

Session Four

(Teachers Edition)

Our Salvation

“For now we are all children of God through faith in Jesus Christ, and we who have been baptized into union with Christ are enveloped by Him. We are no longer Jews or Gentiles, or slaves or free men, or even merely men or women, but we are all the same — we are Christians; we are one in Jesus Christ.”

Galatians 3:26-28 (LB)

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

I. WHAT MAKES THE RESEDA CHURCH A FAMILY?

We are a family because of our _____.

“Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.” Jude 3

TAKE THIS PRE-LESSON SALVATION ASSESSEMENT

Salvation by Faith: I believed I was saved when ...

1. I prayed “the Sinner’s Prayer”
2. I was on “then mourner’s bench” praying for pardon
3. I repented of my sins and gave my heart to God
4. I accepted Jesus into my heart as my savior and Lord
5. I obeyed the gospel for remission of sins
6. I confessed Jesus as my Lord and Savior
7. I prayed and received the Holy Spirit
8. Other: Briefly explain _____.

Select one of the above as your Confirmation Number: _____.

Salvation and Baptism: How were you baptized...

1. As an infant only
2. After becoming saved
3. As an “outward sign of an inward grace”
4. As confirmation of my salvation
5. To be saved and added to the church
6. To join a church
7. I was sprinkled for baptism

Select one of the above as your Confirmation Number: _____.

What best describes your experience of baptism?

I was baptized to become a _____.

Which of these statements best describes your experience?

1. I was baptized and dedicated to the Lord at birth. I have been a Christian since then. Yes ___ No ___
2. I believe I was saved at the very moment that I believed and confessed Jesus as my Savior and Lord. I was later baptized for church membership and as evidence of my salvation. Yes ___ No ___
3. My salvation was more like a spiritual experience. It was something that happened to me while I was praying and seeking the Lord. I shared this experience with others and was later encouraged to be baptized. Yes ___ No ___
4. I was saved when I changed my lifestyle and joined the church. Yes ___ No ___
5. My salvation was similar to a birth process. When I heard and begin receiving the Word, my heart begin to change regarding my past faith and actions; At the moment of being baptized, I was born into the family of God and received forgiveness. Yes ___ No ___
6. None of the above represents my experience. I recognize that I need today to be saved and added to the family of God. Yes ___ No ___

My number is _____.

2. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF SALVATION?

Salvation is a **divine solution** to a _____ problem, which is the **problem of sin**.

"for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" Romans 3:23

WHY IS SIN A PROBLEM?

The most basic problem related to sin is _____. It affects ...

- Our relationship to God: It spiritually _____ us from God.
- Our relationship to Others: It socially _____ us religiously from

others. Eph. 2:11.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF SALVATION?

The saving purpose of salvation is the _____. Of all humanity, which includes two basic spiritual categories:

- Those afar from God: The ungodly, who must forsake their _____.
- Those near to God: The unrighteous, who must forsake their _____.

“Let the wicked (ungodly) forsake his ways, and the unrighteous forsake his thoughts and let them return to our God and He will abundantly pardon them.” Isaiah 55: 7-8.

HOW IS GOD’S PURPOSE OF RECONCILIATION ACCOMPLISHED?

We are reconciled to God through the _____, which removes two barriers of sin:

- The _____ that separate us from God, Col. 2: 14
- The _____ that segregate us from others, Eph. 2:15

WHAT IS SALVATION?

1. It is a possession. It is described as having...

- The gift of _____.
- An inner fountain of _____.
- The indwelling of the _____.
- The experience of an _____.

2. It is a _____. It is described as being In Christ, the location of all _____, which are

- Forgiveness of sins, Eph. 1:7
- Spiritual wisdom and prudence, Eph. 1:8
- Righteousness, peace and joy, Romans 14:17
- Reconciliation with God and Others, 2 Cor. 5:18
- The new creation, 2 Cor. 5:17

3. It is a _____ . It is called...

- The Church, Acts 2:47
- His body, Eph 1:22-23
- The Son's House, Heb. 3:6
- The doctrine of Christ, 2 Jn 1:9

THE TWO PRINCIPLES OF GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

Principle 1: We are saved by _____. Which means...

- Not by our good deeds
- Not by deeds of godliness/ righteousness

Principle 2: We receive salvation by _____, which is described as ...

- Faith that _____. Hebrews 5:8
- Faith that _____, James 2:24
- Faith that wills to do _____. John 7:17.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that was not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works lest anyone should boast." Eph 2:8-9.

Salvation simply explained

To be saved **by grace** means that God bestows upon you the blessing of being right with Him (called righteousness) without you having to achieve it.

To be saved through saving faith means that you are granted this state of being right with God on the basis of your _____ to this plan.

THE PROCESS OF OUR SALVATION

The process of how we receive salvation is called _____. It is described as the New Birth.

"He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit," Titus 3:5

The New Birth process involves...

- Hearing – The Spirit plants the Seed of the kingdom, which is the Word of God
- Believing – The Word is received in the heart
- Repentance – The Word results in a change of heart
- Confession – Faith acknowledges Christ as Lord, the Son of God
- Baptism – Faith produces a free will response to receive forgiveness of Sins.

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM?

It is for the _____.

- We are baptized into _____ and the benefits of His _____. Romans 6:3-4.
- It is how we _____ Christ's righteousness in exchange of our own. Gal. 3:26-27
- When we are baptized, we are _____ made free from sin. Romans 6:17.

Summary: What must you do to be saved? Five Steps...

1. _____ The good news of God's gift of grace
2. _____ The facts of the Good News
3. _____ of sin
4. _____ Faith in Christ as the Son of God
5. _____ For the remission of sins

WHY SHOULD WE BE OBEDIENT TO GOD'S PLAN?

1. It is what makes us a family
2. It is our testimonial of His common Salvation

Your Member Confirmation numbers should both be _____.

(Compare your selection on page 31)

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A MEMBER

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A MEMBER?

At the Reseda church we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do. These responsibilities are spelled out in our Membership Covenant.

THE MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

“Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior through being baptized into His Body, and being in agreement with the Reseda church statements, strategy and structure, I now confirm my commitment to be united with the membership of the Reseda church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

I. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH

- ...By acting in love toward other members**
- ...By refusing to gossip**
- ...By following the leaders**

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.”
Rom. 15:19 (Ph)

“Live in complete harmony with each other — each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.”
Rom 15:5 (LB)

“Have a sincere love for your fellow believers, love one another earnestly with all your hearts.”
1 Peter 1:22 (GN)

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of our mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs...” Eph. 4:29

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you.”
Heb. 13:17

II. I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH

- ...By praying for its growth**
- ...By inviting the unchurched to attend**
- ...By warmly welcoming those who visit**

“To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly.” 1 Thess. 1:2

“Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My House will be full.” Luke 14:23 (LB)

“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.” Rom. 15:7 (LB)

III. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH

- ...By discovering my gifts and talents**
- ...By being equipped to serve by my pastors**
- ...By developing a servant's heart**

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you..." 1 Peter 4:10 (Ph)

"God gave...some to be evangelists, pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up..." Eph. 4:11-12

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ...who took on the very nature of a servant..." Phil 2:3-4, 7

IV. I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH

- ...By attending faithfully**
- ...By living a godly life**
- ...By giving regularly**

"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...but let us encourage one another." Heb. 10:25

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ." Phil. 1:27 (Ph)

"Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering." 1 Cor. 16:2

"A tenth of all your produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." Lev. 27:30