Bible also teaches that God's grip on believers is stronger than our Grip on God. Why and in what ways might this be a source of comfort for believers?

4. Can such assurance of salvation make a believer careless about Christian living? Why?

5. How might you combat any tendencies toward careless living?