

# Home Bible Reading

by

Pastor Carroll Shaw

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## **OPEN YOUR HOME**

God wants to speak to mankind. He speaks to mankind in many different ways. one great way of speaking to mankind is through His Word, the Bible. Through this method of reading the Bible in the home, God will speak to those around us. Hebrews 4:12. The spiritual lost condition of those around us leads us to open our home for a Bible Reading Group. Eternal punishment in hell, for the lost, urges us to open our home for a Bible Reading Group. We need to concentrate on the lost people.

## **OBJECTIVE:**

The Home Bible Reading Group is to be an evangelistic outreach for the church. People who are lost in sin are to be directed to God. It will provide an opportunity for those living around you to hear God's Word speaking to their heart. It gives the home participant the opportunity to become a witness to those living around them. Matthew 4:4.

## **STARTING A GROUP:**

You must be concerned for those that are lost in sin living around you. You must feel the importance of your home becoming a place for God's Word to be known. Determine with your family or those in your place of living the need to start a Home Bible Reading Group.

Have your reading materials ready and use them. Materials will consist of Bibles, for those attending to follow the reading. Have your Bible reading guidance poster displayed in your home. A door emblem should be placed on the door so people will identify the reading place.

## **ORGANIZING:**

Select a time of meeting that is most suitable for you and your neighbours. Select the day that is best for those that will participate. Determine the type of Bible Reading Group that is needed. It might be a reading group for women. Daytime is more suitable for women's groups.

A reading group for you may be organized. It may be a reading group open to all ages living around you. A group can be formed for those doing shift work.

## **GUIDELINES:**

1. Be enthusiastic about the meeting.
2. Don't force the people to come.
3. Don't be discouraged if only a few come.
4. Thirty minutes is a suggested length of time for a meeting. Don't have long meetings. But feel free to sit a talk as a group as long as the group desires
5. Always be ready for the meeting. Have the room prepared and the material ready to use. You must be ready to greet those coming to the meeting.
6. Follow the Bible Reading guidance poster. This gives direction and keeps the group from getting away from the lesson.
7. Read the assigned reading and be prepared to direct the discussion.
8. Keep complete and good attendance records and decision records.
9. When one makes a decision for Christ, remember to tell the pastor.
10. Thank those who attend and encourage them to bring others.
11. Ask the participants to pray about what they have read.

## **COMMITMENT:**

Dedicate yourself to God to be faithful in leading the Bible Reading group.

Commit yourself to be used as God directs you.

Dedicate this time to God and don't let other things come before it.

Commit yourself to pray for those who will attend your Bible Reading group.

Commit yourself to being a good neighbour and witness

## **ALL ARE SINNERS**

**SCRIPTURE** - Romans 3:21-31

**KEY VERSE** - Romans 3:23

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

### **ALL**

All is a word that includes every person. The Bible speaks of Jesus, the Son of God, as the only one who knew no sin. We may try to excuse ourselves but our heart convicts us.

Mankind chose sin. God placed man and woman on earth in a state of perfectness. They were tempted by Satan. They yielded to this temptation. Even as a child we know when we do wrong.

Sin separates us from God. This means every person that is born. It has nothing to do with colour, education or wealth.

### **HAVE SINNED**

This is choosing our own selfish way. We do things unpleasing to God. Our great sin is rejecting Christ as our Saviour. We rebel against God. We try to live our own way. This brings guilt to our heart.

### **COME SHORT**

Our sins separate us from God. With sin, Adam and Eve were ashamed to be in God's presence. God is holy and sin cannot stand in His presence. With our sins we are not the person God wants us to be.

### **GLORY OF GOD**

God wants us to have fellowship with Him. He wants us to live and show His way of life. God hates sin. When a child does wrong he is not happy to see his parents. The child feels guilty.

God's glory and goodness convicts us. In sin we are short of what God wants us to be. He wants us to be in His glory.

### **QUESTIONS**

How many does all include?

Do we know when we have done wrong?

What tells us right from wrong?

What is sin?

What does God want us to do?

### **Closing**

God's love for us is so great He made a way for us to be forgiven. This is through Jesus Christ. Our faith in Jesus, as our Saviour, justifies us to be in the presence of God.

We must admit we are sinners. Until we do, God cannot work in our hearts.

## **PENALTY**

**SCRIPTURE** - Romans 6:1-23

**KEY VERSE** - Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

### **WAGES OF SIN**

Our wages come from the person we serve or work for. If we never give ourselves to God in Christ, Satan is our master. Satan's wages are death. We cannot serve two masters.

