

God's Salvation

The Problems We Face Today

The challenge many people face today is a sense of being disconnected from God, even though we may have a desire to know God and are actively seeking Him.

The puzzle of life cannot be completed until we come into a right relationship with the God of all creation. We can only do that when we come to Him His way.

Even though God has shown us the way to come to Him and has given us the opportunity to spend eternity with Him, we have somehow missed it.

- We may be seeking God but we are not sure what God expects of us or what He created us for.
- We cannot seem to find peace and contentment in our lives. Every time we get going in the right direction, we run into problems.
- We try to find self-worth in our job, our family, or our service to the community or the church, yet that is not where true self-worth lies.
- We may be frustrated, disappointed, discouraged, or guilt-ridden over our seeming inability to live the kind of life we think we should be living.
- We are still dominated by fear, doubt, worry, and stress, and would like to be free from them.

These life challenges are common among most people; you are by no means alone in such a struggle.

Lesson Truth

God created a way for man to come back to a right relationship with Him through His Son, Jesus Christ. Apart from receiving God's salvation through Jesus, we cannot have a personal relationship with God and we are at risk of being separated from Him forever.

Lesson Goal

The goal of this lesson is for you to personally receive God's salvation through Jesus Christ so you can receive forgiveness of your sins and God's gift of eternal life.

Lesson Discussion

How Sin Came into the World

The Bible tells us God created the first man and woman and named them Adam and Eve. He created a paradise for them, and they lived in harmony with Him and enjoyed a wonderful relationship with Him.



Genesis 2:15-17 ESV “The LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.””

God told Adam and Eve they could enjoy the fruit from any tree in the garden except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God warned them not to eat of the forbidden fruit or they would die.

One day Eve was in the garden and the serpent convinced her to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He caused her to doubt what God had told them. She chose to disobey God and ate of the fruit from the forbidden tree. Then she gave some to Adam and he ate the fruit also, knowing full well it was from the forbidden tree. Sin had now entered the world. Adam and Eve's rebellion against God brought the curse of death on their generation and all future generations.



Genesis 3:1-6 ESV "Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate."

Sin is simply rebellion against God. It happens when we turn away from God to go our own way. Rebellion against God separates us from God and leaves us at the mercy of our own wills.

When we sin against God, whether in outright rebellion or in ignorance, we end up outside of God's providence. We are not able to enjoy a loving relationship with the God of all creation and we miss out on the blessings that we would otherwise have.

The Consequences of Sin

The consequence of sin is prevalent in the world. Just pick up any newspaper and you will see the result of sin.

It does not matter how moral, upright, honest, or spiritual we are. Everyone has sinned at one time or another. Sin came through Adam and Eve and enslaved mankind so that we are now dominated by the power of sin.

Sin has separated us from God. Unless something is done about our sin, we will be separated from God for all eternity.



Romans 3:22-23 ESV "...the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."

Each of us is living in rebellion to God because we have sinned. We continue to go our own way and therefore we cannot fulfill God's desire and purpose for our lives. We are self-sufficient and most of the time we feel we have no need for God in our lives.



Ephesians 2:1-3 ESV "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind."

Sin brings death. Not only physical death, but also spiritual death— separation from God forever. We are "dead in our transgressions and sins."



Romans 6:23 ESV “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

God does not want us to continue in this condition of separation from Him. God wants us to have spiritual life by being restored to a right relationship with Him.

The problem, however, is that something must be done about our sin before we can come back to a right relationship with God. We have a judgment against us and payment is required to make things right between God and man.

God Provides a Solution

Whenever anyone commits a crime or breaks the law, a debt is owed or a sentence must be served. It doesn't matter who pays the debt—the guilty party or someone else—but it must be paid.

It is the same way with sin. Either we must pay the debt for our sin or someone else must pay. The payment God decreed for sin is death, not just physical death since that comes to all men, but spiritual death, separation from God forever.

Because the Bible teaches that God is a God of love, many people have difficulty believing God would condemn anyone.



1 John 4:8 ESV “Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

1 John 4:16 ESV “...So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”

The Bible also teaches us God is just and He cannot overlook or waive away our sin.



Psalm 11:7 ESV “For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.”

Psalm 36:6 ESV “Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.”

Psalm 45:6 ESV “Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness..”

So here is the situation. God loves us and wants to forgive us and give us spiritual life, but His perfect justice has decreed that sin must be paid with the life of the sinner.

