



Questions for New Believers

A GotQuestions.org Bible Study



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How to Use This Bible Study

Welcome to the Got Questions Bible Study! We're so glad you're here!

In these studies you will find GotQuestions content, Bible search questions to dig deeper, and heartfelt questions to spark reflection and discussion. Whether you are a new or seasoned believer, using these Bible studies for personal study or as a small group/Sunday School resource, we hope you will increase in your understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ and that you will seek Him more passionately.

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
– Jeremiah 29:13

These Bible studies are tools to help you grow in your knowledge of the topics at hand. However, knowing about God is not the same as actually knowing Him. God invites each of us to know Him personally and to have eternal life through Him.

Throughout this study, there will be information to read and questions to answer. Next to the questions will be icons. Here is your key to understanding them:



Content Qs



Engage Qs



Bible Look Up Qs



Reflection Qs

If we place our faith in Him, trusting in His death on the cross to pay for our sins, we will be forgiven and receive the promise of eternal life in heaven.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son so that anyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.
– John 3:16

If you have not yet trusted in Him for salvation or are unsure if you are saved, please visit: www.gotquestions.org/eternal-life.html.

May God richly bless you as you seek to study His Word and grow in your walk with Him (Joshua 1:8)!



Lesson 1:

What are the essentials of the gospel message?

The word gospel means “good news,” which is the message of forgiveness for sin through the atoning work of Jesus Christ. It is essentially God’s rescue plan of redemption for those who will trust in His divine Son in order to be reconciled to a just and holy God. The essential content of this saving message is clearly laid out for us in the Bible.

In one of the apostle Paul’s letters to the Corinthians, he lays out the content of the gospel message, “Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to

you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: 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” (1 Corinthians 15:1–4).



According to 1 Corinthians 15:1–4, what are the main points of the gospel message? Write them out in your own words.

In this passage, we see three essential elements of the gospel message. First, the phrase “died for our sins” is very important. As Romans 3:23 tells us, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” The reality of sin needs to be acknowledged by all who approach the

throne of God for salvation. A sinner must acknowledge the hopelessness of his guilt before God in order for forgiveness to take place, and he must understand that the “wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). Without this foundational truth, no gospel presentation is complete.



How have you come to realize that you are a sinner? Why is recognizing our sin essential to understanding the gospel message?

Second, the person and work of Christ are indispensable components of the gospel. Jesus is both God (Colossians 2:9) and man (John 1:14). Jesus lived the sinless life that we could never live (1 Peter 2:22), and, because of that, He is the only one who could die a substitutionary death for the sinner. Sin against an infinite God requires an infinite

sacrifice. Therefore, either man, who is finite, must pay the penalty for an infinite length of time in hell, or the infinite Christ must pay for it once. Jesus went to the cross to pay the debt we owe to God for our sin, and those who are covered by His sacrifice will inherit the kingdom of God as children of the King (John 1:12).



Why is it necessary for Jesus to be fully God, fully man, and sinless to provide an infinite sacrifice for sin?

Third, the resurrection of Christ is an essential element of the gospel. The resurrection is the proof of the power of God. Only He who created life can resurrect it after death, only He can reverse the hideousness that is death itself, and only He can remove the sting that is death and the victory that is the grave's (1 Corinthians 15:54–55).

Further, unlike all other religions, Christianity alone possesses a Founder who transcends death and who promises that His followers will do the same. All other religions were founded by men and prophets whose end was the grave.



How does the resurrection of Christ give you confidence in His power over death and the promise of eternal life?

Finally, Christ offers His salvation as a free gift (Romans 5:15; 6:23), that can only be received by faith, apart from any works or merit on our part (Ephesians 2:8–9). As the apostle Paul tells us, the gospel is “the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes:

first to the Jew, then to the Gentile” (Romans 1:16). Paul also tells us, “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).

From www.gotquestions.org/where-does-faith-come-from.html

A gift is not earned by some good deed or kind word, and it is not given because the giver expects a gift in return—under any of those conditions, a gift would not be a gift. The Bible emphasizes that faith is a gift because God deserves all of the glory for our salvation. If the receiver of faith could do anything whatsoever to deserve or earn the gift, that person would have every right to boast (Ephesians 2:9). But all such boasting is excluded (Romans 3:27). God wants Christians to understand they have done nothing to earn faith, it’s only because of what Christ did on the cross that God gives anyone faith (Ephesians 2:5, 16). Receiving faith is a non-work (see Romans 4—Abraham’s salvation was dependent on faith in God, as opposed to any work he performed).

Suppose someone anonymously sent you a check for \$1,000,000. The money is yours if you want it, but you still must endorse the check. In no way can signing your name be considered earning the million dollars—the endorsement is a non-work. You can never boast about becoming a millionaire through sheer effort or your own business savvy. No, the million dollars was simply a gift, and signing your name was the only way to receive it. Similarly, exercising faith is the only way to receive the generous gift of God, and faith cannot be considered a work worthy of the gift.



What does it look like to faithfully respond to God, while recognizing that salvation is entirely a gift from Him?

These, then, are the essential elements of the gospel: the sin of all men, the death of Christ on the cross to pay for those sins, the resurrection of Christ to provide life everlasting for those who follow Him, and the offer of the free gift of salvation to all.



What hope do you now have as a result of believing the gospel and trusting in Christ for the forgiveness of sins?

If you have not yet responded to the gospel and trusted in Christ's death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins, we encourage you to read the following article: www.gotquestions.org/how-can-I-be-saved.html

Wrestle through what it means to be saved and the implications of what it means to reject salvation.

If you are saved, remember with joy the day of your salvation (Psalm 51:12).



Lesson 2:

What are the essentials of the Christian faith?

The Bible itself reveals what is essential to the Christian faith. The essentials are the resurrection of Christ, the gospel, the deity of Christ, salvation by God's grace, salvation through Jesus Christ alone, monotheism, and the Holy Trinity. These are the basic doctrinal elements that we should understand and believe if we are followers of Jesus Christ. Let's look at each of these in a little more detail.



