**FINDING FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD… TOGETHER!**

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**P.O. Box 943, Superior MT 59872**

**Gathering at 502 Pike Street**

**TITLE:    Biblical Life Words: Living by God’s Word – “SPIRITUAL SALVATION”**

**TEXT:     JOHN 3:1-7**

**DATE:     07 May 2023**

Our Biblical Life Words: Living by God’s Word for today is the phrase, **SPIRITUAL SALVATION**. Today, we begin a “A Series Within a Series!” Yes, within our ongoing **Biblical Life Words: Living by God’s Word**series, we’ll also walk through a *discipleship series* from the booklet ***“Deepening Your Spiritual Roots.”*** We’ll continue to talk about Jesus from the Bible!

In Tommy Higle’s preface of his “*Deepening Your Spiritual Roots*,” booklet, we are reminded that like our salvation, our spiritual maturity will also require a walk of faith as declared in ***Galatians 2:20:
20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me***. As we continue to study God’s Word through this outline from “*Deepening Your Spiritual Roots*,” we’ll see the personalized-biblical foundation as stated in ***Colossians. 2:6-7:  6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: 7Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.***

Now, let’s pray and move on together.

**I.               LOOK**

[***Exodus 14:13***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus%2014%3A13&version=KJV)***: And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever.***

[***Exodus 15:2***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus%2014%3A13&version=KJV)***: The Lord is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation: He is my God,***

[***1 Samuel 2:1***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Samuel%202%3A1&version=KJV)***: And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in theLord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.***

[***2 Samuel 22:47***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV)***: The Lord liveth; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.***

[***1***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV)***Chronicles 16:23: Sing unto the Lord, all the earth; shew forth from day to day His salvation.***

[Psalm](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 3:8: Salvation belongeth unto the Lord: Thy blessing is upon Thy people. Selah.

[Psalm](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 18:2: The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

[Psalm](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 40:16: Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: let such as love Thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified.

[Psalm](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 98:2: The Lord hath made known His salvation: His righteousness hath He openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

[Isaiah](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 52:7: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

[Zechariah](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 9:9: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

K: [Acts](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 4:12: Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

[Romans](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 1:16: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

[Romans](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 10:10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

[2 Corinthians](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 6:2: (For He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

[2 Timothy](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 3:15: And that from a child thou hast knwn the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

[Titus](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 2:11: For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

[Hebrews](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%2022%3A47&version=KJV) 2:2: 3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him;

**II.            LEARN:**

**Learning Note No. 1: SELECT**

Selected Passage for the phrase: ***SPIRITUAL SALVATION:***

***John 3:1-7***
***1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto Him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that Thou doest, except God be with Him. 3Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4Nicodemus saith unto him, how can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.***

**Learning Note No. 2: STUDY**

**Study Point #1:**“**God Loves You and Wants You to Have Eternal Life!”** Salvation does not begin with a church, a preacher, or even your list of “good deeds.” Salvation’s sole source is Jesus!

In His continuing conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus states in ***John 3:14-17: 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: 15That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.***

*Expositor’s Commentary*: *Salvation is a gift received only by believing God for it. The nature of belief is implied in the illustration of Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness (*[*v.14*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%203:14)*). It consists of accepting something, not doing something. The result of belief is that one is freed from condemnation, receives eternal life, and lives in a relation of total honesty with God.*

*Matthew Henry: The Jews vainly concluded that the Messiah should be sent only in love to their nation, and to advance them upon the ruins of their neighbours; but Christ tells them that He came love to the whole world, Gentiles as well as Jews, (*[***1 John 2:2***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1John.2.2)***).****Though many of the world of mankind perish, yet God’s giving His only begotten Son was an instance of His love to the whole world, because through Him there is a general offer of life and salvation made to all. (****2 Peter 3:9****)*

God’s free gift of eternal life is being offered to you! Salvation is freely offered to the entire world and that world includes you! The gift tag has your name on it; replace the world in verse 16 with your name.