If our judicial system had a particular judge who gave out sentences according to his liking as opposed to what the law demanded, he would not be a judge for very long. God is perfectly just and therefore the consequences of sin must be paid.

God has provided a way out of this dilemma so we can be restored to Him and saved from this condition of spiritual death. Apart from God's provision for salvation we have no hope.

God's solution to this dilemma is Jesus Christ.

God Sends His Son



John 3:16-18 ESV “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

God's solution to man's sin problem was to send a Savior. God sent His only Son into the world to give His life to pay the debt for our sins.

It is amazing enough that a man will give his life for another good man, but God, in the form of Jesus Christ, came and gave His life for a world full of rebellious sinners.



Romans 5:8 ESV “..but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Through this one amazing act we can begin to truly understand the depth of God's love for us. He sacrificed the life of His only Son so we can come back into a right relationship with Him.

Jesus Christ is referred to as the second Adam. Spiritual death came to all men through Adam's rebellion and disobedience to God's will. Through Jesus Christ, spiritual life has come to all men through His obedience and His death on the cross.



Romans 5:17 ESV “For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.”

A life was required in payment for sin and God provided the sacrifice—His only Son, Jesus Christ.

Who Is This Jesus?

Not much is known about the early life of Jesus. When He began His ministry around the age of thirty, he did many good deeds and taught many truths about the kingdom of God.

It was foretold in the Scriptures that God would send a Savior into the world to save His people from their sins. The Bible says the Savior would be born of a virgin.



Matthew 1:21-23 ESV ““She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name “Immanuel.””

In the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John we read about the life of Jesus Christ and His ministry. He healed the sick, cast out demons, raised the dead, and preached the good news to the poor.

Yet the reason Jesus came to the earth was for the specific purpose of giving His life as a ransom for the world.



Matthew 20:28 ESV “... even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus left His place in heaven and willingly went to a cross to give His life for us.



1 Peter 1:18,19 ESV “...knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.”

Through His death, Jesus has provided us the opportunity to escape the empty life that we experience apart from God and to enter a new kind of life free from the power of sin and full of joy and peace.



Ephesians 2:13 ESV “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”

Jesus Christ is the door through which we enter in and live this new life. Through faith in Jesus Christ we can be restored to a right relationship with God and receive eternal life.

You Must Be Born Again

God’s salvation is not just an intellectual experience between the sinner and God. It is a supernatural experience where God puts something in us that marks us as His forever—the Holy Spirit.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus had a discussion with Nicodemus, one of the religious rulers of His time. Jesus told Nicodemus that unless he is “born again” he cannot enter the kingdom of God.



John 3:3-8 ESV “Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

When we are born again by the Spirit of God, we are no longer the same. Something comes into us and we are changed forever. When we believe in Jesus Christ by accepting Him as Savior and Lord and then receive the Holy Spirit, we become born again of the Spirit.

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

God has provided a tremendous gift for all mankind through Jesus Christ. He has given us the gift of eternal life and forgiveness of sins.

Salvation is not something that is automatically conferred on men. We can only be saved by turning to God and receiving His free gift of salvation.

We are saved through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation is not something we can earn by trying to live a good moral life. It is a gift that must be received. A gift does not belong to someone until they take possession of it.



Romans 6:23 ESV “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

A gift cannot be earned or deserved. It is something that is given freely, without any strings attached. If an obligation is attached to it, it is not a gift.

The gift of salvation is solely by God’s grace alone. The only condition we must meet is that we must come to Him to receive the gift. We come to Him on His terms.



Ephesians 2:4-5 ESV “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—”

If we are not willing to receive His free gift, we cannot be saved. God is patient, but He only gives us an undetermined amount of time to accept His salvation before it is too late.



John 3:18 ESV “Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

Acts 4:12 ESV “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

We are saved by grace. Grace is something that is conferred on us by God because of His love and His mercy. Grace is not something that we can earn or deserve. It is unmerited favor.



Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Anyone can choose to be saved through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. To be saved we must clearly understand what it means to repent and have faith in Jesus Christ.



Romans 10:13 ESV “...For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

Repentance

Repentance was used in the Bible to refer to a change of course in a person’s life. It means to turn completely around and go in a different direction.



Romans 2:4 ESV “Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?”

Mark 1:15 ESV “...and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.””

For repentance to take place, we must first sense our need to repent. We must realize that we have willfully sinned and gone our own way and have ignored God’s purpose for our lives.



Acts 2:38 ESV “And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.””