Before a person can grow in their faith, they must understand the essentials of the Christian faith. Just as a strong foundation is essential for building a house, knowing the basics helps believers develop a firm foundation of faith. Why is knowing the fundamentals important in any pursuit or endeavor?

The resurrection of Christ. Christ's resurrection is one of the essentials, if not the essential, because it is so basic to the Christian faith. Perhaps no other event in the Bible is as significant as the resurrection. Without the resurrection of Christ, we are without hope for eternal life: "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith" (1 Corinthians 15:14). With His resurrection, Christ

proved that He had made a satisfactory payment for sin, that His victory over sin and death was literal and complete, and that He has the power to save. The Lord Jesus could not stay in the grave, because, as the Son of God, He has "life in himself" (John 5:26). It's a life He shares with those who trust and follow Him: "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19). God promises a resurrection for all who are in Christ.



Why is the resurrection of Christ and His conquering of sin and death the foundation of our hope and assurance?

The gospel. The message of the gospel, or the good news, is that Jesus died for sinners and rose again the third day. Paul spells this out in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. Paul also warns against false gospels that replace Christ's work with our own or in some other way lead the unsuspecting away from the cross and empty tomb. "Even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody

is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!" (Galatians 1:8-9). The pure gospel of Jesus Christ—His death on the cross and His resurrection to everlasting life—is an essential of the Christian faith. More than that, "it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16).



What does 1 Corinthians 15:1–4 tell us about why the gospel message is essential to what Christians believe?

The deity of Christ. Quite simply, Jesus is God. While Jesus never directly says, “I am God” in Scripture, He makes it clear that He is God in the flesh. Jesus taught, “I and the Father are one” (John 10:30), and in this way He claimed deity. On occasions when people

called Him “God,” Jesus does not deny it. An example is John 20:28, when Thomas addresses Jesus as “My Lord and my God!” Jesus accepts the title because it is an accurate description of who He is. His resurrection from the dead is one of the main proofs of His deity.



What do the following verses reveal about Jesus’ deity?

John 1:1:

John 10:30–33:

Philippians 2:6–7:

Colossians 1:15–19:



Why does it matter that Jesus is God and not just a teacher, prophet, or good person?

Salvation by grace. We are all sinners separated from God and deserving of eternal punishment for our sin. Jesus' death on the cross paid for the sins of mankind—the just died for the unjust (1 Peter 3:18). Because of Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf, we can be forgiven and have an eternal relationship with God. God did not have to do this for us—we were unworthy of such love—but

He sent His only Son as an act of grace, or undeserved favor. Scripture emphasizes the goodness and grace of God: “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). There is nothing we can do to earn God's favor or gain access to heaven. Salvation is all of grace.



How does knowing that salvation is a gift of grace and not something we have to earn deepen your trust in God's love and influence the way you approach your relationship with Him?

Salvation through Jesus Christ alone. Some people wonder, “Don't all roads lead to God?” At least in one sense, all roads do lead to God—everyone will face Him in judgment after death. But not everyone will be saved. For most people, the judgment will be a terrible occasion, as they will not know Jesus as their Lord. Those who do not have faith in Christ will have the lake of fire as their final destination. There is only one way to avoid that fate: faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ (John

3:16-18). Jesus is the only savior: “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is our only remedy for sin. His resurrection is our only hope for eternal life. Jesus' own words on the matter are quite exclusive: “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).



The claim that Christ is the only way to salvation is often challenged by skeptics, who ask, “How can there be only one way?” However, Jesus Himself asserted that He is the only way, and He demonstrated the truth of this claim by conquering sin and death through His resurrection. How does the truth of salvation being found in Jesus Christ alone encourage you?

Monotheism. Monotheism is the belief that there is only one God to be worshiped and served, and that belief is an essential of the Christian faith. Monotheism is taught throughout Scripture, starting with the law (Deuteronomy 6:4) and continuing through the prophets: “This is what the LORD says—Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God” (Isaiah 44:6). The New Testament affirms the same truth, and

a Christian knows there is only one true God, despite the many wannabes: “For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many ‘gods’ and many ‘lords’), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live” (1 Corinthians 8:5-6).



Why does it matter that the God of the Bible alone is God?

The Holy Trinity. A doctrine basic to Christianity is that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are all the one God. The concept of a “three-in-one” God is not taught in a single verse or passage, but Scripture repeatedly alludes to His triune nature. In Matthew 28:19, all three Persons of the Trinity are

mentioned: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All three Persons of the Trinity are also present at Jesus’ baptism (Matthew 3:16-17). Christians may not be able to adequately explain the Trinity, but they believe that God is triune.



***We don’t have to fully understand the Trinity to be saved; however, God has given us enough in His Word to know that it is a biblical truth. Believing what God’s Word says about Him is essential. What do the following passages reveal about God consisting of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
Matthew 28:19:***

2 Corinthians 13:14:

Hebrews 9:14:



How does the fact that God has revealed Himself through Scripture encourage you to seek a deeper understanding of His nature, even if it’s difficult to fully grasp?

Any discussion of the basics of Christianity must include a mention of faith. “Without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6), and so faith is one of the essentials. As Christians we trust

in a God we cannot see. We yearn for a home we’ve never been to. We place confidence in outcomes that defy all odds. And we would choose death over giving up any of the above essentials.



Spend some time reflecting on the essentials of the faith. What kind of questions do you have about them? Write them down and spend this week seeking the answers. God is faithful and wants to be known.



Lesson 3:

Why should I get baptized?

“Why should I get baptized?” is an important question for Christians to answer. From the earliest days of the Christian church, baptism has been a foundational step of faith following salvation (Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12, 38).



What do you know about baptism and why Christians are baptized?

