

BEGINNING MY WALK WITH CHRIST



1.0 MY SECURE SALVATION

THE GOSPEL

THE BAD NEWS OF SEPARATION

① You are a sinner – Read Romans 3:23

What is sin? What does it include? (see also Ephesians 2:1-3 and Matt 5:27-28)

② The penalty for sin is death – Read Romans 6:23

What all does “death” mean?

Why does our sin result in our separation from God (Isa 6:1-5; Hab 1:13a)?

THE GOOD NEWS OF REDEMPTION

① Christ died for you and then rose from the dead Read Romans 5:8

From Romans 5:8, 1 Peter 3:18, and 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, what exactly did Jesus Christ do for us?

② You can be saved through faith in Christ Read Ephesians 2:8-9

According to this passage, how are we saved? What makes it possible?

How do our good works relate to our salvation?

ETERNAL SECURITY

I AM ETERNALLY SECURE BECAUSE OF...

① ...THE NATURE OF MY SALVATION

Ephesians 1:3-5

Hebrews 10:10-14

Colossians 2:13-14

② ...THE NATURE OF MY NEW IDENTITY

2 Corinthians 5:17

Ephesians 1:13-14

Galatians 3:26

1 Peter 1:3

③ ...THE NATURE OF MY SAVIOR

Hebrews 7:24-25

John 10:27-29

John 6:37-40

Romans 8:35-39

MEMORIZE: JOHN 3:16

2.0 KNOWING GOD

① GOD IS TRINITY

God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
and each person is fully God,
and there is one God.



② GOD IS GREAT

Infinite - Isaiah 40:12-28

All-powerful - Psalm 135:5-6

Eternal - Revelation 1:8

All-knowing - Psalm 139:1-6,16

Unchangeable - Malachi 3:6

Everywhere Present - Jeremiah 23:24

③ GOD IS GOOD

Holy & Righteous - Revelation 15:3-4

Loving - 1 John 4:16

Just - 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gracious & Merciful - Exodus 34:6

Faithful & True - Deuteronomy 7:9

4 WHO IS JESUS?

Who did Jesus Christ claim to be?

John 14:8-10

John 8:56-59 (with Exodus 3:14)

John 10:30-33

Matthew 26:63-66

SUMMARY: JESUS CHRIST...
... IS FULLY GOD - JOHN 1:1
... IS FULLY MAN - COLOSSIANS 2:9
... DIED FOR SIN - 1 PETER 2:24
... ROSE FROM THE DEAD - ACTS 2:23,24

5 WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit is God - read Matthew 28:19

The Holy Spirit is a person not a force - read Acts 13:2-4

The Holy Spirit gave us new life when we were saved - read John 3:1-8

The Holy Spirit permanently lives within every believer - read John 14:16-17

The Holy Spirit is our helper - read John 14:25-27

The Holy Spirit is our direct line of communication to the Father - read Romans 8:26-27

Practically speaking, how do I pray? Here's a helpful acronym to keep in mind as you learn to pray: ACTS

Adoration: worshipping God for who He is.

Confession: acknowledging to God that we have sinned and asking His forgiveness.

Thanksgiving: thanking God for all the good gifts He has given to us – spiritual, material, relational, physical, etc.

Supplication: asking God to supply the needs and desires of our friends, our families, ourselves, our nation, our world.

MEMORIZE: MATTHEW 22:37-38

3.0 THE NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIFE

① OUR GOAL IN LIFE

Read the passage below and underline key words and ideas:

Philippians 3:8-10

More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

From this passage, finish this statement, "The goal of the Christian life is..."

② THE EFFECT OF SIN ON OUR GOAL

Read 1 John 1:5-7. How does sin affect our fellowship with God?

How do we reconcile this passage with the lesson on eternal security? (Hint: read 1 John 1:8-2:1 and think about the difference between "fellowship" and "relationship")

③ WHY PURSUE CHRIST RATHER THAN SIN?

Because we are no longer who we used to be - Read Romans 6:1-7

Because nothing will bring greater true joy in this life - Read John 15:10-11

Because it results in great reward in the next life - Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8

Because it avoids the painful consequences of sin - Read Romans 6:15-16 and 8:5-8

OUR NEW ENEMIES

Through faith in the gospel we have been born again as new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17), freed from slavery to sin (Romans 6:2-6) and transferred into the kingdom of God (Colossians 1:13) as His children (Romans 8:15-16). So then, **WHY DO WE STILL STRUGGLE WITH SIN?** The answer is simple; the instant I believed in the gospel I gained three powerful new enemies: the world, the devil, and the flesh. Before my conversion I was on their team, obediently following their every lead (whether I realized it or not). But now I belong to the opposing team. I belong to Christ, placing me in fierce opposition to all three.

1 THE WORLD

Read 1 John 2:15-17.

What does John mean by “world” here?

How does the world influence us towards sin?

2 THE DEVIL

What strategies does Satan use against us in each of these passages:

Genesis 3:1-6 (the serpent was possessed by Satan - Rev 12:9)

John 8:44

1 Peter 5:8-9

3 THE FLESH

Read Galatians 5:13-21

What is the “flesh” according to this passage?

What does a lifestyle surrendered to the flesh look like?

What force is within Paul causing him to desire to obey God rather than the flesh?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3. What are the three types of people listed here? How would you describe each type?



MEMORIZE: PHILIPPIANS 3:8

4.0 HOW TO HAVE VICTORY

① VICTORY THROUGH THE SPIRIT

Read Ephesians 5:15-21

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

What does Paul mean by “be filled with the Spirit?” What would be the opposite of being filled by the Spirit?

What is the result of being filled by the Spirit?

HOW CAN WE BE FILLED BY THE SPIRIT?

Through dependent faith - *read Hebrews 11:1-3,6*

Through consistent obedience - *read Philippians 2:12-13*

Through prompt confession - *read 1 John 1:9-2:2*



② VICTORY THROUGH THE WORD

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 and 2 Peter 1:20-21.

According to these passages, who is responsible for the content of the Bible?

What do these passages teach us about the reliability of scripture?

Why should we spend the time reading from the Bible? List the reasons you learn in each of the following passages:

Psalm 1:1-3

Matthew 7:24-27

Psalm 119:9-11

1 Peter 2:2

How can we get the most out of scripture?

- *Start with prayer since understanding God's Word requires His illumination (1 Corinthians 2:10-13)*
- *Read when you are at your mental best. Choose a time of day when you are fresh and alert and seek out a place free from distraction.*
- *Alternate between reading and meditating. Meditating is prayerful reflection on what you're reading with the goal of both understanding it and applying it to your life. Instead of reading straight through the Bible from cover to cover, finish one book and then start in a different type of book to keep you fresh and engaged (e.g. go from John to Ephesians to Psalms).*
- *Record observations and questions as you go. You can underline key words and ideas in your Bible or write them separately in a journal. Try to answer your questions as best you can and then discuss them with your mentor.*
- *Memorize a key verse or verses each week and review past memory verses regularly.*

③ VICTORY THROUGH THE BODY

Read Ephesians 1:22-23. What is the church?

*What do you learn about the church in each of these analogies?
John 10:11-16, 27-30*

Ephesians 5:25-33

Read Ephesians 4:15-16. Why should we bother going to church?

*Read Philippians 2:1-11 and John 13:35. How are we to treat others in the church body?
Why are we to treat them this way?*

