

Lesson 3: Salvation

"What is My New Relationship to God?"

Having trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior brings about the single greatest change that could ever take place in your life. However, it is very unlikely that any of us understand the full significance of what has happened in our lives at the moment of salvation. The purpose of this lesson is to first explain what God did to bring about our salvation and then to briefly look at what took place in our standing before God when we received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Salvation is entirely the work of God

1. You did not in any way contribute to your salvation. Ephesians 2:8-9
2. Salvation was secured for the believer through the finished sacrificial death of Christ Jesus on the cross. God had to place our sin and its penalty – death, upon his perfect Son. The resurrection demonstrates that Christ's sacrifice was completely accepted by God the Father. 2 Corinthians 5:21
3. Notice then that the gospel contains two parts with two proofs for each part in I Cor. 15:1-6.
 - A. Jesus Christ died for our sins.
Biblical proof: **According to the Scriptures**
Observable proof: He was buried.
 - B. Jesus Christ rose from the dead.
Biblical proof: **According to the Scriptures**
Observable proof: He was seen by many.



The Bible is very clear about the transformation that takes place at salvation. (2 Corinthians 5:17) Conversion is a transformation from darkness to light, from death to life, and from the kingdom of Satan to the kingdom of God. Let's consider this last point.

There are only two spiritual families in the world.

The devil's family.



1. In John 8:44 Jesus addresses those who had rejected Him as being "of their father the devil." See also John 8:38
2. Let's explain: When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden they brought a sin nature upon themselves and all of their descendants (us). Genesis 5:3 shows that the descendants of Adam are born in Adam's image and likeness, which is that of a fallen sinner.

3. You inherited your sin nature from your earthly father. Romans 5:12 states, "Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."
 - Further proof of this point is that we all die. Romans 6:23: "The wages of sin is death..."
4. In Ephesians 2:1-3 the Bible explains that as a part of this world we are spiritually dead and that apart from a saving relationship with Christ we live under the dominance of sin and the *prince and power of the air* (Satan).
5. Though many people would like to think so, there is no middle ground. You are either in Satan's kingdom or you are by a new birth, in God's family! Luke 11:23

God's family

1. John 1:12-13 says, "But as many as received him (that is, by faith confessed Christ as Savior and Lord), to them gave he power to become the sons of God (your entrance into God's family), even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man (it is not a physical birth), but of God. "(it is a spiritual birth).
2. You also enter God's family by birth; but it is a spiritual birth. John 3:3 states, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
3. This new birth puts you into God's family just as your physical birth puts you into your father's family. You are now a child of God by spiritual birth. In other words, God is now your Heavenly Father!
4. As a result of your new birth, God dwells in you now. John 14:23b; John 6:47: "He that believeth on me hath (present tense) everlasting life. "

Being in God's family separates you from the devil's family.



- Your body is now the temple of the Holy Spirit. I Corinthians 6:19 God's Holy Spirit lives inside you producing an interest in spiritual things. Such as, His Word, personal righteousness, eternal matters and a concern for the lost.
- II Corinthians 6:14-18 teaches that there is a distinct difference between the worship of the saved and the unsaved. They do not mix. On the practical level the affections of the Christian's heart are distinctly different than those of the unbeliever.
- The new life is summarized for you in II Corinthians 5:17-18, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ..."
 1. At the moment of your salvation, your old nature died and was buried with Christ. What arose out of the grave was something completely different from what went into the grave. You became a new creation with a new nature! Colossians 2:13; Romans 6:6
 2. Upon your salvation, however, you did not receive a new body or a new mind. That will be our future glory. Colossians 3:4
 3. Because our bodies (flesh) and our minds remember what we used to do, and how we used to think, they constantly seek to pull us toward sin.
 4. That is why Paul tells us that we must "mortify" or put to death the deeds of our body (Col 3:5), and "put off" the sins of the mind, (Col. 3:8-10).

What is my relationship with God now?

1. He is your Heavenly Father, and you are His child. I John 2:1 says, "My little

children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. "

2. Now that you are saved God deals with you as a son. Romans 8:14-17

3. That relationship is pictured by the earthly relationship between a father and a son.

- a. A good father cares for his son. Matthew 10:31; Luke 12:7
- b. A good father provides for his son. Philippians 4:19
- c. A good father is a refuge and protector to his son. Psalms 91
- d. A good father disciplines his son. Hebrews 12:5-11



4. A good father will NEVER do anything to purposely hurt his son. He will only do those things that will help him grow and mature into the young man he wants him to be. Your Heavenly Father operates in the same way, only His ways are perfect. Unlike earthly fathers who sometimes err, God never makes a mistake in His dealings with His sons.

5. Matthew 7:11: "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? "

Basic questions.

Since we still sin after our salvation, how does my sin affect my relationship with my heavenly Father?

1. God does not kick you out of His family rather; it is your intimacy that is at issue just as it would be in an earthly relationship.
2. When we were saved we repented of our sin. Now that we are saved we are to be repenting repenters!

What should I do when I sin?

1. Confess it and trust the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse you. I John 1:6-10: Proverbs 28:13

Much of what we study in the lessons to come will focus us in the areas of our lives that most often need spiritual attention. Since we are in a new family we will have to learn to think and behave as the Children of God. Jesus never said it would be easy; in fact He encouraged the counting of the cost.



Homework:

1. In what way did you contribute to your salvation?

2. Who are the two spiritual fathers mentioned in John 8:38? Give a scripture reference to support both answers.
 - A.
 - B.
3. How does an individual enter the devil's family?
4. How does an individual enter into God's family?
5. Briefly explain why we still struggle to resist sin, even though we have become a new creation with a new nature.
6. Your new relationship with God can be seen through the earthly father and child. List 4 ways God deals with you as His child.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
7. According to I John 1:9, when we confess our sins to God, then He will _____ us and _____ us from all unrighteousness.
8. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson.

Key memory verses:

Romans 5:12; John 3:3; I John 1:9

Our next meeting will be: _____

Daily in the Word

It is important to spend time reading and meditating on the Word of God. Read each day's passage and answer the two questions for each day. As you read these passages, remember that these are God's words to YOU and that He wants you to learn more about Him by reading His Word.

<p>DAY 1</p> <p>John 3: 14-21</p>	<p>What is the Word saying?</p>	<p>How does this apply to me?</p>
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DAY 2 Ephesians 2: 1-10	What is the Word saying?	How does this apply to me?
DAY 3 Titus 3: 3-7	What is the Word saying?	How does this apply to me?
DAY 4 Romans 10:9-13	What is the Word saying?	How does this apply to me?
DAY 5 1 Corinthians 15: 1-8	What is the Word saying?	How does this apply to me?

DAY 6 Hebrews 12: 5-11	What is the Word saying?	How does this apply to me?
DAY 7 1 John 1: 6-10	What is the Word saying?	How does this apply to me?