The act of baptism by immersion in water outwardly expresses the inward experience of change that happens in the life of every believer at salvation. It demonstrates that the old way of life has ended, and a new life of faith in Jesus Christ has begun (2 Corinthians 5:17). Baptism

is important because it provides a visual testimony—a public declaration to the world—that symbolically identifies the new believer with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



***According to these verses, what does baptism represent for the believer?
Romans 6:3–5:***

Colossians 2:12:

The Bible supplies several reasons why baptism is an important step in the Christian life:

Baptism is an expression of saving faith. Like a stamp of validation, baptism represents our salvation experience and the magnificent work of Jesus Christ in dying for our sins and rising for our justification: “For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead” (Colossians 2:12, NLT).

Baptism is God-ordained and commanded by Jesus. As part of His Great Commission to the church, Jesus gave these instructions: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:19–20). Baptism is an integral part of Christian discipleship and is meant to be an ongoing practice of the church.



In what ways does baptism provide people with a stamp of validation for their salvation?

Baptism is an act of obedience to our Savior, expressing our desire to please God. The word Christian means “Christ-follower.” Since Christ called us to baptism and set the example by being baptized Himself (Matthew 3:16), neglecting to be baptized is disobedience to the command of Christ.

Baptism unites us with Christ by identifying us with His death, burial, and resurrection: “Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life” (Romans 6:3–4). When we repent of our sins and come to faith in Jesus Christ, baptism testifies of our union with Him.



In what ways does water baptism identify us with Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection?

Likewise, baptism represents our death to the old life of sin and our new birth into resurrection life and freedom from bondage to sin: “Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified

with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin” (Romans 6:5–7, NLT).



What do these verses reveal about the new life we have in Christ after we are saved?

John 3:16–21:

2 Corinthians 5:17:

Galatians 5:13–26:

Ephesians 4:22–24:

Colossians 3:1–10:



How has your life changed since coming to faith in Christ? In what areas of your life would you like to see God bring His life and light?

Baptism also identifies us with the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12–13). It is an emblem that says we now belong to Jesus Christ and His people: “For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes” (Galatians 3:26–27, NLT).



How do you understand the importance of baptism for yourself, for your faith, and for your place in the body of Christ?

Baptism gives public testimony of the Holy Spirit's inward work of washing away our sins: "And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21, NLT; see also Acts 22:16; 1 Corinthians 6:11).



How does your understanding of baptism deepen your appreciation for the Holy Spirit's work in your life?

A correct understanding of baptism means comprehending that it is more than religious ritual or church tradition. The significance of baptism originates in the death of Jesus Christ, God's own Son, who died in our place to pay for our sins, and who triumphed over death through His resurrection, securing for us new life in the Spirit and eternal life forever with God.



Think through what baptism means for the believer. Have you gotten baptized? If so, remember and reflect on the significance of that moment—how it marked your public declaration of faith and identified you with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. If you haven't been baptized yet, what else do you need in order to take that step of obedience? Pray and ask God for clarity, courage, and a deeper understanding of the significance of baptism in your relationship with Him.

Lesson 4:

Why should we read/study the Bible?

We should read and study the Bible because it is God's Word to us. The Bible is literally "God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16). In other words, it is God's very words to us. There are so many questions that philosophers have asked that God answers for us in Scripture. What is the purpose to life? Where did I come from? Is there life after death? How do I get to heaven? Why is the world full of evil? Why do I struggle to do good? In addition to these "big" questions, the Bible gives much practical advice in areas such as: How can I be a good friend? What is success and how do I achieve it? How can I change? What really matters in life? How can I live so that I do not look back with regret? How can I handle the unfair circumstances and bad events of life victoriously? What do I look for in a mate? How can I have a successful marriage? How can I be a good parent?



What do the following verses say about the importance of God's Word in a believer's life?

Psalm 119:105:

Deuteronomy 8:3:

Isaiah 55:11:

John 8:31–32:

2 Timothy 3:16–17:

1 Peter 2:2:

We should read and study the Bible because it is totally reliable and without error. The Bible is unique among so-called “holy” books in that it does not merely give moral teaching and say, “Trust me.” Rather, we have the ability to test it by checking the hundreds of detailed prophecies that it makes, by checking the historical accounts it records, and by checking the scientific facts it relates. Those who say the Bible has errors have their ears closed to the truth. Jesus once asked which is easier to say, “Your sins are forgiven you,” or “Rise, take up

your bed and walk.” Then He proved He had the ability to forgive sins (something we cannot see with our eyes) by healing the paralytic (something those around Him could test with their eyes) (see Matthew 9:1-8 and Mark 2:1-12). Similarly, we are given assurance that God’s Word is true when it discusses spiritual areas that we cannot test with our senses by showing itself true in those areas that we can test, such as historical accuracy, scientific accuracy, and prophetic accuracy.



How does understanding the Bible’s reliability shape the way you approach reading and studying Scripture?

We should read and study the Bible because God does not change and because mankind’s nature does not change; it is as relevant for us as it was when it was written. While technology changes, mankind’s nature and desires do not change. We find, as we read the pages of biblical history, that whether we are talking about one-on-one relationships or societies, “there is nothing new under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 1:9). And while mankind as a whole continues to seek love and satisfaction in all of the wrong places, God—our good

and gracious Creator—tells us what will bring us lasting joy. His revealed Word, the Bible, is so important that Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 8:3 in response to one of Satan’s temptations in the wilderness: “Jesus answered, ‘It is written: “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God”’” (Matthew 4:4). In other words, if we want to live life to the fullest, as God intended, we must listen to and heed God’s written Word.



How does recognizing that God, who does not change, wants to be known and gives His Word to us to be known, impact your view of the Bible?