**Study Point #2: “God is holy, and no sin can come into His presence!”** The Bible speaks of His righteousness throughout its’ pages. ***Psalm 97:2:Clouds and thick darkness surround Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.***And again in***Psalm 145:17: The Lord is righteous in all His ways and faithful in all He does.***

If God is righteous and loves you, why are you separated from Him and stand guilty before Him, as the following scriptures reveal? Your Spiritual Salvation must begin with the understanding that you are spiritually separated from God and why according to the Scriptures.

***Isaiah 59:2: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.***

***Romans 3:23: For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.****(“Missing the Mark”)*

The penalty for your sinful condition is death. *Higle: The word death means “spiritual death,” or literal “separation.” When you die physically, your soul is separated from your body. When you die spiritually, your soul is separated from God and all the good things He intended for you for all eternity.”*

Following their choice to sin, Adam and Eve were no longer spiritually connected to God; their spiritual internet lost its’ signal. And there is no way for you or anyone to reconnect or restore that signal in or with your own power, but there is One and only One who can restore that connection; Jesus!

**Study Point #3:** From Lesson One: “Only In Jesus Christ can Forgiveness and Salvation Be Yours!” Try as you might, nothing that man has ever done or could ever do can bridge the spiritual gap that separates God from mankind.

How did God bridge that gap between Himself and man and how did God prove His love for man, even though man was and still is a sinner in rebellion against Him? The answer is given in ***Romans 5:8: But God commendeth revealed/expressed) His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.***

So, why is it important that you trust in Jesus Christ-alone, for your spiritual salvation? John the Baptist said of Jesus as He came for baptism: ***“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” (John 1:29b)***

Jesus, Himself, answered this extremely important question Himself in John 14:6 when He said: “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. Jesus does not just show the way to the Father, He is the way to the Father!

I’ve heard people respond to the “Jesus” question for years, they would say, “Oh yes, preacher, I believe in Jesus!” Our lesson reminds us that just believing these things about Jesus is not enough; a truth born out in James 2:19:  Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. KJV: Adherence to a creed is not true faith. Even the demons know and accept the truth of the creed, but they do not possess saving faith. If one does nothing to enact his knowledge of God, he is worse than the demons, for they at least tremble.

**Study Point #4:** The final point from Lesson One: “You Must Personally Accept Jesus Christ as Your Saviour and Lord.” A picture of this decision is provided in ***Revelation 3:20 where Jesus said: Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.*** His invitation has not changed. He is knocking at your heart’s door.

*Higle: “Of course, the door Jesus was talking about is the door of your heart. Receiving Jesus Christ means asking Him to come into your life to help you become the person God wants you to be. It is not enough to agree that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and He died on the cross for your sins. You must decide to receive Jesus Christ into your life as Saviour and Lord.”****John 1:12 clearly states: 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.***

If you have not personally accepted God’s free gift of salvation, you can pray now asking God to forgive you of your sins and inviting Jesus into your heart and life. By the way, no magical words needed, just pray, using your own words, after all praying is literally talking to God.

**Learning Note No. 3: SUMMARIZE**

**Summary Statement No.1**: Jesus told Nicodemus that even with all his religious credentials that he had to be born again to enter the Kingdom of God; His message to you is the same; religious or not, ***You Must Be Born Again***!

**Summary Statement No. 2**: Receiving Salvation is not a trophy to be won, a prize to be bought, or a good deed to be accomplished. ***Eph. 2:8 says: 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:***

**Summary Statement No.3**: Of all the issues in your life, there is no greater issue -- The issue of how you live your life and where you will spend eternity depends solely on what you decide about God’s offer of ***spiritual salvation in Jesus***.

**III.         LIVE**

**Action Step 1**: Receive God’s free gift of Spiritual Salvation!

**Action Step 2**: Rejoice in God’s free gift of Spiritual Salvation!

**Action Step 3**: Reach Out to others with God’s message of Spiritual Salvation!

**CONCLUSION**

*What is your final destination?*

**INVITATION**

***Romans 10:13***

***For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.***

If you call, He will keep His promise and you will receive Spiritual Salvation!