

Methodist 101: What makes us Methodists?

Why does theology matter?

Where does our theology come from?

Doctrinal Standards

Calvinism

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Wesleyan Image of God

Moral Image

Political Image

Natural Image

Way of Salvation

Prevenient Grace

Justifying Grace

Sanctifying Grace

My Way of Salvation

Discussion or Reflection Questions

- John Wesley taught that God's grace goes before us, drawing us toward God before we ever know to seek it (prevenient grace). Looking back on your own life, where can you see God at work before you were aware of it?
- Calvinism emphasizes God's sovereignty in choosing whom to save, while Wesleyans emphasize that grace is freely offered to all and can be accepted or resisted. What difference does it make to how you pray, share your faith, or view other people if you believe everyone is genuinely invited?
- If we are free to respond to God, what does that say about our responsibility? How do you hold together "salvation is entirely a gift" with "I am invited to respond"?
- Wesley described the Christian life as a journey: prevenient grace, justifying grace, and sanctifying grace, moving toward Christian perfection (holiness of heart and life). Where do you feel you are on that journey right now, and what might the next step look like?
- Wesley believed Christians could grow in love over a lifetime rather than stay the same after conversion. What practices or relationships help you grow, and which have you neglected?

Questions I Am Holding