We should read and study the Bible because there is so much false teaching. The Bible gives us the measuring stick by which we can distinguish truth from error. It tells us what God is like. To have a wrong impression of God is to worship an idol or false god. We are worshiping something that He is not. The Bible tells us how one truly gets to heaven, and it is not by being good

or by being baptized or by anything else we do (Isaiah 53:6; John 14:6; Romans 3:10-18; 5:8; 6:23; 10:9-13; Ephesians 2:1-10). Along this line, God's Word shows us just how much God loves us (John 3:16; Romans 5:6-8). And it is in learning this that we are drawn to love Him in return (1 John 4:19).



How does God's Word help us stand firm against false teaching?

Reading and studying the Bible helps us see beyond the attractive “bait” to the painful “hook” in sinful temptations, so that we can learn from others' mistakes rather than making them ourselves. Experience is a great teacher, but when it comes to learning from sin, it is a terribly hard teacher. It is so much better to learn from others' mistakes. There are so many Bible characters to learn from, some of whom can serve as

both positive and negative role models at different times in their lives. For example, David, in his defeat of Goliath, teaches us that God is greater than anything He asks us to face (1 Samuel 17), while his giving in to the temptation to commit adultery with Bathsheba reveals just how long-lasting and terrible the consequences of a moment's sinful pleasure can be (2 Samuel 11).



How can learning from others' mistakes and positive examples in God's Word help us see what matters and how God calls us to live?

The Bible is a book that is not merely for reading. It is a book for studying so that it can be applied. Otherwise, it is like swallowing food without chewing and then spitting it back out again—no nutritional value is gained by it. The Bible is God’s Word. As such, it is as binding as the laws of nature. We can ignore it, but we do so to our own detriment, just as we would if we ignored the

law of gravity. It cannot be emphasized strongly enough just how important the Bible is to our lives. Studying the Bible can be compared to mining for gold. If we make little effort and merely “sift through the pebbles in a stream,” we will only find a little gold dust. But the more we make an effort to really dig into it, the more reward we will gain for our effort.

From www.gotquestions.org/study-the-Bible.html

What is the proper way to study the Bible? First, the one who would study the Bible must pray and ask the Holy Spirit to impart understanding, for that is one of His functions. “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come” (John 16:13). Just as the Holy Spirit guided the apostles in the writing of the New Testament, He also guides us in the understanding of Scripture. The Bible is God’s book, and we need to ask Him what it means. If you are a Christian, the author of Scripture—the Holy Spirit—dwells inside you, and He wants you to understand what He wrote.

Second, to study the Bible properly, we cannot pull a verse out of the verses that surround it and try to determine the meaning of the verse outside of the context. We should always read the surrounding verses and chapters to discern the context. While all of Scripture comes from God (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21), God used men to write it down. These men had a theme in mind, a purpose for writing, and a specific issue they were addressing. To study the Bible, we should understand the background of the book we are studying: it’s helpful to know who wrote the book, to whom it was written, when it was written, and why it was written. Also, we should take care to let the text speak for itself. Sometimes people will assign their own meanings to words in order to get the interpretation they desire.

Third, to study the Bible properly, we should not think of ourselves as totally independent in our analysis of the text. It is arrogant to think that we cannot gain understanding through the lifelong work of others who have studied Scripture. Some people, in error, approach the Bible with the idea that they will depend on the Holy Spirit alone and they will discover all the hidden truths of Scripture. Christ, in the giving of the Holy Spirit, has given people with spiritual gifts to the body of Christ. One of these spiritual gifts is that of teaching (Ephesians 4:11–12; 1 Corinthians 12:28). These teachers are given by the Lord to help us to correctly understand and obey Scripture. It is always wise to study the Bible with other believers, assisting each other in understanding and applying the truth of God’s Word.



The Bible is God's main way of speaking to us. God has given us His Word to know Him, to understand ourselves, and to see how He is calling us to live. As you spend time with God in His Word, you will grow in your relationship with Him, gaining deeper insight into His character, the work He has been doing throughout human history, and His will for your life. God's Word and Spirit give us what we need to live a victorious Christian life that reflects His glory and fulfills His plans.

This week as you read God's Word, be encouraged that you are building a foundation that strengthens your faith, shapes your actions, and draws you closer to the heart of God.

Tip: The Gospel of John is a great place to start reading the Bible for new believers! It clearly presents Jesus' identity, reveals foundational truths about salvation, and emphasizes the importance of believing in Him.



Lesson 5:

What is the meaning of living for Jesus?

We all live for something. Parents may live for their children, spouses may live for each other, and business owners may live for success. We say that we are “living for” something when that is the motivation for all we do. Living for Jesus means that pleasing Him is our highest aim (Colossians 1:10). Although we have dozens of lesser motivators, those filled with the Spirit of Christ are motivated primarily by His goals and His plans for their lives. When those plans collide with lesser goals, those who are living for Jesus follow His way and not their own (Proverbs 3:5–6).



What did you live for before coming to faith, either knowingly or unknowingly?

The phrase “living for Jesus” can sound ethereal and idealistic. But Jesus warned that living for Him would be costly (Luke 14:26–33). The first disciples were willing to pay that price. They suffered tremendous persecution and even death in order to glorify God (Acts 5:41). Stephen was stoned (Acts 7:58–60), James

was beheaded (Acts 12:2), and history records that all the apostles but John were also martyred. Even today, Christians around the world are beaten, robbed, tortured, and imprisoned simply because they live for Jesus.

Here is some of what living for Jesus means:

1. Living for Jesus means we have died to sin. Romans 6 is a beautiful description of a Christian who chooses daily to consider himself dead to sin and alive to Christ (verses 6–8). Being dead to sin means we no longer

consider sinning against God a viable option. The decision was made when we bowed at the cross and were born again by grace through faith. Though we will still stumble at times, sin no longer masters us. Just as a corpse does not lust, covet, or gossip, those who are dead to sin do not heed temptation (Galatians 2:20).



How does living for Jesus change a person's desires and relationship to sin?

