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SALVATION

*(This lesson is designed to teach us the love of God and God's plan for man's salvation. We learn the doctrine of salvation and discover that New Testament salvation is a comprehensive package bringing forgiveness, healing, deliverance, preservation and rescue, which we receive freely by grace through faith. This lesson will empower us believers to be well-grounded in God's **love** and **saving grace**).*

The Love of God

The basis on which Salvation is provided for us is God's love demonstrated through Jesus Christ.

What is love?

- Webster Dictionary defines Love as "strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties, warm attachment, enthusiasm, or devotion, unselfish, loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another."
- God's love for us stems out of His relationship with us.
- Love is such an important need with mankind.
- Man's unending search for true love and acceptance takes most of his conscious energy.
- Since our need for love is eternal, the source also needs to be eternal.

Why does God love us?

- He created us.
- It is God's character to love.

1 John 4:8

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

What are the characteristics of God's love?

A God-Established Love Relationship:

- God chose to love us (Divine Will). With His love, He Himself established a relationship with us.

An Undeserved Endowment:

- He loves us just as we are. We do not need to be someone else to make God love us. God's love is intense and absolute.
- God's love cannot be bought! It is independent of our physical possessions/earthly attributes.

Dear God..

if I give You ALL my candy,
can You love me more today?



- God’s love is unconditional, it cannot be earned. It is a free gift!
- There is nothing we can do to make God love us more, nothing we can do to make God love us less.
- God’s love for Israel is likened to a husband-wife relationship. God loved them in spite of their sins (Ezekiel 16).

It Is Supreme Love:

- **Sacrificial**

God’s love is the supreme kind of sacrificial love.

John 3:16

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

- **In Action**

God’s love is not just in words. He followed it up with action and deed when He sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins.

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.

- **A Forgiving Love**

Our God is a forgiving God.

Jeremiah 31:34

No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

Isaiah 43:25

I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.

It Is an Everlasting Love:

Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

- God’s Love is not temporal/seasonal.
It is everlasting.
- He does not discriminate in His love.
He loves all equally.
- God is Faithful. He keeps His promises.

Characteristics of God’s love:

- 1) **A God-established love** _____
- 2) **God’s love is** _____
- 3) **God’s love is** _____
- 4) **God’s love is** _____

The Plan of Salvation

God’s original plan for man

Revelation 4:11

“You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things and by Your will they exist and were created.”

Man was created

- To glorify God.

1 Corinthians 11:7

For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man.

- To fellowship with Him.
- To be fruitful, multiply and have dominion over all.

Genesis 1:26-28

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Man's disobedience and rebellion against God

Disobedience and rebellion is sin against God.

1 Samuel 15:21, 23

But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being king.

Sin and its consequences

We come short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

What is Sin?

In the Greek language, sin is 'missing the mark.'

A man's sin is his failure to fulfill his God-given function.

Consequences

This is the state of 'fallen man' (an unsaved person):

- Inward spiritual death where we no longer have the life and nature of God in us.

Ephesians 4:18

Having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

- Separation from God.

Isaiah 59:1,2

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

- The physical death of the body.

Hebrews 9:27

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.

- Eternal banishment from the presence of God to the place called hell.

Matthew 25:41

Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Revelation 20:12-15

And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

- Keeps away the blessings of God.

Jeremiah 5:24, 25

They do not say in their heart, "Let us now fear the Lord our God, Who gives rain, both the former and the latter, in its season. He reserves for us the appointed weeks of the harvest." Your iniquities have turned these things away, and your sins have withheld good from you.

- Enslaves us and keeps us in bondage.

Proverbs 5:22

His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, and he is caught in the cords of his sin.

John 8:34

Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.

- Opens our life to demonic domination—sickness and death.

Ephesians 2:1,2

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.

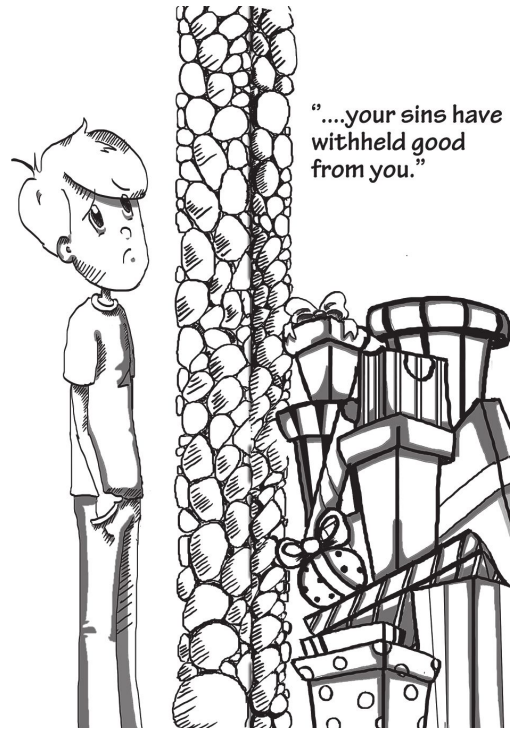
Man cannot save himself

How many sins did it take for Adam and Eve to be banished from the presence of God?

