

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

We can ask no more important question than “What must I do to be saved?” Each of us will one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, and we are responsible for obeying the Lord. Salvation has two parts: God’s part and man’s part. God, because of His great love for mankind, has done His part in sending Christ to die for the sins of men. “God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Paul calls this grace the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8). We cannot save ourselves and must rely on God through faith. “Through faith” means that man must also do his part, because no one benefits from a gift until he receives it. To find what man’s part in the plan of salvation involves, one must go to the right place. The book of Acts explains God’s plan of salvation through nine specific accounts of conversion:

- ✚ The Jews at Pentecost, chapter 2;
- ✚ The Samaritans, chapter 8;
- ✚ The Ethiopian eunuch, chapter 8;
- ✚ Saul of Tarsus, chapters 9 and 22;
- ✚ Cornelius, chapter 10; Lydia, chapter 16;
- ✚ The Philippian jailer, chapter 16;
- ✚ The Corinthians, chapter 18;
- ✚ The Ephesians, chapter 19.

In each example, certain common actions, or steps of obedience, were taken by those who became Christians. Upon hearing the gospel message, each believed in Jesus as the Son of God.

Though the text does not explicitly mention belief each time, it is implied. The Jews at Pentecost, having heard the message, “were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’” (Acts 2:37). Their question “What shall we do?” showed that they believed, but they realized that they needed to do more than have simple belief to obtain salvation. James wrote, “You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only” (James 2:24).

Following their confession of faith in Christ, Peter told the Jews at Pentecost, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). Thus we understand that repentance must accompany faith in Christ. One must also confess faith in Christ, as the Ethiopian did (Acts 8:37), because Christ will not confess us unless we are willing to confess Him. “Whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men,

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Don Luna will have a stress test Thursday. After wearing the heart monitor, his cardiologist said his heart is functioning at 30 percent.
- ◆ Cadyn Deakins will have PAO surgery—hip restructure on Mar. 17 in Little Rock; Tead Deakins will have knee surgery on March 23.
- ◆ Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Vance Hamblen. His service was Thursday.
- ◆ Rene Blackburn is home after neck surgery, but she’s in pain.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Larry Butler, Dale Strong, Aleta Collins, Ruth Strain, Bob Robbins, Coe Hamm.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Jamie Crisp, Ricky Langston, Lisa Langston, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry’s sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg’s sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth, Dan Hardy.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hamblen, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman at Brook Haven.
- ◆ Homebound: Vernon James, Steve Siebels, Mary Piepergerdes.



Faith doesn't always take you out of the problem, Faith takes you through the problem. Faith doesn't always take away the pain, Faith gives you the ability to handle the pain. Faith doesn't always take you out of the storm, Faith calms you in the midst of the storm.

him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 10:32–33). Baptism is the only step toward salvation explicitly mentioned in every conversion. Each account shows that baptism is necessary for obedience to Christ. Hearing the gospel message, believing in Christ, repenting of past sins, confessing Christ, and being baptized into Christ makes one a Christian, and brings salvation. Then one must serve the Lord faithfully (Revelation 2:10).

—Bob Prichard

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
3-6	Melinda Abraham	3-8	Doyle and Peggy Johnson (40)
3-6	Tinker Langston	3-31	Dana and Marsha Crisp
3-11	Lauren Hillhouse	Birthdays	
3-18	Karen Langston	3-22	Renee Hambelton
3-18	D. E. Pleasant		

Barbara and Lana will be serving roast beef, potatoes, gravy, carrots, and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship supper before classes. Please join us.

Date	Event	Details
March 6-8, see flyer for details	Seminar at Thayer Church of Christ	"The Truth about Origins" Brad Harrub, Ph.D.
Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.	Ladies' Prayer Brunch	Theodosia Methodist
Sunday, March 22	Basket dinner and baby shower for Alyssa. She's having a girl.	Lunch followed by a baby shower for Alyssa and Andrew Eller—see Melinda.
Sat. March 21, 10 a.m.	Ladies' Prayer Brunch	Theodosia Methodist
Saturday, April 4	Easter Egg Hunt	Details will follow
Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m.	Ladies' Prayer Brunch	We are hosting
Saturday, June 13, 9-2	Vacation Bible School	Take a trip to Rainforest Falls

March Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

3-8 Mark Lane
3-15 David Stevens
3-22 Don Luna
3-29 John Abraham

Communion & Closing Prayer

Halbert Smith
Tinker Langston
Paul Wade
D. E. Pleasant

Song Leader: Titus Smith
Greeters: Dana and Marsha Crisp

The Family News

March 8, 2026

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Expressions of Faith***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#564, *I Must Tell Jesus*; #692, *Change My Heart, Oh God*

#382, *Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?* Communion Service

#453, *Love Lifted Me*

Sermon and Invitation

#619, *A New Creature*

#610, *I Love My Savior, Too*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us