Repentance means we are sorry for living our life contrary to God, even if we sinned in ignorance. We must repent of our sin and choose to begin living our life God’s way.



Acts 3:19-20 ESV “Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus.”

Acts 17:30 ESV “The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,”

If we think we have nothing to repent from, we need to ask God to show us our need to repent. Everyone must repent because all have sinned.

Through repentance you receive forgiveness of your sins, every one of them. God clears your account and now your state before God is as if you never sinned. You are now free from your sins and sin no longer has power over your life.

This means you now have the power to choose not to sin. Apart from repentance and receiving forgiveness for your sins, there is no salvation and we will die in our sins.

Faith

In addition to repentance, we must believe the good news of what Jesus has done to save us. We must put our faith in Jesus Christ and His work on the cross.



Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

We are saved by God’s grace through faith. We can never be good enough to earn God’s salvation. We put our faith in what Jesus has done for us to save us.

Faith means we choose to trust Him for our salvation and our lives now belong to Him. He purchased us back by paying the debt for our sin.



Romans 3:22-24 ESV “...the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

It does not matter how bad your life is. It does not matter what your current situation is or what you have done. If you repent and ask for forgiveness and put your faith in Jesus Christ, you will be saved and receive forgiveness of your sins.

If for some reason you believe you cannot be saved, you’re wrong. We must believe what God says. It is by faith in what God has said and what God has done that saves us.



Romans 1:16-17 ESV “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the

Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

When you choose to put your faith in Jesus Christ, you make a decision to stop trusting in your own goodness and trust in Jesus alone for your salvation.



Romans 5:1-2 ESV “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

Rejecting God’s Salvation

If, after hearing the message of salvation, you are not willing to receive His salvation, you will be eternally lost. Jesus Christ is the only way to God.



Acts 4:12 ESV “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

You are at great risk eternally if you do not choose to be saved right now. Don’t wait for a better or more convenient time. You should not try to get things in your life right first. You do not know what tomorrow might bring, and if you wait you may die in your sins. After you are saved Jesus will give you the power to get things right in your life.



2 Corinthians 6:2 ESV “For he says, ‘In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.’ Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

Also, you cannot receive God's gift of salvation with the intent to continue living in rebellion and sin.



John 3:18-20 ESV "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed."

Rejecting Jesus Christ is rejecting God's salvation and receiving His judgment and wrath instead. The consequence is separation from God for all eternity.

He Saves Us for Himself

When God saves us, He does so in order to provide a way for us to have a loving relationship with Him. When we turn to God we become His sons and daughters and He takes care of us as His own children. We find peace, joy, meaning, purpose, and contentment through faith in Jesus Christ.

When we repent and turn to God through faith in Jesus Christ, He gives us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the divine nature of God that is given to us when we are born again. We become new creatures because we now have His nature in us.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to live a life of righteousness and holiness as we submit and surrender in obedience to Him. The Holy Spirit is the evidence that we now belong to God. We will discuss the purpose of the Holy Spirit in the next lesson.



1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ESV "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from

God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

As we enter a right relationship with God and as we maintain a right relationship with Him, He empowers us to get all things in our life right. This process of getting things right is called sanctification. It takes time because we have to work out all the wrong thinking, beliefs and attitudes that are there.

How to Be Saved

We must truly believe we are sinners and that we need God's salvation.

We must believe we are dead in our sins and Jesus' death on the cross is the only way we can be free from the power of sin and receive forgiveness of our sins.

We must repent and receive Jesus as our Savior and Lord. He is Savior because he paid the sin debt on our behalf and opened the door to eternal life for us. He is Lord because we yield control of our lives to Him. We choose to live our lives according to His Word, His will, and His plan for us.

The next section is the action step where you will have the opportunity to be saved.



One Step for Living This Truth

The goal of this lesson is for you to be saved through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ as you choose to receive Him as Savior and Lord.

ACTION STEP

First you must make sure you understand the good news of God's

salvation for man. Spend twenty minutes each day reviewing this lesson until you are sure you understand what you need to do to be saved and what it will mean if you refuse His salvation.

When you understand God's plan of salvation and truly desire to repent and be saved and if you accept the truth that you have sinned and that you need to be saved, you are ready to be saved.

If you do not believe that you have sinned or are not willing to repent and turn to God, continue to seek God until you realize your need for His salvation and forgiveness and ask Him to grant you repentance.