- All our good works cannot save us—since even one sin is sufficient to separate us from God. Adam sinned once—and this led to the 'Fall' and its damaging consequences.
- Our best actions are still filthy before God.

Isaiah 64:6

But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.



Sin is a blessing- blocker!!

- No other human being can mediate for us—since all have sinned.

Romans 3:10

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one."

The purpose of Christ's death and resurrection:

- To demonstrate God's love for us

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

- To save sinners

1 Timothy 1:15

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

1 John 4:14

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.

- To bring us to God

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.

- To destroy the works of the devil

He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

Jesus Christ appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself—once and for all.

Hebrews 9:26

He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

- Jesus Christ is able to save all people who come to Him with faith

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

To those who believe in Jesus:

- Forgiveness of sins

Acts 10:43

To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.

1 John 2:12

I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.

- Receive eternal life (the life and nature of God)

1 John 5:11,12

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Christianity is not a religion.

Christianity is a relationship that is established through the Cross of Christ, for you and me with God!

- Salvation

Romans 10:9,10

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- Brought out of darkness and into His Kingdom

Colossians 1:13,14

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

- Made children of God

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.

- Made new creation

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- and so much more ...

No salvation apart from Jesus Christ

Acts 4:12

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

How do I receive salvation provided because of His love?

- Repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and in what He did on the Cross.

Salvation is like a comprehensive life insurance package.

Acts 16:31

So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."

- Acknowledge Him as the only Lord and Savior of your life.

Romans 10:9,10

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- Welcome Him into your life.

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.

- The Bible also calls this experience as being "born again."

John 3:3

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Salvation (Sozo) is a complete package

Sozo is a Greek word found in our New Testament more than 110 times.

Sozo is the most commonly used Greek word for **salvation** in the New Testament.

Sozo is a verb, an action word. Something that is done. Something that happens because of a work of God.

The word *sozo* is a comprehensive word that includes spiritual salvation, i.e. forgiveness of sins, healing from sickness, deliverance from every work of the enemy, rescue or preservation from danger and harm, and total wholeness.

It means to be saved, healed, delivered, victorious, rescued, preserved. It means all of these things at the same time.

Sozo means to be saved from being under the devil's power and restored into the wholeness of God's order and well-being, by the power of God's Spirit.

Sozo means spiritual salvation—forgiveness of sins

Matthew 1:21

And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.

Acts 4:12

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Romans 10:9

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

Sozo means physical healing

Matthew 9:22

The woman with the issue of blood received *sozo*, "Jesus turned and saw her. 'Take heart, daughter,' he said, 'your faith has healed (*sozo*) you.' And the woman was healed (*sozo*) from that moment."

Mark 6:56

The folks in the region of Gennesaret were touched by the divine *sozo*:

And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed (*sozo*).

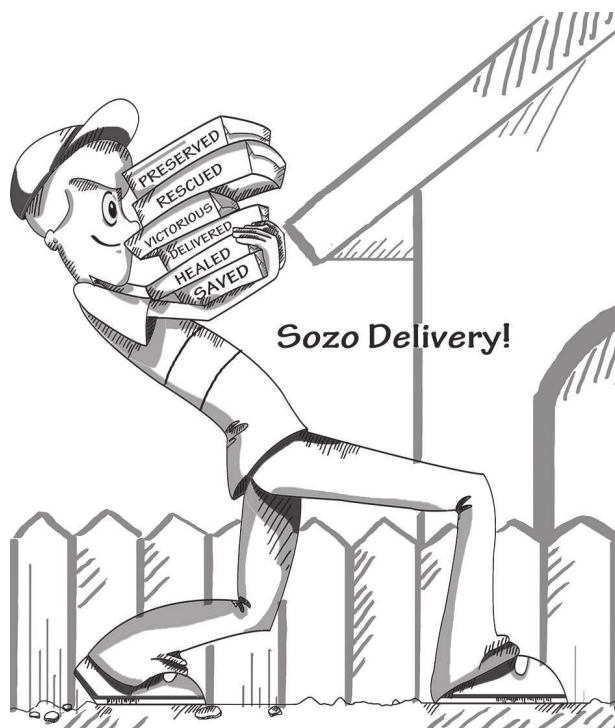
Mark 10:52

Blind Bartimaeus knew *sozo*:

"Go," said Jesus, 'your faith has healed (*sozo*) you.' Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road."

James 5:13-16

The prayer of faith will save (*sozo*) the sick.



Sozo means deliverance from demonic powers

Luke 8:36

It was the sozo of God that delivered the Gerasene demoniac:

"Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured (sozo)."

Jude 1:5

And Jude knew this as well:

"Though you already know all this, I want to remind you that the Lord delivered (sozo) his people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe."