2. Living for Jesus means we have only one God. This is the first commandment (Exodus 20:3; 1 Corinthians 8:6), yet people can and do make gods out of anything. John Calvin rightly stated, “The human heart is an idol factory.” We recognize our false gods by asking ourselves

a question: What is it that I am unwilling to lay on the altar? Whatever we refuse to give to God becomes our god. Living for Jesus means we continually search our hearts for idols that steal our time and affection away from total devotion to Him (2 Corinthians 11:3).



How does recognizing God as supreme in our lives change our priorities and the way we make decisions?

3. Living for Jesus means we diligently study His Word. Second Timothy 2:15 says, “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.” Correctly handling God’s Word is vital for one who wants to avoid deception and live

as salt and light in this world (Matthew 5:13–16). Unless we know the heart of God, we will violate His standards and lead others to do the same. We discover His heart when we pursue the “whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27, ESV) and apply it regularly to our lives.



What priority should God’s Word have in a believer’s life? What does that look like practically?

5. Living for Jesus means we know where our real treasure is. People who live for Jesus are not as concerned about earthly treasures as is the rest of the world. While we are free to enjoy all God’s blessings in this life, Jesus made it clear that we are not to put our whole focus on them (Matthew 6:19–20). People who are living for Jesus focus on eternity and dedicate

themselves to endeavors that have eternal significance. They do not live for the world or for what is temporary. Instead, our passion and energy are directed toward cooperating with God’s work in the world and investing in the lives of others who will join us in heaven one day (Luke 10:2–3).



What are some of the real treasures that come from living for Jesus. How do these eternal rewards shape your perspective on earthly pursuits?

Becoming a Christian means we are choosing to live for Jesus instead of living for ourselves. He made His requirements clear: “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23, ESV). Carrying a cross means we are dying to our right to be our own boss. We cannot have

two masters; Jesus will not share His throne (Luke 14:26–27; Galatians 1:10; Matthew 6:24). We either live for Jesus or for something or someone else. As we live for Jesus, He empowers us to live the godly lives we were created to live (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14).



Think about what you were living for before Christ and what it means to live for the things of God now.

Read 1 Peter 1:3–9 and reflect on what it means to live for Jesus:

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 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 an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Pray and thank God for the immeasurable treasure we have in living for Christ, and ask Him to help you live for Him.



Lesson 6:

Why is church attendance / going to church important?

Simply put, the Bible tells us we need to attend church so we can worship God with other believers and be taught His Word for our spiritual growth. The early church “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42). We should follow that example of devotion—and to the same things. Back then, they had no designated church building, but “every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts” (Acts 2:46). Wherever the meeting takes place, believers thrive on fellowship with other believers and the teaching of God’s Word.



What is your relationship with the church? How invested are you currently in attending church and being connected with people in a church community?

Church attendance is not just a “good suggestion”; it is God’s will for believers. Hebrews 10:25 says we should “not [be] giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Even in the early church, some were falling into the bad habit of not meeting with other believers. The author of Hebrews says that’s not the way to go. We need the encouragement that church attendance affords. And the approach of the end times should prompt us to be even more devoted to going to church.

Church is the place where believers can love one another (1 John 4:12), encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13), “spur” one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24), serve one another (Galatians 5:13), instruct one another (Romans 15:14), honor one another (Romans 12:10), and be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32).



What is the importance of not just going to church but also having meaningful relationships with other believers at church?

When a person trusts Jesus Christ for salvation, he or she is made a member of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). For a church body to function properly, all of its “body parts” need to be present and working (1 Corinthians 12:14–20). We are not to attend church as if we are mere spectators. We are actually part of our church. Not only does our church help equip us for ministry, it is a place where we serve,

using the spiritual gifts God has given us (Ephesians 4:11–13). A believer will never reach full spiritual maturity without having that outlet for his gifts, and we all need the assistance and encouragement of other believers (1 Corinthians 12:21–26). As we serve, worship, and live in community together, the body of Christ reflects who God is. Together, we are the light of the world (Matthew 5:14–16).



The Holy Spirit has given every believer a spiritual gift to use to build up the body of Christ and to reflect Him to others. How does having different people with different gifts working together help the body of Christ?

For these reasons and more, church attendance, participation, and fellowship should be regular aspects of a believer's life. Weekly church attendance is in no sense "required" for believers, but someone who belongs to Christ should have a desire to worship God, receive His Word, and fellowship with other believers.

Jesus is the Cornerstone of the Church (1 Peter 2:6), and we are "like living stones . . . being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5). As the building materials of God's "spiritual house," we naturally have a connection with one another, and that connection is evident every time the Church "goes to church."



God has given us other believers from whom we can learn and grow together. If you are not already attending a church, look for a church that is:

- 1. Biblical and teaches according to God's Word***
- 2. A place of fellowship and community***
- 3. Equipping, helping others grow in their relationship with God***

***If you are looking for a church, we encourage you to use our church finder tool:
<https://www.gotquestions.org/church-finder.html>***

Spend some time thanking God that we do not have to walk a life for Jesus alone. Ask Him to give you wisdom on how to find a biblical church, engage meaningfully with others in the church, and serve for the benefit of others in the church.



Lesson 7:

What is prayer?

The most basic definition of prayer is “talking to God.” Prayer is not meditation or passive reflection; it is direct address to God. It is the communication of the human soul with the Lord who created the soul. Prayer is the primary way for the believer in Jesus Christ to communicate his emotions and desires with God and to fellowship with God.



What does prayer look like in your life? Where did you learn to pray?

Prayer can be audible or silent, private or public, formal or informal. All prayer must be offered in faith (James 1:6), in the name of the Lord Jesus (John 16:23), and in the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26). As the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia puts it, “Christian prayer in its full New Testament meaning

is prayer addressed to God as Father, in the name of Christ as Mediator, and through the enabling grace of the indwelling Spirit” (“Prayer” by J. C. Lambert). The wicked have no desire to pray (Psalm 10:4), but the children of God have a natural desire to pray (Luke 11:1).