### **DEATH**

This is speaking of a spiritual death. The only wages Satan can give is eternal punishment in hell, separation from God. He has nothing more to offer. He robs us of happiness and eternal life.

### **GIFT OF GOD**

God has a free gift for us. We do not work to earn this gift. A gift is something one gives you. God offers us a gift of eternal life. We are to accept or reject His gift.

### **ETERNAL LIFE**

This is God's gift. This is the reward for our believing on Christ and following Him. This can only bring happiness. This is an everlasting gift. This gift is an eternity in Heaven, with God.

### **THROUGH JESUS CHRIST**

God's gift is not earned by works we do. It was provided when Christ died on the cross for our sins. God gave His only Son for our sins. Jesus gave His life for us. If we accept God's gift, Jesus Christ, as our Saviour we have eternal life.

## **QUESTIONS**

How many masters can we have?

What wages does Satan have to offer us?

What is God's gift to us?

How may we have eternal life?

### **Closing**

You must choose your master. Choose today whom you will serve. Serve God and find peace. Accept His gift, eternal life in Jesus Christ, and enjoy an eternity in Heaven.

## **GOD'S LOVE**

**SCRIPTURE** - John 3:1-21

**KEY VERSE** - John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

### **GOD SO LOVED**

Our creator has the greatest love of all. He loved us while we were yet sinners. The love of God cannot be measured. God's love is never ending.

### **THE WORLD**

The greatest extent of God's love is shown in the width of His love. All people on earth are loved by God.

### **THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON**

This is the greatest act of love. Jesus Christ is the greatest gift. God did not withhold His Son. He gave us this gift as a way of escape from eternal death in Hell.

### **THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH**

This is the greatest invitation that has ever been given. Whosoever believeth does not mean one of a certain colour, with riches, education, or from a certain country. It invites any person to believe in His plan of salvation.

### **IN HIM**

The greatest person died for our sins. Jesus, God's only Son, died on a cross for us. He did not sin, but took our sins on the cross that we might be free.

### **SHOULD NOT PERISH**

The greatest deliverance that has ever been given is for us. Through believing in Jesus we are delivered from perishing in Hell.

### **BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE**

This is the greatest difference. The great certainty of His gift is His promise. The moment we believe on Jesus we become God's children and have everlasting life. His promise is for now and for all of eternity. Everlasting has no ending.

### **QUESTIONS**

- Who has the greatest love of all?
- How did God show His love?
- Who does He invite to believe?
- What must we do to have everlasting life?
- How long is everlasting life?

### **Closing**

God did not send His Son to condemn our sins. Jesus came that we might be forgiven of our sins. To have this forgiveness we must believe that Jesus is the Saviour. Our salvation is complete in Jesus. We cannot save ourselves.

## CONFESS

**SCRIPTURE** - Romans 10:1-11

**KEY VERSES** - Romans 10:9-10

“That is thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

### BELIEVE

To be saved one must believe in his heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. We must believe Jesus died on the cross for our sins. That He was buried. We must believe that God hath raised Him from the dead. We must believe Jesus Christ lives today. We must not just speak words. We must believe in our hearts.

Some people believe that being a church member makes them saved. But joining the church cannot save us. We must believe in Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

### CONFESS

We must confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. If we really believe that salvation comes in believing in Jesus we will confess this before others. The New Testament does not teach secret discipleship.

We must see our sins in our lives. We must be sorry for our sins. We must confess our sins to God. We must ask for forgiveness. When we confess our sins we must leave them. We must not do them anymore. We must ask God to help us. We must stay away from temptation.

### SALVATION

It is not by our power or works that we are saved. It is by trusting in what God has done for us. Salvation is ours when we believe in Jesus Christ as our Saviour and confess.

### QUESTIONS

What must we believe to be saved?

What must we confess?

What must we do with our sins?

Whose power saves us?

### Closing

God wants us to be saved. He offers pardon for our sins. This pardon comes by believing in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. We are not to be ashamed to tell others. We are to tell others of God's great gift of salvation.

## ASSURANCE

**SCRIPTURE** - 1 John 5:1-13

**KEY VERSES** - 1 John 5:11-12

“And this is the record that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”

### THE RECORD

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. Whosoever is born of God overcometh the world. One who believes that Jesus is the Son of God will have the witness of this in his life. In Jesus, your life is to be a record of what God has done for you. If our life shows Jesus, this is an assurance that we have the new birth.