Sozo means rescue/preservation from danger

Matthew 8:25

The disciples cried out to be saved from sinking in the storm.

"Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save (sozo) us! We are perishing!"

2 Timothy 4:18

Paul wrote to his friend Timothy about God's power to deliver:

"The Lord will rescue (sozo) me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen."

Sozo is for every one

Matthew 18:11

For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.

Sozo is for everyone!!!

Sozo is received by grace through faith

Matthew 9:21,22

For she said to herself, "If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well." But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that hour.

Ephesians 2:8,9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Sozo happens when you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth

Romans 10:9,10

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The Doctrine of Salvation

One must understand the doctrine of salvation in order to communicate it to others. These are foundational truths that one must know, to effectively lead someone to Christ.

The doctrine of Salvation has 5 main components: **God, Man, Christ, Grace, Faith.**

God

Is just—therefore must punish sin.

Ezekiel 18:4

The soul who sins is the one who will die.

Is merciful—therefore does not want to punish us.

1 John 4:8

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Man

Is a sinner

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Cannot save himself

Ephesians 2:8-9

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.

Christ

He is the infinite God-man.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

He paid for our sins and purchased a place in heaven for us which He offers as a gift.

Isaiah 53:6

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Grace

Salvation is a FREE gift.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Faith

What it is *not*—mere intellectual mental assent nor natural faith.

What it is—“trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.”

Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith.

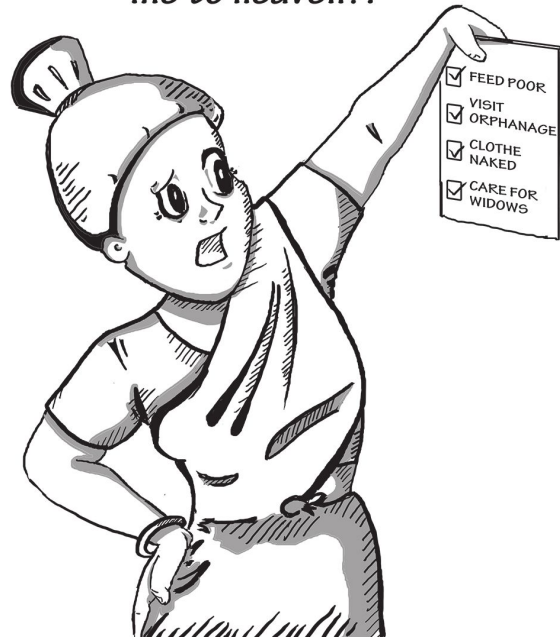
Romans 10:9

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

The Determining Factor

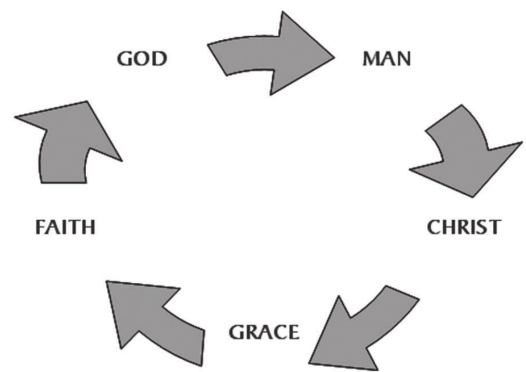
- God has already done for us everything He ever needs to do to provide salvation to all. Christ died for every human being.
- It is His will for all to be saved and He extends grace to all.

So all this isn't taking me to heaven?!



You are saved not by the quality of your faith, but by the object of your faith!

- The only thing left is for each individual to receive by faith what God is offering freely out of His immense love and grace.



Misconceptions

“I believe in Jesus, but I also believe in other saints, Mary, gurus . . . ”

Biblical Response:

Acts 4:12

There is no salvation in any other.

The doctrine of inclusion

“Everyone is ‘automatically’ saved because Jesus died for everyone.”

Biblical Response:

John 3:16

We are to repent and believe in Jesus Christ to be saved.

God has done everything on His part for salvation. What about you?

A misunderstanding of the doctrine of predestination

“God has already decided who is going to be saved and who is not.”

Biblical Response:

Romans 8:29,30

God has foreknowledge on the decision each one will make. However, He does not predetermine the choice we will make. The choice is still ours to make. Predestination is what He has determined to form us into—the image of His Son, not about the choice we will make.

Predestination is NOT pre-determination

KEY MEMORY VERSES

Acts 4:12

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Romans 10:9,10

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

APPLICATION

1. Have you trusted in Jesus Christ as your Savior and committed your life to Him? In a few lines, describe how you felt on the day you made that commitment?

2. Do I understand the plan of Salvation clear enough to explain this to someone else? What are some ways in which I can start a conversation to share the plan of salvation with a close friend?

3. Do I understand that Salvation is a complete package—complete redemption from the Fall and its consequences? List all that the word **sozo** implies?