What do the following verses tell us about the difference between a believer and an unbeliever in terms of their prayer life?
Proverbs 15:29:

Isaiah 59:2:

John 9:31:

James 5:16:

1 John 5:14–15:

Prayer is described in the Bible as seeking God's favor (Exodus 32:11), pouring out one's soul to the Lord (1 Samuel 1:15), crying out to heaven (2 Chronicles 32:20), drawing near to God (Psalm 73:28, KJV), and kneeling before the Father (Ephesians 3:14).

Paul wrote, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"

(Philippians 4:6–7). Worry about nothing; pray about everything.

Everything? Yes, God wants us to talk with Him about everything. How often should we pray? The biblical answer is "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17, ESV). We should keep a running conversation going with God all day long. We can pray under any and all circumstances. Prayer develops our relationship with God and demonstrates our trust and utter dependence upon Him.



How easy or difficult is it for you to talk to God about anything and everything?
What helps you, or might help you, in being able to pray regularly?

Prayer is the Christian's way of communicating with God. We pray to praise God and thank Him and tell Him how much we love Him. We pray to enjoy His presence and tell Him what is going on in our lives. We pray to make requests and seek guidance and ask for

wisdom. God loves this exchange with His children, just as we love the exchange we have with our children. Fellowship with God is the heart of prayer. Too often we lose sight of how simple prayer is really supposed to be.



Why is it important to remember the simplicity of prayer as a conversation with God? How can focusing on this simplicity help you develop a deeper relationship with Him?

When we make petitions to God, we let God know exactly where we stand and what we would like to see happen. In our prayers, we must admit that God is greater than we are and ultimately knows what is best in any given situation (Romans 11:33–36). God is good and asks us to trust Him. In prayer, we say, essentially, “Not my will,

but your will be done.” The key to answered prayer is praying according to the will of God and in accordance with His Word. Prayer is not seeking our own will but seeking to align ourselves with the will of God more fully (1 John 5:14–15; James 4:3).



Why is it important to seek God's will in our prayers? How can trusting who He is deepen our faith when His answers differ from our desires?

The Bible contains many examples of prayer and plenty of exhortations to pray (see Luke 18:1; Romans 12:12; and Ephesians 6:18). God's house is to be a house of prayer (Mark 11:17), and God's people are to be people of prayer: "Dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love" (Jude 1:20-21).



Look up the following verses. What do you learn about prayer from them?

Luke 18:1:

Romans 12:2:

Ephesians 6:18:



Prayer allows us to stay connected to God. God wants to hear our hearts, and in coming to Him, we seek His. Prayer changes our will as we surrender to Him in humility and honesty. This week, make it a priority to carve out time each day to pray. Let your prayers be a reflection of your deepest desire to know Him more.

Lesson 8:

What is the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives today?

Of all the gifts given to mankind by God, there is none greater than the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit has many functions, roles, and activities. First, He does a work in the hearts of all people everywhere. Jesus told the disciples that He would send the Spirit into the world to “convict the world regarding sin, and righteousness, and judgment” (John 16:8, NASB). Everyone has a “God consciousness,” whether or not they admit it. The Spirit applies God’s truths to people’s minds to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners. Responding to that conviction brings us to salvation.



What do the following verses reveal about the role of the Holy Spirit?
John 14:16–17:

John 16:3; 8:

Acts 1:8:

Romans 8:26–27:

1 Corinthians 12:7–11:

Ephesians 1:13–14:

Galatians 5:22–23:

Once we are saved and belong to God, the Spirit takes up residence in our hearts forever, sealing us with the confirming, certifying, and assuring pledge of our eternal state as His children. Jesus said He would send the Spirit to us to be our Helper, Comforter, and Guide. “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever” (John 14:16, CSB). The Greek word translated here “Counselor”

means “one who is called alongside” and has the idea of someone who encourages and exhorts. The Holy Spirit takes up permanent residence in the hearts of believers (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 12:13). Jesus gave the Spirit as a “compensation” for His absence, to perform the functions toward us that He would have done if He had remained personally with us.



How does the presence of the Holy Spirit as your permanent Helper, Comforter, and Guide encourage you in your daily walk with God, especially in moments when you feel uncertain or overwhelmed?

Among those functions is that of revealer of truth. The Spirit’s presence within us enables us to understand and interpret God’s Word. Jesus told His disciples that “when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth” (John 16:13). He reveals to our minds the whole counsel of God as it relates to worship, doctrine, and Christian living. He is the ultimate guide, going before, leading the way, removing obstructions, opening the understanding, and making all things plain and clear. He leads in the way we should go in

all spiritual things. Without such a guide, we would be apt to fall into error. A crucial part of the truth He reveals is that Jesus is who He said He is (John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 12:3). The Spirit convinces us of Christ’s deity and incarnation, His being the Messiah, His suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension, His exaltation at the right hand of God, and His role as the judge of all. He gives glory to Christ in all things (John 16:14).



How does the Holy Spirit work with God’s Word to reveal what is true, and what does that say about the importance of prayer and Bible reading in our walk with the Lord?

Another one of the Holy Spirit's roles is that of gift-giver. First Corinthians 12 describes the spiritual gifts given to believers in order that we may function as the body of Christ on earth. All these gifts, both great and

small, are given by the Spirit so that we may be His ambassadors to the world, showing forth His grace and glorifying Him.



What are the purpose of spiritual gifts and what is their role in helping others know God and be strengthened in their faith?

The Spirit also functions as fruit-producer in our lives. When He indwells us, He begins the work of harvesting His fruit in our lives—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-

control (Galatians 5:22-23). These are not works of our flesh, which is incapable of producing such fruit, but they are products of the Spirit's presence in our lives.



Fruit is meant to be enjoyable, refreshing, and nourishing to others. What connection does this have to our lives as we grow in the fruit of the Spirit?

