

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

In order to know saving grace, we must respond to the Gospel. The Biblical Gospel, as laid out in 1 Corinthians 15: "that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." Here are the steps from God's Word, the Bible, that all must take to respond to the Gospel and be saved...

Acknowledge Your Sin

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." – Romans 3:23

First, see yourself for what you are...a sinner. Sin is tragic, vile...it blights, degrades, destroys. It has dire consequences: "The soul who sins is the one who will die." "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Repent of Your Sin

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out." – Acts 3:19

You must also repent. Repentance is not making a resolution to do better. It is not just conviction of sin, for a person may be convinced that he is wrong and still not repent. D.L. Moody liked to describe repentance this way: "Man is born with his back toward God. When he truly repents, he turns right around and faces God. Repentance is a change of mind, a change of heart, and it results in a change of action."

As the Bible says, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord...for He will abundantly pardon." You must change your mind about sin and want God to end its mastery over you. After all, sin is so bad it took Christ's death to make forgiveness possible for you.

Believe in Jesus Christ

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16

Believe in the completed work Christ accomplished on the cross. You must believe that Christ substituted Himself for you, that He died for your sins (though HE never sinned), and that He was resurrected from death. "The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him." Our sins nailed Him to the cross, and "by His wounds we are healed." "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

Make Your Decision

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," believing in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. " – Romans 10:9

You must believe in Christ and receive Him personally into your life by faith if you are to be saved from the power of sin and its consequences. "To all who receive Him, to those who believe in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."

Will you pray to God something like this?

"God, I'm convinced I am a sinner, and that Christ alone can save me. I willingly repent of my sinful life and believe Jesus Christ died for me. I want to receive Him as my personal Savior. I want to be reconciled to you and to a life marked by your purpose rather than my own. Please give me your Spirit and change my heart to know what you want for my life. Please be the Lord of my life and lead me to know your will. "

Submit to His Lordship in your Life and in our World

"I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ in me. The life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loves me and gave his life for my salvation." – Galatians 2:20

The pathway of the new creation in Christ is one of redefining identity in Him. To be one of his family, adopted as sons and daughters, is to be secure for all eternity in the hands of the One True God. The life of a new creation is one that seeks God as the center of all things, trusts the Almighty as faithful to His promises, and lives in obedience to the Word of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit. The best way to grow in your faith is to be in community with other faithful believers, and cultivate a Biblically accurate worldview by being discipled.