You must believe that you have sinned and need God's salvation and are willing to repent so you can receive forgiveness for your sins. Then you can pray to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord.

If you are not sure what it means to repent and put your faith in Jesus Christ, go back and review those topics until you are sure. Then you are ready to be saved.

Next, pray the following prayer and simply believe that God will answer it immediately. Then as you submit your life to Him, He will direct your every step. Just pray this simple prayer sincerely with all your heart:

Lord, I know I have sinned and because of my sin I am under the

penalty of eternal separation from You. I believe with all my heart that You loved me enough to send Your Son to die on the cross for me and pay the debt for my sin, so that I can be yours and receive the gift of eternal life.

Right now I receive Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord and put my faith and trust in Him. I repent of all my sin. My heart's desire is to begin living for You so I can fulfill Your will and purpose for my life.

I receive your forgiveness of all my sins right now. I commit to live for you and follow you from this moment on. I desire you Holy Spirit to come into me to be my life guide into this new life. I thank You for saving me and I allow you now to be Lord over all of my life forever. Amen.

If you sincerely prayed the above prayer with all your heart, you are saved. Welcome to God's family! You are now a new creation in God's eyes and He sees you as completely forgiven.

After praying, you may not feel any different. Some people sense relief. Some experience peace or joy. No matter what you experience or do not experience, you are saved.

Just believe the fact that you are saved and do not think about it anymore other than just being thankful. It is a done deal. There are more important things to begin thinking about as you learn to walk in obedience to God in newness of life. Just start enjoying your new relationship with Him.

You might find it helpful to submit your life to Him before you start each day. Ask God to show you how to live for Him. Take time throughout your day to pray and listen to Him. If you fail Him in some way, just ask Him to forgive you and go on living for Him.

Now that you are saved you belong to God. He takes full responsibility for caring for you. The Holy Spirit will teach you how to live and walk by faith and how to overcome every problem you encounter.

Continue to read one chapter in the Gospels every day. This will help you learn the teachings of your Master as grow in your faith. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of Jesus.



Romans 10:17 ESV “So then faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

Bumper Sticker Summary

We must be saved through repentance of our sins and putting our faith in Jesus Christ. Apart from this we cannot receive forgiveness of sins, eternal life nor can we receive the Holy Spirit.



Illustrations for Living the Truth

Julie worked in a hospital where she was constantly confronted with sickness and often death. Even though she enjoyed helping people by making them comfortable and easing their pain, deep inside she did not understand why there was so much suffering and pain.

She believed in God, but she did not really know God. At times she would think about God, but often she felt she was not worthy to be noticed by Him. After all, she was no saint, and her life, though not evil, was not something that would

be pleasing to God. She was living with a man she wasn't married to. On Friday nights she enjoyed the typical party scene and would often get drunk. She had a quick temper and would become verbally abusive when angry. She knew these things were not pleasing to God, but she also knew many others did the same things, which relieved her conscience to a degree.

One day while she was making her rounds in the hospital, she was talking to one of her patients. She noticed something different about this woman. The lady had terminal cancer and the doctors had given her less than six months to live. Yet she had such peace and joy all the time. She encouraged the other patients and thought nothing of her own condition. When Julie asked her how she could have so much peace and joy when she knew she was going to die, the lady told her about Jesus Christ. Julie prayed to receive Jesus as her Savior and Lord.

From that moment on something changed in Julie's life and she desired to live a life pleasing to God. She quit living with the man she had been living with and found other more rewarding activities to do on Friday nights. She began to experience the joy and peace in her life that comes from a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. She found new meaning and purpose in her job at the hospital, and she was thankful that she was in a job where God could use her to touch the lives of others.



Scripture on Salvation

Rom 10:9-13 ESV “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Ephesians 1:7-8 ESV “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.”

Ephesians 1:13-14 ESV “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it,^[b] to the praise of his glory.”

Ephesians 2:4-5 ESV “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.”

Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Romans 6:22-23 ESV “But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Galatians 1:3-5 ESV “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”

John 3:3, 5-7 ESV “Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”

Revelations 3:20 ESV “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”

John 1:12,13 ESV “But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”

John 3:17-18 ESV “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

John 14:6 ESV “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

Acts 2:38-39 ESV “And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

Romans 5:10-11 ESV “For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”

Romans 8:1-2 ESV “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.”

Mark 16:15-16 ESV “And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

Titus 3:3-7 ESV “For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved

us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

2 Corinthians ESV 5:18-21 “All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling¹ the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”