

# What we believe

## ABOUT SALVATION

### HOW DO I BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole person. It is offered freely to all who receive Jesus as Lord and Savior.

*“You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’”*  
John 3:7 (NIV)

#### **1. Realize you are a sinner.**

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

#### **2. Because you are a sinner, you are condemned to death.**

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

#### **3. Believe that God loved you so much He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus, to bear your sin and die in your place.**

*“God made Him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”*  
2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

#### **4. Confess that you are a sinner and repent (turn around and go in the other direction).**

*“For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”*  
Romans 10:13 (NIV)

#### **Sample Prayer:**

Oh God, I know I am a sinner. I believe Jesus died on the Cross to pay for my sins. I believe His blood, death, burial and resurrection were for me. I now receive Him as my Savior. I thank You for the forgiveness of my sins, the gift of salvation and everlasting life, because of Your merciful grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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### ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Assurance of salvation is God's gift! You can be confident in your eternal destination. This confidence doesn't come from anything you earn, but from whom you put your trust in.

*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)*

Security does not come by absolutions, church attendance, good works, reciting Scripture or performances of penance. God who has begun the work of salvation in Christians is able to bring His work to its completion.

*"...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6 (NIV)*

*"All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me. And this is the will of Him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those He has given me, but raise them up at the last day." John 6:37-39 (NIV)*

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### SALVATION & SANCIFICATION

#### SALVATION

I am saved from sin(s)

- I have sinned.
- Jesus died for my sin. That is grace.
- I receive Jesus' gift of salvation.

#### SANCTIFICATION

I am saved from my flesh

- I am the problem.
- I died with Jesus.
- I receive Jesus' life.

#### WHY DO I NEED TO BE SAVED?

God created Man in His own image. In the beginning, Adam and Eve were innocent and had never experienced sin. God had given them everything and they had freedom to eat of every tree in the garden, except one. That one was the tree of the Knowledge. This was knowledge of both good and evil. God warned them that if they ate of the tree, they would die.

Satan came twisting God's words and convinced them that they wouldn't die but would be like God. They would be gods, knowing what God knows. It's this same lie Satan still tells today, "did God really say", "He is just trying to keep something from you..." They chose to believe Satan rather than God.

But God had a plan. Before He dealt with their sin and disbelief, He gave His answer. He would send a Savior to put it all right again.

They put their faith in the wrong person, and it cost them everything. They didn't die immediately, but something far worse happened. They introduced death into creation.

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### **WHAT IS SALVATION OR BEING BORN AGAIN?**

Fast forward to today and to us. We all come from the same family. We all come from Adam and scripture says,

*“For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”* 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 (NIV)

Jesus is the answer. He died in our place, paying the price for us. When we turn from our way and choose to follow Jesus, we become born again.

### **WHAT IS JUSTIFICATION?**

We are born with a sin problem. When we receive Jesus as our Savior, we become a new creature and have been born again. This means we are justified or “just as though we have not sinned”. Our desire to sin doesn’t disappear but our very nature has been changed.

### **WHAT IS SANCTIFICATION:**

We are now in a process of Sanctification or simply being set apart to God. We are still in this world, but we are now citizens of God’s Kingdom. This is a process of learning Jesus’ word, character, loving Him and growing to become more mature believers. As we spend time with Jesus, talking to Him, reading His word and doing what it says, we begin to think more like Jesus.

*“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.”*  
Romans 12:2 (NIV)

This process of sanctification continues all our lives as we learn to trust, obey and love Jesus more and more.