### ETERNAL LIFE

We have a record that God hath given us eternal life through His Son, Jesus. Jesus died on the cross for our sins. He was buried, God raised Him from the dead. Whosoever believeth in Jesus, as Saviour, has eternal life.

### LIFE IS IN HIS SON

Because Jesus conquered death and arose from the grave, we too have life in Him. If we believe in Jesus we share in eternal life as God's child. To refuse Jesus is to remain in sin and to have an eternal death in hell. To be separated from God is death.

### QUESTIONS

How can we know we have eternal life in Jesus?

How can we obtain eternal life?

What should our life be a record of?

### Closing

A child of God will show life in God. It is recorded that one who believes in Jesus will want to be a witness to others. If you trust in Jesus as your Saviour and that He is the Son of God, you can be assured of salvation. Your life is to be a record of God's presence in you. Proof of this record is your belief in Jesus, love of others, keeping God's commandments, living a victorious life, and being a witness. Do not doubt God's word. Do not live a life that causes others to doubt your assurance.

## VICTORY

**SCRIPTURE** - 1 Corinthians 10:1-14

**KEY VERSE** - 1 Corinthians 10:13

“There hath no temptation taken you but such is common to man; but God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

### NO TEMPTATION TAKEN YOU

We are not free from being tempted by Satan. Satan attempts to tempt us away from God. We should not be ignorant of Satan's temptation but we should be aware of it. Temptation has always come to mankind. The children of Israel were tempted. The same temptations are common to us today. Satan desires to devour us. God is the power we need to keep us from being destroyed by Satan.

### COMMON TO MAN

Lust, idolatry, fornication and unhappiness with God are but a few common temptations. Jesus, when he was in the wilderness and was hungry was tempted by Satan. Jesus was tempted to turn from God's will for his life. Temptations that are common to us have been experienced by others. Through God's power they have resisted these temptations. We also can have victory over temptation with God's power.

### GOD IS FAITHFUL

God speaks to our hearts. He directs our lives to flee from idolatry and sins that would destroy us. God is faithful in giving us, His Son, Jesus Christ as an example and Saviour for us. God is faithful to give us strength to resist temptation. God desires for our life to be victorious and free from yielding to sin.

The victorious life is found in Jesus Christ. Many people yield to temptation. Their lives and testimonies are destroyed. They separate themselves from God. This has been recorded as a warning to us. God gave His Son as a way of escape from eternal death in hell. One who believes in Christ as his Saviour is victorious. This victory in Jesus is to keep us from temptation. Jesus will help us in our times of temptation.

### QUESTIONS

Who tempts us to do wrong?

Who can help us when we are tempted?

In what ways are we tempted?

### Closing

Let us be strong in our Christian lives. God is not pleased when we yield to temptation. Satan must be rebuked in the Name of Jesus to flee. Do not fall into Satan's trap of temptation. Call upon God to deliver you. Believe in the way of escape, Jesus Christ. God will help you through temptation if you depend upon Him.

## SALVATION IS OF GOD

**SCRIPTURE** - Romans 8:24-39

**KEY VERSE** - Romans 8:30

“Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called; and whom He called, them He also justified; and whom He justified, them He also glorified.”

### **PREDESTINATED**

It is the will of God that every person be saved from sin. Being made in the image of God, God gave us a will of choice. Man chose to disobey God. This separated man from God. To redeem man, God predestined our salvation. God predestined our salvation. This knowledge was made known through the Old Testament days. This knowledge became a reality in the coming of Jesus. The Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts. Through this speaking, we find hope of salvation. What God has always known, we discover as we receive His salvation through trusting in Jesus Christ. To be saved one must submit to the will of God.

### **CALLED**

We must let God search our heart. This will enable God to speak to us. When we listen to God, we can know His will for us. As we surrender to His call to us, we become His child. The Holy Spirit is faithful to reveal this call of God. God calls us unto Himself. Through trusting in Jesus we find the way to God. To refuse Jesus is contrary to God's will and we remain lost in sin.

### **JUSTIFIED**

By answering the call to trust in Jesus we are justified to become a child of God. Our trust in Jesus and our repentance of sin makes it possible to be in God's presence. We do not deserve this but God's forgiving love makes it possible. Jesus died for our sins that we might be justified. God gave His Son to redeem us.

