TRUTHS WE LIVE BY (6)
About Salvation
Bruce Stabbert • Fellowship Bible Church

“We believe that the substitutionary death of Christ and His resurrection provide the only basis for justification and salvation for all who believe. Only those who receive Him by faith and through God’s grace are truly born of the Holy Spirit and thus become forever children in God’s family.”

♦ What we believe

—This is the ________________ of all the doctrines we’ve talked about so far.

—Salvation simply means ___________. It’s what you need when you can’t possibly _______ yourself and the consequences are ____________________.

—Key verses: Ephesians 2:8-10 “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. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

1. “We believe that the substitutionary death of Christ and His resurrection provide the only basis…”

—It’s not what ____ bring to salvation, but what ____ brings to it.

Rom 4:25

—Salvation is much more about ______ than about ____.

Eph 1:3-14

—The cross was first and foremost an ____________ to God, a gift of ___________ to God—the obedient Son doing His holy Father’s will and highlighting God’s gracious ________________ in a way that exceeds anything else you could imagine! (Romans 5:8)

—Old Testament picture: the Sacrifices:
  —Acknowledge sin as punishable by death
  —bring an animal without defect
  —lay his hand on the head of the animal as he confessed his sins
  —kill the animal and apply the blood

—Substitution lies at the heart of both sin and salvation. For the essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting Himself for man.

—The doctrine of ______________: God was satisfied with Christ’s sacrifice, that it provided every bit of the __________ He demanded for our sins, and this released Him to do everything His _______ heart desires to do for us.

2. “for justification and salvation for all who believe.”

—The doctrine of ______________: God sovereignly chose us before He even made the world.

Ma 22:14, Acts 18:10, Eph 1:4, Jo 15:16

—Look what He does for us who were...

A. R___________ & C______________
  • chosen
  • adopted
  • engaged
  • loved
  • forgiven
  • declared innocent
  • rewarded
  • washed
  • transformed

B. A___________ & R_____________
  • reconciled
  • pursued
  • found
  • humbled

C. B___________ & D______________
  • enlightened

D. H______________ & H______________
  • redeemed
  • delivered
  • saved from hell and eternal death and given eternal life
  • enriched
  • filled and satisfied
  • empowered and equipped as warriors
  • mended
  • regenerated
3. “Only those who receive Him by faith”

—Faith is ___________ totally on God to save you and ___________ else. It involves knowing, agreeing and committing.
—Faith must include ___________, an acknowledgment of and a turning away from sins.

4. “and through God’s grace”

—P ___________ grace

—E ___________ grace

—I ___________ grace

—S ___________ grace

5. “are truly born of the Holy Spirit”

—The doctrine of ___________ (John 3)

6. “and thus become forever children in God’s family.”

—The doctrine of ___________ (or eternal security): God enables us to persevere in faith until we are glorified.

 Romans 8:30, Ma 10:22, Jo 10:29, Rom 8:1, Ma 7:22,23, 1Jo 2:19, Ma 13:24f, Ph 1:6, 2:12, 2Pet 1:10, 1Cor 13:5,

♦ Why we BEHAVE

1. DO I UNDERSTAND THE GOSPEL WELL ENOUGH TO EXPLAIN IT TO SOMEONE ELSE? (Check 1Cor. 15:1-4)

2. IS THERE EVIDENCE THAT I REALLY REPENTED OF MY OLD SINS? (Check Acts 3:19,20; 1Jo. 2:29; 3:9) ARE MY OLD PATTERNS BEING REPLACED BY GODLY ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS? (Check Jo. 15:8)

3. HAVE I SURRENDERED MYSELF TO FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST (WITHOUT ANY KNOWN AREAS OF RESISTANCE)—WHATEVER HE WANTS? (Check Rom. 10:9,10) ARE THE WORLD’S CONCERNS, VALUES, AND POSSESSIONS HAVING LESS OF A HOLD ON ME? (Check 14:27-33; 1Jo. 2:15-17)

4. HAVE MY AFFECTIONS CHANGED TOWARD GOD AND JESUS? (Acts 9:2,20) TOWARD THE BIBLE? (Jo. 8:31) TOWARD OTHER CHRISTIANS? (1Jo. 3:14) DO I NOW PLACE HIGH VALUE ON EACH OF THESE?

5. DO I FACE NEGATIVE PRESSURE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN MY CHANGED LIFE OR WHO DISAGREE WITH MY BELIEFS? (1Pet. 4:3-5; 1Jo. 3:12)

6. DO I HAVE A NEW AWARENESS OF RIGHT AND WRONG, SO THAT I EXPERIENCE CONVICTION AND/OR CHASTENING WHEN I SIN? (Heb. 5:13,14; 12:6-8)

7. AM I TRUSTING CHRIST ALONE FOR FULL FORGIVENESS AND ETERNAL LIFE (RATHER THAN GOOD WORKS OR ANY MIXTURE WITH “OTHER GODS”)? (Check Ac. 4:12; Eph. 2:8)

♦ What YOU believe

—________ must open our eyes and give us faith.

 Eph 2:8,9, 2Tim 2:25, Acts 13:48, John 1:12,13, Jo 6:44