

Why this Conference?

Christians continue to ponder the same questions that have unsettled believers since the early days of the church. Two of these questions concern *perseverance in holiness* and *assurance of salvation*. Each generation of believers must address questions that arise concerning both.

“Will all believers persevere in faithfulness to Jesus Christ? Is it possible for a Christian to have eternal life and subsequently perish forever? Can a believer be assured of final salvation before he or she dies? Is it not presumptuous to believe that a Christian can be assured of salvation? Is not belief in the necessity of perseverance in faithfulness to Christ simply a different form of believing in salvation by works? Do not the biblical warnings indicate that it is possible for believers to apostatize and be lost eternally? Is not the real issue at stake with all these biblical warnings simply a matter of rewards, not salvation? These and other questions swirl about discussions concerning perseverance and salvation.”

(from the introduction to *The Race Set Before Us: A Biblical Theology of Perseverance and Assurance*, by Thomas R. Schreiner and Ardel B. Caneday)

The Common Slaves Fellowship

We are Slaves: It is a great honor to be a slave of the Lord Jesus Christ. As Paul indicates, to be a slave of Jesus means our priority is to win the favor of God, not people. We are committed to living in the fear of God, not the fear of man. Jesus Christ is our Master; Him we will serve. *“...we are not proclaiming ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your slaves because of Jesus.” 2Cor 4:5 HCSB*

We are Common: Beyond being a reference to the fact that we are anything but towering titans of a commercialized Christianity but rather ordinary laborers in the sparsely populated segments of the harvest field, the word “common” refers to these three things:

... *Common Confession* Our common confession is rooted in the labors of those elder brothers who, found it necessary once again to craft a document that would carefully and succinctly define the doctrines of the Protestant faith, such as The Westminster Confession and the London Baptist Confession

... *Common Calling* We find a point of commonality in our Divine calling to serve Jesus’ bride as pastor/elders.

... *Common Field* The fields in which the Common Slaves minister are the rural towns of Central Minnesota.

Goals: It is the purpose of the Common Slaves to foster a brotherhood and network of mutual encouragement and edification among brothers who are united doctrinally, yet diverse denominationally. Furthermore, we wish to encourage and foster a sense of community and fellowship between the churches. We are privileged to serve by providing regular events at which multiple congregations may gather and worship together, with a focus on the ministry of preaching. It is our hope that the lifting up and strengthening of pastor and congregation, of shepherd and sheep, will strengthen the entire rural church in our corner of Minnesota so she may be more bold in her witness and striking in her resemblance of her Savior, for the good of the little communities in which we live, which so desperately need the gospel.

Sola SCRIPTURA
GRATIA
FIDE
CHRISTUS
DEO GLORIA
Common Slaves

COMMON SLAVES

Fall Conference 2020

Let Us Run with Perseverance and Assurance!



Friday, October 30, 2020

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Details

Location: Lifespring Church
30 Hallett Ave, Crosby, MN
(www.visitlifespring.com)

Date: Friday, October 30, 2020

Time: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Who: Everyone is invited to attend. Pastors, laymen, and young people will all benefit greatly.

Cost: None! (Free-will donations will be received at the door to offset the costs. Additionally, if you would like to help financially sponsor the conference, please visit www.visitlifespring.com for giving and contact info)

Do I still need to register?

Yes. Pre-registration is important for our planning.

Register online before October 20
www.eventbrite.com/e/let-us-run-with-perseverance-assurance-tickets-121431499885

Speakers: We intentionally invite seasoned pastors and ministers to speak at our conferences. These men have been around long enough to have preached and counseled from the Word both in season and out of season, and we find particular benefit in their wisdom and experience.

Our featured speaker this year is Dr. Ardel



Caneday, recently retired from a long teaching ministry at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul.

He will be teaching from themes published in his major work on the Doctrines of Perseverance and Assurance, *The Race Set Before Us: A Biblical Theology of Assurance and Perseverance* (co-authored with Tom Schreiner), now in its 20th year of publication.

We would encourage you to view this as an opportunity to intentionally invite young students, for we are convinced that all, young and old, will benefit from the teaching, worship and good fellowship among God's people.

Conference Schedule

8:30—Greetings, Welcome, and Singing

9:00—Session 1: Run to Lay Hold of Salvation

10:00—Break

10:30—Session 2 Run with Obedience.

11:30—Lunch

1:00—Session 3 Run with Assurance of Attaining the Goal

2:00—Break

2:30—Session 4 Run as One Chosen by God

4:15—Closing

We believe that we will all benefit, not only from the content presented, but also from the fellowship time together as brothers-and-sisters who share a common faith and master in northern rural Minnesota.

*Our bi-annual free book exchange will again be part of this conference. Please bring and be ready to leave with some Biblical/Theological titles, which are both sound and good.