### **GLORIFIED**

As a child of God, nothing can separate us from Him. To be glorified is the goal of every child of God. This is the ultimate and complete salvation which shall be realized in Heaven. The Christian is heir to the privilege of sonship. Each one will enjoy heaven to the full degree of his capacity. This capacity will be determined by one's growth and service for Christ while on earth.

### **QUESTIONS**

Are we free to choose to accept or reject salvation?

What does God desire that we choose?

Can a child of God be separated from His love?

### **Closing**

Salvation is of God. We receive salvation by faith in God's plan. His plan is through His Son, Jesus. Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave. Our faith and trust in Jesus makes possible for us to become a child of God. Jesus is at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us.

## **GOD'S GRACE**

**SCRIPTURE** - Galatians 3:1-29

**KEY VERSE** - Galatians 3:13

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us; for it is written, cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree.”

### **REDEEMED**

Often man attempts to work out his own plan of salvation. This can not be done. Often man strives to obtain salvation by his goodness. But man is sinful by nature. Often man thinks himself to have become acceptable to God by being obedient to laws man has made. This method is toward man and not God. We are condemned by our sin. Only God can save us from this condemnation. It is by faith that we find redemption.

God's love is so great that He paid the cost for our sins. This cost was the life of His Son, Jesus. The grace of God redeemed, or paid the cost for us to have salvation.

### **THE CURSE**

Sin placed each one of us under a curse. We became separated from God. This curse was removed by Jesus. Christ did not sin. He took our sins upon Himself and died on the cross. He died that our sins might be forgiven. He died in our place that the curse upon us might be removed. In the moment of death on the cross, God turned away. Christ suffered and conquered the curse of sin that brings eternal death. Christ arose from the grave and was victorious in God's plan of salvation.

### **QUESTIONS**

Why did Jesus die on the cross?

What placed a curse upon us?

How is this curse removed?

### **Closing**

Christ was crucified on the cross to provide salvation for us. The curse of sin is upon each one that has not believed in this plan of salvation. God's grace made salvation's plan for us. His love for us was so great that He provided salvation to remove the curse of sin. By trusting in Jesus as Saviour and asking God to forgive our sins, we are redeemed. The curse is removed. We are forgiven. We are free from the hold of Satan.

## **CHRIST AND GOD**

**SCRIPTURE** - John 10:7-30

**KEY VERSE** - John 10:30

“I and my Father are one.”

### **I AND MY FATHER**

Jesus came that God through Him could reveal Himself. To know Jesus is to know the Father. To trust in Jesus is to trust in God. To be accepted in Jesus is to be accepted into the family of God, with God as our Father. The clear revelation of God as Father came through Jesus. We may become sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ. His death on the cross made provision for the redemption of men from sin.

Jesus spoke of Himself being a door. He spoke of Himself being the entrance way to God in Heaven. Jesus said, “I am the way.” Jesus said, “No man cometh unto the Father except through me.” By faith we enter in.

### **ONE**

God and Christ are one in their purpose and plan for the salvation of mankind. With Jesus as Saviour, eternal life with God is assured. God's way of salvation in Christ, is secure. One cannot take Christ as Saviour without taking God as a Heavenly Father. Christ gives us eternal life. We are referred to as sheep in the Bible. Jesus referred to Himself as the Good Shepherd. When we are His, we know His voice and desire to follow Him. We also belong to God. He is Father in truth only to those who become His children through faith in His Son.

### **QUESTIONS**

Who is the door to eternal life in Heaven?

How does one enter through this door to eternal life?

What kind of life does Christ give to us when we accept Him as Saviour?

### **Closing**

You may ask, "How can a person be one but yet be more than one?". God saw the need for man to be redeemed from sin. He came to earth in the form of Jesus Christ, this way God could provide salvation that man could witness.

A man is one person. But to his father he is a son. To his wife he is a husband. To his children he is a father. He is one person, yet he becomes a different person to his father, wife and children. God and Christ are one in their plan of salvation. This plan of salvation is for all people.

## **FORGIVEN**

**SCRIPTURE** - Luke 15:11-32

**KEY VERSES** - Luke 15:21,22,24

“And the son said unto him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring forth the best robe and put it on him. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to be merry.”

### **I HAVE SINNED**

The son had left the place the father had for him. The son wanted to live his own life. He went away from the father and lived a life of sin. This life was wrong. This life was outside of the father's will. This life was a life separated from the father.

