**lesson 22: CALVINISM vs. arminianism**

**Review:** You cannot lose your salvation once you are really saved. The grieving of the Holy Spirit with God’s discipline will prevent you from continuing in sin.

**NOTE:** This lesson is going to be less of a discussion and more of an informational lesson. There are a variety of beliefs about Calvinism and Arminianism. This lesson is not intended to cause arguments or tension in the group. Rather, this lesson is designed to give you the facts about what we as a church, believe based on Rev. Osborne’s understanding of what the Bible has to say about the subject.

**TULIP**

TULIP is an acronym often used to illustrate the five major points of Calvinism. Some Calvinists believe all five points while many others believe only a few of these points.

**T= Total Depravity** The idea is that you cannot come to Christ on your own. You do not have that ability. You are not smart enough or spiritual enough.

**U=Unconditional Election** When God elects and chooses you; it is not based on anything that you do but completely based on God’s choice. It is not because you are more or less of a sinner than someone else. It is simply based on God.

**L= Limited atonement** The blood of Jesus Christ does not apply to the entire world.

**I=** **Irresistible Grace** When God speaks, you cannot say “no.” You may hear some say that He cannot be sovereign if you have the ability to say no to Him.

**P=** **Preservation of the saints** This means that once you are saved, you are always going to be saved.

⏵ Which one of these points stick out to you?

**TOTAL DEPRAVITY/ UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION**

Definition: You cannot come to Christ on your own. When God elects and chooses you, it is not based on anything that you do, but completely based on God’s choice.

**Read Romans 1:19-20**

**⏵** What do these verses say about who has knowledge of God?

**Read John 6:44, John 16:8-11, 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5, and Hebrews 3:7**

**⏵** What do these verses say about what is needed for salvation?

**LIMITED ATONEMENT**

Definition: The blood of Jesus is only for the elect not the whole world.

**Read 1 John 2:2, John 3:16, and 2 Peter 3:9**

⏵ Who did Jesus die for according to these scriptures?

**IRRESISTABLE GRACE**

Definition: When God speaks, you cannot say no.

**Read John 1:11-12, Matthew 23:37, Matthew 26:20-25, Matthew 13:19, Matthew 22:14, and Romans 1:18-22**

⏵ What do these verses have to say about free will?

⏵ How does this reflect on the sovereignty of God?