The knowledge that the Holy Spirit of God has taken up residence in our lives, that He performs all these miraculous functions, that He dwells with us forever,

and that He will never leave or forsake us is cause for great joy and comfort. Thank God for this precious gift—the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives!



The Holy Spirit points us into truth, convicts us of sin, and grows us to produce fruit. How does He do this? Read Romans 12:2 and Galatians 5:13–26. Pray through areas where you would like God to transform your thinking, desires, and actions. As you are in this process, remember who God is and know that He is always faithful to complete the work He began in you. Trust that as you submit to His leading, the Holy Spirit will continue to shape you more into the image of Christ, helping you to reflect His character in your thoughts, desires, and actions. Keep your heart open to His guidance, knowing that He is always working for your growth and His eternal purposes.



Lesson 9:

What is the key to living a victorious Christian life?

The victorious Christian life is the life that is lived, by faith, in a moment-by-moment surrender to God. The victorious Christian life is rooted and grounded in faith. The whole of Hebrews 11 tells the stories of men and women who, by faith, were victorious in some way. Our God is always victorious, no matter the foe. Even the cross of Christ was not a defeat for the Lord, but a victory: “Now the prince of this world will be driven out,” Jesus said in the final week of His earthly ministry (John 12:31). At His trial before the high priest, Jesus testified, “You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven” (Mark 14:62). That’s the victory believers share in.



What does the word “victorious” mean? Describe what you think it practically looks like to have a victorious Christian life.

The victorious Christian life is a life lived in triumph over “everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life” (1 John 2:16). It is the conquering of fear, knowing God’s peace (John 14:27; 16:33). It is perseverance through “trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or

danger or sword” (Romans 8:35), showing us to be “more than conquerors through him who loved us” (verse 37). The victorious Christian life naturally leads to a defeat of death itself (1 Corinthians 15:54–55) and a glorious reward in heaven (Revelation 21:7).



Once we are saved, we don't become sinless. We still battle the flesh, sin, and temptation. However, a Christian will desire to sin less, and God has given us all we need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). What are some specific things God has given us so we can have a victorious Christian life (see Romans 8:11, Ephesians 6:10–18, Philippians 4:6–7, and 1 Timothy 3:16-17)?

“The righteous will live by faith” (Romans 1:17), and it’s impossible to overemphasize the importance of faith in living the victorious Christian life: “Everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God” (1 John 5:4–5).

Part of living the victorious Christian life is properly dealing with temptation. First Corinthians 10:13 says, “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when

you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.” In the context of this verse, Paul is speaking to a church surrounded by idolatry and temptation. There were social, financial, and political pressures to return to their old ways and participate in pagan practices. God in His faithfulness told them, and us, that there is no temptation anywhere at any time that will take Him by surprise, and He will always make a way to escape it and thus endure. When a Christian faces a temptation, God will always give a clear way of avoiding the sin, but it is still the choice of the individual to take the way out or not. Avoiding temptation requires moment-by-moment submission to God.



How are you encouraged by knowing that God always provides a way out of temptation and sin?



In what areas of your life do you struggle with sin and temptation, and how are you taking the way out?

In John 15, Jesus tells a parable that gives a key to the victorious Christian life. Jesus Christ is the vine, the source of life and health and wholeness, and we are the branches, utterly dependent on the vine. The word used over and over throughout the passage is most often translated as “abide” or “remain.” The original Greek word really means “stay where you are.” Where is the Christian? The Christian is in Christ (Ephesians 2:13).



Read John 15. What does this chapter reveal about what it means to abide in Christ. How does staying connected to Christ in these ways lead us to living a victorious Christian life?

The victorious Christian life is a journey of faith, not just for eternal salvation, but of daily decisions building up into a lifestyle that reflects Christ (Galatians 2:20). Faith is the calm assurance that what we do not yet see is far more real, more substantial, more trustworthy than what we do see (Hebrews 11:1). The life of faith chooses to believe God in all things (Romans 4:3). “If

then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory” (Colossians 3:1–4, ESV).



How should a life of faith impact a person’s daily decisions and lifestyle?

The victorious Christian life is lived with eyes set on the things of heaven, not of this world. Jesus is our model in this: “For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured

such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart” (Hebrews 12:2–3). The eternal life of the believer is set securely in Christ. We, too, are at God’s right hand, by faith. The victorious Christian is one who lives in that reality.



Take a moment to reflect on your own life and consider where your focus is set. Are you more often caught up in the temporary concerns of this world, or are your eyes fixed on the eternal promises of God? Jesus endured the cross, looking ahead to the joy set before Him, and we are called to do the same. Reflect on how your current struggles and challenges could be viewed through the lens of eternity. Spend time praying for the strength to endure, keeping your focus on the victory that is already secured for you in Christ, and ask God to help you live in that reality every day.



Lesson 10:

Can a Christian lose salvation?

First, the term Christian must be defined. A “Christian” is not a person who has said a prayer or walked down an aisle or been raised in a Christian family. While each of these things can be a part of the Christian experience, they are not what makes a Christian. A Christian is a person who has fully trusted in Jesus Christ as the only Savior and therefore possesses the Holy Spirit (John 3:16; Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8–9).



Have you ever worried that you may have lost your salvation? What led to this?

So, with this definition in mind, can a Christian lose salvation? It's a crucially important question. Perhaps the best way to answer it is to examine what the Bible says occurs at salvation and to study what losing salvation would entail:

A Christian is a new creation. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). A Christian is not simply an "improved" version of a person; a Christian is an entirely new creature. He is "in Christ." For a Christian to lose salvation, the new creation would have to be destroyed.



***What do the following verses say about what it means to be made new?
Romans 6:1–14:***

Ephesians 4:17–32:

Colossians 3:1–17:

A Christian is redeemed. "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect" (1 Peter 1:18–19). The word redeemed refers

to a purchase being made, a price being paid. We were purchased at the cost of Christ's death. For a Christian to lose salvation, God Himself would have to revoke His purchase of the individual for whom He paid with the precious blood of Christ.