### **NO MORE WORTHY**

The Bible refers to us as sheep that have gone astray. The Bible says that all have sinned and are short of being what the Heavenly Father wants us to be. God loves us. The Bible says while we were yet sinners God still loved us. He does not like our sin. Our repentance of sin and His forgiveness makes it possible for us to be in His presence. God welcomes us when we come to Him.

### **THE BEST ROBE**

The book of Isaiah tells us all our righteousness are as filthy rags. We cannot become right within ourselves. God is the one who changes our lives. When we repent and ask for forgiveness our rags of sin are taken away. God clothes us in righteousness.

### **MY SON WAS DEAD, AND IS ALIVE AGAIN**

When the son was away from the father, there was no contact. They did not talk. They did not walk together. The son was out of fellowship with the father. The father was not able to share his life. The father waited not knowing the condition of the son. When the son came to the father, life could be shared. They could walk and talk together.

Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the LIFE.” It is only when we come to the Father, through faith in Jesus, can we have life. Only in the Father's presence can we be forgiven.

### **HE WAS LOST, AND IS FOUND**

In the beginning the son rejected what the father offered. The son went away. His life took him to another country. When he came home the Father knew of his return. The father had waited for the son to find his way home. As long as we stay away from God's plan of salvation, we remain lost in our sin. We must come to the Father and find forgiveness.

### **QUESTIONS**

What separates us from God?

What is necessary for forgiveness of sin?

How can we come to the Father and receive forgiveness?

### **Closing**

We cannot live for worldly things and be in fellowship with the Heavenly Father. The son repented of his sins. He left the place of sin he was in. He came to the Father. The son asked for forgiveness of his sins. The father forgave him. We find forgiveness when we seek it from our Heavenly Father.

## **CHRISTIANITY**

**SCRIPTURE** - 1 Corinthians 3:1-23

**KEY VERSES** - 1 Corinthians 3:9-11

“... ye are God’s building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

### **YE ARE GOD'S BUILDING**

There are many religions. There is only one true Christianity. Christianity is accepting Christ as God’s way of salvation. A person becomes a Christian by accepting Christ as Saviour. To become Christ-like a person must let Christ become Lord of his life. You become a dwelling place for Christ when you accept Him as Saviour. You become God’s building. You are not your own. To be a strong dwelling place for God you cannot build your life with strife, envy, and division. God will not dwell in a life filled with pride and self desires. God wants us to live a life designed on the life of Christ. Your spiritual life is to be built by God’s leadership.

### **I HAVE LAID THE FOUNDATION**

The people wanted to look to Paul and Apollos as their God. Paul pointed out to them that he and Apollos were only servants of God. God used them to show others salvation in Christ. They were laying a foundation but God would have to build on that foundation. A Christian is part of God’s building. Paul said, “Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you.” If you allow things of the flesh to control you, you are not letting God dwell and build in your life.

### **OTHER FOUNDATION CAN NO MAN LAY**

Jesus Christ is the foundation to build our life on. Any other foundation will be weak and fall. Other foundations will not support the building. Christianity is of Christ and not man. God has given the foundation. This foundation was laid in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. Whosoever places faith in this foundation is wise. What we do must be done for God.

### **QUESTIONS**

Who is to be our foundation in life?

What is Christianity?

### **Closing**

Build your life upon Jesus. Do not be weak. We cannot be strong in our own wisdom. We cannot be strong by living in sin. We cannot be strong by building on ourselves. We are the living place of God on earth. Be strong in Him.

## A NEW NATURE

**SCRIPTURE** - Ephesians 4:17 - 6:9

**KEY VERSES** - Ephesians 4:22-24

“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”

### **PUT OFF CONCERNING THE OLD MAN**

As a Christian we are to be different than a non Christian. We have given our life to a new master. Sin is no longer to be our way of life. The old life is a way of walking in darkness of sin. Jesus is to be our light. The old man thinks only of self. The old man is full of greed and unclean in mind and heart. We are to put away anger, gossip, hatred, and bad conversation. The Bible says we are not to give a place for the devil in our life. The new person is to show Christ in the way he talks, lives, and acts.

### **BE RENEWED IN THE SPIRIT OF YOUR MIND**

Paul said in Philippians 2:5, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” We are to imitate Christ in our lives. In taking Christ as our Saviour we commit ourselves to a new way of life. There is a repentance of sin. This is admitting our sins and asking God to forgive us. There is a turning from the old life to a new life. There is a new way of thinking.

