



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Introduction to the Christian Faith – (Youths and Young Adults)

Lesson #1

In this lesson you will learn:

- What the Bible says about Salvation
- Who we are in Christ
- How we grow as Christians

As a new believer in Jesus Christ, **congratulations** you are now saved from sin, and promised heaven as your eternal home one day. So, what comes next?

Many questions may come to mind as we walk this road with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Questions such as:

Now that I have become a born-again Christian what does God's Word say about my Salvation?

How do I live as a Christian?

What things are important to continue to do to live as a Christian?

In the beginning of our walk and relationship with Jesus it's important that we seek out God's eternal Word, the Bible, with any questions regarding our Salvation.

We must have three elements present as we walk with God:

Faith - Faith is something we must display, act on and live by because we now live by faith alone. Read: **Hebrews 11**

Commitment - We need to focus our minds and thoughts on meditating upon God's Word, the Bible. From now on we need to **fill our minds with His Word, not empty them on trivial things.**

Obedience - We must walk according to God's Word. We must trust and obey God's Word in and through our daily living.

2 Corinthians 5:7 says: **"We live by faith, not by sight."**

As you live as a Christian you may find many people questioning your newfound faith in God.

In this first lesson we will look at evidence the Bible gives us to help us learn about this saving faith. This is important so we can give an answer to those who doubt or question us.

Below we will examine some verses given in God's Word that help us understand what God says about our Salvation.

1. **Titus 3:3-8** says: *"At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated, and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted God may be careful to devote themselves to doing good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone."*
2. **1 Peter 1:8-9** says: *"Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls."*
3. **John 3:3** says: *"In reply Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.'"*
4. **2 Corinthians 5:17** says: *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"*
5. **Hebrews 1:2** says: *"but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe."*

When you believed, you received the eternal kingdom in your heart which is an inaugurated kingdom, a kingdom partially fulfilled. When Christ comes into your heart by faith it's a deposit guaranteeing the eternal inheritance you have. The kingdom itself will be fully received when you go to heaven, your promised eternal home. Read **Ephesians 1:13-14**

By an act of your will, you have placed all your hope for eternal life on Christ. Read **John 3:16**. God has provided you with new life in him and now you need to grow spiritually. We must deepen our relationship with Christ. **John 3:6** says: *"Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."*

We must start by understanding our identity in Christ. Who

we are in Christ: (note that verses are paraphrased)?

Romans 5:1 says: *"We have been justified or completely forgiven and made righteous."*

Romans 6:1-6 says: *"We have died with Christ to sin and to the rule of sin in our lives."*

My sinful nature is under God's control if I obey his Word.

Romans 8:1 says: *"There is no longer any condemnation for those of us who are in Christ Jesus..."*

1 Corinthians 2:16 says: *"I have been given the mind of Christ..."*

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 says: *"I died to sin I no longer live to myself but for Christ Jesus..."*

2 Corinthians 5:21 says: *"I have been made righteous through Christ..."*

Ephesians 1:5 says: *"I've been predestined and adopted by God chosen to be a part of a Royal Priesthood..."*

Ephesians 2:6 says: *"I have been raised up and seated with Christ in Heaven..."*

Colossians 1:13 says: *"I have been redeemed and forgiven all my sin."*

Colossians 1:27 says: *"Christ lives in me..."*

Colossians 3:1-4 says: *"I died with Christ and have been raised up with Him and my life is now hidden with Christ in God."*

We are now God's children in a relationship with a Holy perfect Father who loves us no matter what.

So how do we grow in our relationship with Jesus? Communication is key to this relationship.

Prayer - We must learn to talk to God. Our new relationship should be two ways, speaking and listening. We must talk to God as with one another to build a strong relationship.

Prayer is how we hear from God, grow in God and receive from God with petitions and requests.

Prayer helps us learn God's will for our lives, deepens our faith, and applies God's Word to our daily lives.

Lesson #14 has more teaching about Prayer.

The Bible - It is vital that we develop a relationship with God by reading our Bible, God's Word. This takes discipline.

God's Word is vital to our growth. We must read it every day. Learning to meditate on God's Word helps us stay focused on God and allows us to live holy lives because we learn how to live God's way.

Reading His Word teaches us how to treat others, endure pain and trials but also to grow to help others.

Lesson #7 has more teaching about the Bible.

Church Attendance - We must get into a church relationship. Attendance in a house of worship brings support and comfort for days ahead. God commands us in **Hebrews 10:25** says: *"forsake not the assembling together of the brethren"*

It is vital to be with those that believe the same things as we do. The body of Christ is there to encourage us, strengthen us, and help us in times of need.

Lesson #11 has more teaching about Church Attendance.

Why We Learn the Bible:

- ❖ It guides us into all truth Read: **John 16:13a**
- ❖ It teaches us to overcome sin Read: **Rom. 6:23**
- ❖ It leads into paths of righteousness Read: **Psalms 23:3**
- ❖ It is the food that brings a greater knowledge of God and answers our questions Read: **John 6:35**
- ❖ It teaches us to say no to ungodliness and unfaithfulness Read: **Titus 2:12**
- ❖ It helps us form key disciplines that carry us through our Christian lives Read: **1 Cor. 11:32**

Bible Reading is vital because it gives us evidence, we have been saved?

Receiving **Salvation** is an act of God and a choice of our will. The Holy Spirit opens the way by lifting up Christ so we can see our need of Him.

Lesson #5 has more teaching about the Holy Spirit.

We now have been freed from the penalty and consequence of sin. Having been completely forgiven of all our sin we now have the promise of eternal life according to:

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

We have received **Salvation** by faith, we couldn't earn it, learn it or work for it. It is free. Each of us simply must confess all our sins. From then on, our **Salvation** cannot be changed unless we go away from God and deny we ever believed on his name for **Salvation**. Our eternity is set and no matter how we feel, think, or fail we are headed to heaven for we are in Christ, alive spiritually and saved from sin. As far as God is concerned your sin is gone, you are forgiven and guaranteed a place in heaven.

Romans 10:9 says: *“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”*

How to maintain a healthy relationship with Christ:

- ✓ We need to be completely committed to Christ and his Lordship
- ✓ This is a new relationship, and it takes work. We must walk daily with God and be obedient
- ✓ We must develop our skills of communication in prayer and his Word and attend church regularly
- ✓ We must learn to obey him in all areas of our lives, submitting to his will daily by praying and asking
- ✓ We must learn to trust Him and be fully dependent on Him as we walk with Him.

Conclusion

According to **2 Corinthians 5:17** we are made new in Christ. All things that were old are gone, our sinful ways, lifestyles, and directions. We have become a new person, one who is given newlife. Walking in the will of God is all that matters now. God will teach us his plan for our lives as we walk strongly, intentionally, and daily with him. We only need to obey his Word and listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit we have received. We must submit ourselves to him, surrendering all our ways and plans always, looking to the Holy Spirit for guidance.

Questions for you about this lesson **Please look up the following verses in your Bible**

1. What did Jesus come into the world to do? Read: **John 19:17-18**
2. How did Jesus take away the sins of the World? Read: **John 1:29**
3. What happened the moment you believed? Read: **John 5:24**
4. What happens to those that do not believe? Read: **John 3:18, 3:36**
5. What does God say that will never happen to us if we believe in his One and only Son?
Read: **John 3:16**
6. Now that you have become a Christian, what would you tell someone else if they asked you to give an answer for the hope you have? Read: **John 14:6**

www.acfministries.org - Bible verses taken from the New International Version