What assurance do you receive in knowing that salvation is by grace through faith on the basis of Jesus' death and resurrection and that Christ cannot revoke His sacrifice?

A Christian is justified. “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1). To justify is to declare righteous. All those who receive Jesus as Savior are “declared righteous” by God. For a Christian to lose salvation, God would have to go back on His Word and “un-declare” what He had previously declared. Those absolved of guilt would have to be tried again and found guilty. God would have to reverse the sentence handed down from the divine bench.

A Christian is promised eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Eternal life is the promise of spending forever in heaven with God. God promises that if you believe, you will have eternal life. For a Christian to lose salvation, eternal life would have to be redefined. The Christian is promised to live forever. Does eternal not mean “eternal”?



At salvation, God declares us righteous, not because we no longer sin, but because we are forgiven and Christ has already taken the consequences of our sin upon Himself for all eternity. How does understanding this truth shape the way you view your ongoing struggle with sin?

A Christian is marked by God and sealed by the Spirit. “You also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory” (Ephesians 1:13–14). At the moment of faith, the new Christian is

marked and sealed with the Spirit, who was promised to act as a deposit to guarantee the heavenly inheritance. The end result is that God’s glory is praised. For a Christian to lose salvation, God would have to erase the mark, withdraw the Spirit, cancel the deposit, break His promise, revoke the guarantee, keep the inheritance, forego the praise, and lessen His glory.



Where do you notice the Holy Spirit's work in your life (considering His role discussed in Lesson 8). How does witnessing your spiritual growth strengthen your confidence in your salvation?

A Christian is guaranteed glorification. "Those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified" (Romans 8:30). According to Romans 5:1, justification is ours at the moment of faith. According to Romans 8:30, glorification comes with justification. All those whom

God justifies are promised to be glorified. This promise will be fulfilled when Christians receive their perfect resurrection bodies in heaven. If a Christian can lose salvation, then Romans 8:30 is in error, because God could not guarantee glorification for all those whom He predestines, calls, and justifies.



"Glorification" is God's final removal of sin from the life of the saints (i.e., everyone who is saved) in the eternal state (Romans 8:18; 2 Corinthians 4:17). How does understanding "glorification" as God's final removal of sin in the eternal state give you hope and shape your perspective on the struggles you face with sin in this life? How does it comfort you when you start to wonder if you are still saved just because you are wrestling with sin or doubt?

A Christian cannot lose salvation. Most, if not all, of what the Bible says happens to us when we receive Christ would be invalidated if salvation could be lost. Salvation is the gift of God, and God's gifts are "irrevocable" (Romans 11:29). A Christian cannot be un-newly created. The redeemed cannot be unpurchased. Eternal life cannot be temporary. God cannot renege on His Word. Scripture says that God does not lie (Titus 1:2).

Two common objections to the belief that a Christian cannot lose salvation concern these experiential issues: 1) What about Christians who live in a sinful, unrepentant lifestyle? 2) What about Christians who

reject the faith and deny Christ? The problem with these objections is the assumption that everyone who calls himself a "Christian" has actually been born again. The Bible declares that a true Christian will not live in a state of continual, unrepentant sin (1 John 3:6). The Bible also says that anyone who departs the faith is demonstrating that he was never truly a Christian (1 John 2:19). He may have been religious, he may have put on a good show, but he was never born again by the power of God. "By their fruit you will recognize them" (Matthew 7:16). The redeemed of God belong "to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God" (Romans 7:4).



How do the Bible's teachings about the security of salvation challenge or strengthen your understanding of what it means to truly be "born again"?



What are the signs of someone who is genuinely saved and someone who is simply outwardly religious?

Nothing can separate a child of God from the Father's love (Romans 8:38–39). Nothing can remove a Christian from God's hand (John 10:28–29). God guarantees eternal life and maintains the salvation He has given us. The Good Shepherd searches for the lost sheep, and, “when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home” (Luke 15:5–6). The lamb is found, and the Shepherd gladly bears the burden; our Lord takes full responsibility for bringing the lost one safely home.

Jude 1:24–25 further emphasizes the goodness and faithfulness of our Savior: “To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.”



What do we learn about God's character and His heart toward us in the way He guarantees our salvation?



Take some time to reflect on the powerful truth that God has guaranteed your salvation through Christ, a promise that can never be taken away. How does this unshakable security in your relationship with God free you to boldly live a victorious Christian life? May the truth of the assurance of your salvation ignite your heart in praise for God's unwavering faithfulness and empower you to walk through life with the assurance that you are forever His, held firmly by Him in love.



Wrap Up

Now that you have studied ten lessons on the gospel and Christian essentials, take some time to reflect on what you've learned and how you will put what you've learned into practice.



How has your understanding of the Christian faith changed or expanded as a result of what you've learned through this study?



What will you change in your life as a result of this study?



Who in your life would you like to see come to salvation or grow in their understanding of the Christian faith? Commit to praying for them. What will you share with them about what you have learned?



Reference List

Lesson 1: www.gotquestions.org/gospel-message.html
Lesson 2: www.gotquestions.org/essentials-Christian-faith.html
Lesson 3: www.gotquestions.org/why-should-I-get-baptized.html
Lesson 4: www.gotquestions.org/why-read-Bible.html
Lesson 5: www.gotquestions.org/living-for-Jesus.html
Lesson 6: www.gotquestions.org/church-attendance.html
Lesson 7: www.gotquestions.org/what-is-prayer.html
Lesson 8: www.gotquestions.org/Spirit-today.html
Lesson 9: www.gotquestions.org/victorious-Christian-life.html
Lesson 10: www.gotquestions.org/Christian-lose-salvation.html

All Bible references are quoted from the NIV unless otherwise stated.