### **PUT ON THE NEW MAN**

A new man is a follower of God. He has a new nature. He walks in love and not hatred. He is filled with the Spirit of God and not evil drink. He is one who loves his family. The new man has an inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and of God. The new man is not to have a place for evil to dwell. The new man will not commit adultery, lie or live in deceit. A new man walks in the way of God's light. Jesus came to bring a new life. One who believes in Him will have eternal life. To trust in Christ is to accept a new way of life.

### **QUESTIONS**

Who came to bring man a new way of life ?

What is a man's nature before he becomes a new man in Christ?

How is a new man in Christ to live?

### **Closing**

One living a life apart from God is disobedient to God. The new life is to be an obedient life. Our service is to be for God. We are to so live that others can see we have a new nature.

## THE WAY

**SCRIPTURE** - John 14:1-21

**KEY VERSE** - John 14:6

“Jesus saith unto him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me’.”

### I AM THE WAY

People have always been concerned about eternity. Is there life after death?

Jesus said, “In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

God desires that all come unto Him. God created man with the right of a choice. Man is not forced of God. God provided a way to eternal life through Jesus Christ, His Son. Christ came and died for our sins. The one who chooses this way is given eternal life. This is God’s gift to the one who repents of his sin and accepts Jesus as Saviour. Jesus said that He is the way to the Father in Heaven. The Bible tells us there is no other way given by God, that offers eternal life in Heaven. Jesus has prepared a place for His followers. Jesus is the way of God’s plan for salvation.

### NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME

Jesus is the way to the Father. He is our mediator. On one occasion Jesus referred to Himself as the door. The entrance to true life on earth is through Jesus. The entrance to eternal life is through Jesus. God sent His Son that whosoever believes in Him shall have this eternal life. Jesus represents His Father. To refuse Jesus is to refuse God, the Father. To refuse Jesus is to refuse to walk the way God wants us to walk on earth.

### QUESTIONS

Who is the way to eternal life?

For whom did Jesus prepare a place in Heaven?

### Closing

The way of Jesus leads to Heaven. One becomes a follower of this way by believing in Jesus as their Saviour. The way of Jesus leads one to live for God. Walk the way of Jesus. As you do the Holy Spirit will guide you. Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

## **REPENTANCE**

**SCRIPTURE** - Acts 2:14-41

**KEY VERSE** - Acts 2:38

“Then Peter said unto them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.’”

### **REPENT**

Repent is the word Peter used to tell the people how they could escape eternal death. Peter was talking to the people who had crucified Jesus. They had not received Him as the Son of God. Peter was preaching on the day of Pentecost. He preached the way of Jesus. After the crucifixion, Jesus was placed in a grave. The grave could not hold Him. Being the Son of God, He arose and returned to His Father in Heaven.

As Peter preached the people realized that God had made that same Jesus whom they crucified, both Lord and Christ and they had not accepted Him. They asked Peter, “What shall we do?”. Peter told the people to repent. Accept Jesus as your Saviour. To repent means one must turn from his sins. God will forgive our sins when we repent of them and turn from them.

### **BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF JESUS**

The people were asked to identify with Jesus. Forgiveness comes with repentance. A new life comes with repentance. When we have new life we need to show this to others. It is because of what Jesus did for us on the cross that forgiveness of sin is possible. The shedding of Christ’s blood on the cross brought remission of sin. His shed blood covered our sins. one is baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to show he has died to an old life and has new life in Jesus Christ.

### **SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST**

Before Jesus was crucified, He told the people He would send to them the gift of the Holy Ghost. He made a promise to the people. He told them He would not leave them alone and comfortless. By trusting in Jesus, one receives the gift of the presence of the Holy Ghost. God’s presence, in the person of the Holy Ghost, is a gift God gives us when we trust in Jesus. With the presence of the Holy Ghost comes power to witness about Jesus.

### **QUESTIONS**

What does it mean to repent?

Why is one baptized in the name of Jesus?

How does one receive the gift of the Holy Ghost?

### **Closing**

Having heard the Word of God the people repented of their sins. They asked for forgiveness. To show acceptance of this new life they were baptized. They were faithful to God's command.

