



Plan of Salvation

Part III: Writing the Plan of Salvation

Now that you have completed Part II, you are ready to move on Part III: Writing the Plan of Salvation. The Plan of Salvation is designed to be a journey of growing closer to God and understanding Scripture and your faith at a deeper level. You should spend time in God's Word and in prayer, asking Him to help you answer each question as you go along. Search the Scriptures to find the best answer to fit your response to each question.

Each question below will help you reflect on what you know about God, the Bible, and the need for salvation. All the answers are found in scripture. If you need help, there are a number of resources at your disposal.

Bible Concordance: A concordance is a very useful tool for studying the Bible. It contains word lists formatted in alphabetical order. Each word is followed by a series of verses where that word can be found in scripture. Concordances are great for topical studies or to locate a scripture verse according to words when the chapter and verse can't be recalled. For example, if you are looking for scripture on "forgiveness," you can look this up in the concordance and find a list of all references to that word in the bible. This can help jog your memory for a specific verse you are thinking of. Some bibles contain a condensed concordance in the back.

Cross Reference: Most bibles contain cross references. They are usually found in the center column or at the bottom underneath the text paragraphs. As you look at a passage, you may notice little superscript number and letters after words. These may indicate a cross reference. If you check the corresponding note, you will see other verses that relate to the text. Taking the time to look up these cross references can greatly increase your understanding of the Word. The trail can help you understand what else what happening at the time, what others authors say about similar topics, or share others' point of view on the events described. We call this "letting Scripture interpret Scripture."

Study Bibles: Some bibles contain commentary and notes from the organization the published that particular version. These may be found in little boxes set apart from the scriptural text, notes at the bottom of the page, introductions to each chapter, and tables, charts, and maps. These are not actual scripture but simply study tools to help you understand what the Word is saying They can help you understand debated issues or matters, give point of reference, provide opinions, history, definitions, possible interpretations, etc in addition to the text. Use them to help you understand what is being said.

Versions: The King James Version (KJV) is the first version of Scripture authorized by the Protestant church and commission by England's King James 1 in 1611. Since then there have been many other versions of the bible translated, in an attempt to reach more people. The two most common translations include the NKJV and NIV.

The New King James Version (NKJV) is a modern language update of the original KJV; it retains much of the traditional interpretation and sentence structure of the original in a word-for-word translation. It is the KJV with the removal of "thou," "thee," and "thy."

The New International Version (NIV) offers a balance between word-for-word translation and thought-for-thought interpretation and is considered a smoother reading version of the Bible in modern language.

There is much that can be learned from reading the same scripture through different versions, and reading the commentary that accompanies each version, and we recommend that you do so. Other popular versions include Revised American Standard, English Standard Version, and New Living Translation. Each style can help you understand what is being said, but always look closely at the

translation to be sure it is sticking to the original text. The Message Bible, for example, is simply a paraphrase of Biblical thought derived from Biblical text. When citing references for your Plan of Salvation, you will need to use the NKJV or NIV Bible reference.

Pre Study Handouts: In preparing your Plan of Salvation, consult the handouts you have been given from Part I and Part II. Most of the questions on the Plan of Salvation are covered in those handouts directly. Those which aren't should be easy to research based on the starting off points we have provided through the topics presented.

Other Resources: You may also want to talk to your pastor, parents, and Hope Harbor staff for clarity or questions. You can draw on past teachings you have received through church, chapel, bible study, etc. Most importantly, draw on what you know about the Lord through your personal relationship with Him and from His Word. Your answers need not be complicated. Just consider, who is God to me? What roles does God fill in your life specifically? Then find scripture that shows that character of Him for reference.

You will need to find your own response and own scripture for each answer. Most will be personal (Who is God? Who is Jesus? How is the Holy Spirit? Who is Satan?). Some have a specific answer, but there may be a few different scriptures to answer with (How long as Jesus been alive? What happens when the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in your spirit and why? What is sin?). Your answers should reflect how you came to know these things to be true in your own life.

We expect this to be completed with excellence. It must be typed and of good presentation. Font style, size, and color should be standard. Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation are expected on the completed paper. All scripture references are to be typed out completely. Turn in your first draft to House Staff upon completion. We will edit and give you feedback. After any necessary changes are made, a final copy will be turned in to Program Coordinator, and you will schedule a time to present your Plan of Salvation to staff.

The Plan of Salvation is not about just completing a task, or gaining head knowledge, but it is your own personal documentation of the change in your heart through the process of knowing God more fully. Staff will help you go deeper in this process by asking you challenging questions, having you search the scriptures yourself for answers, and challenging you to go before the Lord yourself for revelation and reflection. Some questions may not have a "right" or "wrong" answer, and you'll need to ask the Holy Spirit to guide you through the process. In the end, you will have your own resource to remind you of why you believe, and you will be able to use this as directed in 1 Peter 3:15 to, "Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you."



The Plan of Salvation

“Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you.” *1 Peter 3:15*

1. Who is God? (give three personal answers with scripture to support each answer)
2. Who is Jesus Christ? (give three personal answers with scripture to support each answer)
3. How long has Jesus Christ been alive? (give one answer with scripture to support the answer)
4. Who is the Holy Spirit? (give three personal answers with scripture to support each answer)
5. What happens when the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in your spirit, and why? (give one answer with scripture to support the answer)
6. Who is Satan? (give three personal answers with scripture to support each answer)
7. What is sin? Who is a sinner? Why? (give one answer for each question and a scripture to support each answer)
8. Salvation (give one answer to each question below with a scripture to support each answer)
 - a. Who needs to be saved and why?
 - b. How does a person get saved?
 - c. What happens to a person when they accept Jesus Christ?
 - d. How can other people know that we are saved?
 - e. Can a person lose their salvation?
9. Have you asked Jesus Christ into your heart? If so, explain what happened and when (no scripture required).
10. Write out your favorite verse(s) and tell why they are your favorite(s).