

MODULE 2

Understanding Your Salvation:

In this chapter we will discuss:

- Salvation Defined
- The Steps to Salvation
- Staying in Relationship with Christ
- Prayers of Salvation



SALVATION DEFINED

Salvation is:

- A free gift of a Holy God to a sinful world
- It is obtained only by believing in the Son of God and receiving Him you're your heart.
- It is an act of faith. One cannot work his way into Christ, nor can a person buy salvation.
- It is a personal decision. No one else can save a person. It is a personal decision.
- Church membership is not salvation but should be a natural result of salvation.

What are we saved from?

- We are saved from sin and spiritual death through Jesus Christ. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23
- We are sinners from the time of our birth. For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. **Romans 3:23**
- We need salvation to have life everlasting. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him; should not perish but have everlasting life! **John 3:16**

The “gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth” (**Romans 1:16**).

- It is the “Good News” of Jesus paying the price for sin on the cross – and that is the power of God.
- For God to create, He breathed. He spoke it and it was done.
- To save mankind from sin and torment, He had to give his blood. *So then, as the one sin [by Adam] condemned all people, in the same way the one righteous act [by Jesus] sets all people free and gives them life. And just as all people were made sinners as the result of the disobedience of one man [by Adam], in the same way they will all be put right with God as the result of the obedience of the one man [Jesus Christ].* **Romans 5:18-19**

The reason we need salvation:

- Salvation changes the heart, the mind, and every part of a person. We become “new creatures (a new creation) in Christ Jesus.” **II Corinthians 5:17.**
- We need not worry about being good enough to be saved, because a person never reaches that degree of excellence. If one did, one would have no need of salvation. *This is a true saying, to be completely accepted and believed: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I am the worst of them all.* **I Tim. 1:15**

THERE ARE STEPS TO SALVATION

These are four basic steps to receiving salvation. They are: Believe, Turn, Look, and Trust.

1. **Believe**

Believe that God loves you and wants you to have an abundant life.

Scriptures to live by: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son so that everyone who believes in Him should perish, but shall have eternal life”

(John 3:16).

And Jesus said, “I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly”

(John 10:10b).

Since God desires that every believer should experience the abundant life, we must be ready to incorporate this first step into our hearts and minds.

2. **Turn**

The Bible also declares that we are to make a turn. Turn to God and turn away from our sin. “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life.” **(Romans 6:23).**

The Bible also states in II Chronicles 7:14, that “If my people, who are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” Turning represents a shifting and movement in your outlook and perspective, as well as making environmental changes in your patterns of behavior. There will be some things in your life that will change as you turn towards God. This could represent noticeable changes in friendships and relationships including even some family members.

3. **Look**

As our relationship with God deepens, we begin a new process of looking to Jesus Christ as the only provision for the forgiveness of our sins.

Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for sin in full. He died to bring us back into relationship with God which was broken because of our sin. In fact, the Bible says that God’s love is so amazing because “while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:18). Jesus says of Himself that “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, except by Me” **(John 14:6).**

In truth, God has provided the way – the only way – but mankind must make the decision to respond to that provision.

4. **Trust**

As believers, we are to put our complete trust in Jesus Christ. By faith receive Him as your personal Savior. The Bible states that “But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His name” **(John 1:12).**

If you openly admit “by your own mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord, and if you believe in your own heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is believing in the heart

that makes a man righteous before God, and it is stating his belief by his own mouth that confirms his salvation” **(Romans 10:9-10)**.

Right now you can have this complete new life in Jesus Christ by receiving Him as your Savior. Here is what you are to do:

- Believe that God loves you even though you have sinned (missed the mark.
- Turn from your sin.
- Look to Jesus Christ as the only provision for the forgiveness of your sin.
- Trust Him to come into your life and make it complete. “For if a person is in Christ they become a new person altogether – the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new (compete)” **(II Corinthians 5:17)**.

After having accepted the steps of the Plan of Salvation, it is important for you, a Disciple (follower) of Christ, to know how to stay in relationship with Him.

Leading Others to Christ

Leading unsaved persons to Christ is a unique opportunity for every born again Christian. Because of the spiritual change in our lives as a believer, family members, friends, loved ones, and even strangers may want to discover how to develop a relationship with Jesus.

STAYING IN RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

- **Worship Him.** Make it a practice to attend church on a regular basis and get involved with other believers you feel can help you grow. *“And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near”* **(Hebrews 10:25)**.
- **Develop a Prayer Life.** The essentials of a strong relationship means that there is good communication. Prayer is talking to God. Each believer should have a time each day for conversations with God – and remember, communication means listening as well as talking. When we pray, we are seeking and pursuing relationship with God. *“If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me”* **(Jer. 29:13)**.
- **Studying God’s Word.** The Word of God awakens and strengthens our faith. When we read God’s Word we gain spiritual access into His presence because we are getting to know Him better. *“Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls”* **(Matt. 11:29)**.

PRAYERS OF SALVATION

A prayer of salvation is not a complex issue but rather, a matter of the heart. Sincerity of heart should be central to the life of the believer. Prayers need not be long, nor must they be filled with lofty words to impress, but should come from one's heart, soul, and mind as Psalms 51:17, states that God will not despise "a broken and contrite heart." The Bible illustrates many prayers of humility and salvation. See Mark 9:24; Matthew 13:30; II Kings 6:17.

A prayer of salvation is as easy as this: Dear God, I recognize that I am a sinner. Forgive me of my sins and cleanse me from all of my unrighteousness. Please come into my heart and take control of my life. I receive your Son, Jesus Christ, into my heart as my personal Savior and Lord of my life. Thank you God. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

AFTER THOUGHTS ABOUT THE LESSON

Bibliography

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