## **SURRENDER**

**SCRIPTURE** - Acts 8:26-39

**KEY VERSE** - ACTS 8:37

“And Philip said, ‘If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.’ And he answered and said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’”

### **IF THOU BELIEVEST WITH ALL THINE HEART, THOU MAYEST**

It is important what we believe. It is important in whom we believe. The Ethiopian Eunuch was reading the Word of God. The Scripture was from the book of Isaiah. The Ethiopian Eunuch needed help to understand what he was reading. God sent Philip to explain the Scripture to him. Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian.

As they went on their way they came unto a certain water. The Ethiopian asked Philip, “See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?” And Philip said, “If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.”

Romans 6:4 teaches us, “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

### **BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD**

Jesus told the Ethiopian that if he believed with all his heart, what the Scripture said about Jesus, he could be baptized. The Ethiopian answered, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” He surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. One must surrender his life to Jesus Christ to become a follower of Jesus. The Ethiopian wanted to be baptized, as the Scriptures teach us we should.

“And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the Eunuch; and he baptized him . . . and the Eunuch went on his way rejoicing.”

### **QUESTIONS**

What was the Ethiopian reading?

Whom did God send to help the Ethiopian understand what he was reading?

What did Philip tell the Ethiopian he should do to be baptized?

### **Closing**

God has given us the Bible. He wants us to read His Word. We, too, may go on our way rejoicing if we believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. We will walk in newness of life, if we surrender our lives to Jesus Christ. Have you surrendered your life to Jesus Christ?

## **BELIEVE**

**SCRIPTURE** - Acts 16:14-36

**KEY VERSE** - Acts 16:31

“And they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.’”

### **BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS**

Paul and Silas had been put in prison for preaching the way of salvation. There seemed to be no hope for them. But they had faith. They believed in the Son of God. They believed in Jesus and followed Him. Even in prison they continued to pray and sing hymns of praise to God.

God heard their prayers. “And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's bands were loosed.” (Acts 16:26) The prison keeper was afraid when he saw the prison doors were open. He thought the prisoners had all fled. He drew out his sword and would have killed himself.

“But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, ‘Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.’” (Acts 16:28) The guard came trembling and fell down before Paul and Silas. He asked them, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

### **AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED**

The guard was not asking about his physical life being saved. There was no reason for him to fear. The prisoners were there. They had not run away. The guard was concerned about his spiritual life. He had possibly heard the testimony of Paul and Silas. He knew why they were in prison. He saw the power of God. He realized that Paul and Silas were different from others. The guard wanted this same life. He wanted to be saved from his sins.

### **AND THY HOUSE**

The guard believed in Jesus as Saviour. The guard took Paul and Silas to his house. He wanted to share with those in his house what he had learned. He wanted them to be saved. Paul and Silas spoke to them. “And they spake unto him to word of the Lord and to all that were in his house.” (Acts 16:32)

His willingness to share about Jesus helped others to be saved. Every person must believe on the Lord Jesus for himself. One cannot believe in Jesus for someone else. But we can share with them how to be saved.

### **QUESTIONS**

What did Paul and Silas do while they were in prison?

What did Paul and Silas tell the guard he must do to be saved?

With whom did Paul and Silas share the word of God other than the guard?

### **Closing**

When the guard believed in Jesus he found a new life. The guard and those in his house found happiness. They followed Jesus' teachings. They were all baptized.

## OBEDIENCE

**SCRIPTURE** - 1 John 1:1-10

**KEY VERSE** - 1 John 1:9

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

### IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS

No man is perfect. Every person has sin. “If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” (1 John 1:8) Sin is against God.

Sometimes we do not want to confess our sins. To confess our sin is to admit our guilt. We cannot have forgiveness unless we confess. God will hear a repentant heart. We must be obedient to God and seek His forgiveness of our sins.

### HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US OUR SINS

God wants to forgive us our sins. He is obedient to keep His promise. “God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.” (1 Corinthians 1:9)

Every promise of God will be fulfilled. He is always listening and concerned. He cannot forgive us if we do not confess our sin and ask for His forgiveness. We do not deserve forgiveness but God loves us. His great love provided forgiveness for us. Through Christ’s death on the cross we have forgiveness.

### AND TO CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

We cannot cleanse ourselves from our unrighteousness. But when we confess our sins God cleanses us. “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)

### QUESTIONS

Who has sinned?

Who is faithful to forgive our sins?

How can we be cleansed of our sins?

### Closing

We are responsible for our sins. God is obedient to forgive and cleanse us of our sins. When we are forgiven and cleansed we will live in obedience to Christ. We will have fellowship with other Christians.