

Jesse Rich Ministries

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“Called to reach the World with the Word of Faith”

Born-Again

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

John 3:5-7

Dear Friend and Partner,

In this month's newsletter, I'll be dealing with the most important issue of one's life:

The importance of becoming born-again,

and

What to do once you are born-again.

God has given the responsibility of evangelism to the body of Christ:

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15

All of us have loved ones that we're standing in the gap for and believing God for their salvation.

I want to encourage you to read this entire newsletter, and mark the scriptures I share with you in your Bible. Life is short, and there is so much work for us to accomplish, people to reach, and at the same time, we have to maintain our own walk with the Lord.

In this newsletter, I'll be sharing insights on how to witness to others and how and what to pray for others to be saved, as well as biblical truths, guidelines and scriptures indicating why it is so important to keep our hearts pure and our lives holy before God.

God wants each one of His children to live victorious lives, and His Word tells us how we can accomplish

this. I know these scriptures and teachings will be very beneficial to your spiritual life...

So, let's get into the Word!

It's important for all of us, as believers, to develop our faith and grow up spiritually so we can please our Father God by exercising our spiritual authority on this earth, using our New Covenant skillfully, resisting the devil and any kind of attack, temptation, test or trial, and believing God to have every one of our needs met in abundance (spiritually, physically, financially and emotionally).

But, as important as all this is, we must never forget the mission that God has given each one of us: to get someone else born-again.

¹⁶And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: ¹⁷The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. ¹⁸And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

¹⁹And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew *them* into the marketplace unto the rulers, ²⁰And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, ²¹And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.

²²And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat

them. ²³And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: ²⁴Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. ²⁵And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. ²⁶And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

²⁷And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. ²⁸But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

²⁹Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? ³¹And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. ³²And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

³³And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. ³⁴And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house. Acts 16:16-34

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Acts 2:21

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12

²⁵And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans. ²⁶And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

²⁷And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, ²⁸ Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

²⁹Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. ³⁰And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? ³¹And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

³² The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

³³In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

³⁴And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. ³⁶And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

³⁷And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

³⁹And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

⁴⁰But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea. Acts 8:25-40

¹ There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: ²The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

³Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

⁴Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

⁵Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

⁸The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

⁹Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these

things be? ¹⁰Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

¹¹Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

¹²If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

¹³And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: ¹⁵That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

¹⁸He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ³⁶He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. John 3:1-18, 36

¹⁵And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:15,16

⁹That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

¹¹For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. ¹²For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. ¹³For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

¹⁴How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

¹⁵And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? Romans 10:9-17

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 10:32

Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: Luke 12:8

An Example of Fulfilling the Great Commission

Ever since I've been saved, I've always been intrigued by the story of the apostle Paul in Acts Chapter 16, when God supernaturally opened those prison doors and released everybody's chains and provided the greatest escape for Paul and Silas, and yet Paul took the time to get the jailer saved!

God put all of us somewhere – He strategically placed us on a job, in a neighborhood, and even with total strangers - to be a witness. All of us have probably, at some time or another, had a job we wanted to quit, a marriage we wanted to depart from, a neighborhood we wanted to move from, an area of the country we didn't want to live in, or some kind of situation we wanted to get out of- but we knew in our heart that it just wasn't God's will to leave.

We may not know why God wanted us there, but we knew in our heart that we'd miss God if we left. There can be nothing more important in life than for you to obey God and please Him, and do what He tells you to do, and say what He tells you to say, and be where He wants you to be. We all have family members, loved ones, friends, associates, neighbors, fellow employees or employers, who don't know what to do to become born-again, and *they'll never know until you tell them* that they need to be born-again, or how to become born-again.

Once we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we realize that we are on this earth for **one reason** - and that is to help build God's kingdom. Until you realize this, you'll live an unfulfilled life.

I've always had the highest respect for the apostle Paul because he didn't flee for his life when the prison doors opened, even though his circumstances were probably very uncomfortable. Instead, he did something that was very unnatural for a human to do when faced with the opportunity to escape. He got the jailer and his household saved/born-again, before he went on to do other work.

Are You Fulfilling the Great Commission?

Have you told your next-door neighbor, your employer or fellow employees, your mechanic, and relatives, that you're born-again? Have you ever asked them if they are born-again?

The hardest question to ask someone, and the most personal question that you could ever ask someone is, "Are you born-again? Have you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?"

This is the reason that you and I are here on this earth! More important than anything else we can accomplish on this earth, is for us to **tell** our spouse, our children, our family, a neighbor, a stranger, a co-worker, a librarian, a priest, a rabbi or a minister about Jesus Christ.

We can get so caught up in our own affairs that we can neglect our greatest obligation and responsibility: **reaching the lost.**

Ask Yourself These Tough Questions... And Be Honest...

Is there anyone who knows you, *but they don't know you're born-again?*

Is there anyone you know who *you don't want to know you're born-again?*

Do you *feel uncomfortable talking about Jesus?*

Do you *feel* that if you did, *you'd make others uncomfortable?*

Do you have thoughts that come to you that *if you say too much, you will offend someone or run them off, or lose them as a friend, or lose your job?*

Do you ever think that witnessing to others about Jesus Christ is *not really something that you'd like to do? – That it's just not your ministry? – That it's just not in your personality? – That it is for someone else to do, but not you?*

Do you ever have thoughts and beliefs that *you'd just rather live the Christian life in front of people and let your lifestyle do the speaking for you?*

Do you *assume that all your relatives are born-again and that none of them is going to hell?*

Did you *ever ask* your mom, your dad, your brother, your sister, your child or friends that go to church if they are born-again?

Or, did you just assume they're OK because they seem to be 'a good person' or somewhat religious?

It's very dangerous for us, as believers, to assume anything.

The One Thing You Must Do

Jesus Christ said you must be born-again to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must go to church to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must join a church to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be Catholic to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be Protestant to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be Jewish to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be religious to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be sincere to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be a good person to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must take Holy Communion to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must keep the Ten Commandments to have eternal life.

He didn't say you must be water baptized to have eternal life.

He said, you must be born-again to have eternal life.

The jailer asked, "What must I do to be saved?" And Paul, who had been very religious, very Hebrew, very Jewish, very Pharisee, of the strictest of the Jewish religions - said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."
(Acts 16:30)

One of the benefits of eternal life is that when you die physically, you have a guarantee that you go to be with Jesus:

For me to live is Christ [His life in me], and to die is gain [the gain of the glory of eternity]. If, however, it is to be life in the flesh and I am to live on here, that means fruitful service for me; so I can say nothing as to my personal preference [I cannot choose], But I am hard pressed between the two. My yearning desire is to depart (to be free of this world, to set forth) and be with Christ, for that is far, far better; But to remain in my body is more needful and essential for your sake. Philippians 1:21-24 AMP

For to me, living means opportunities for Christ, and dying – well, that’s better yet! But if living will give me more opportunities to win people to Christ, then I really don’t know which better... Philippians 1:21-22 TLB

Believe in Your Heart and Confess with Your Mouth

Believing is an action verb. What we believe, we will confess, as we read in Romans 10:9, 10: **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

When Philip preached to the eunuch about salvation and the eunuch wanted to be water baptized, Phillip said, **If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.** And, the eunuch answered in the same verse, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God** (Acts 8:37). That’s something the eunuch said with his mouth.

The First Sign that You’re Born-Again:

One of the initial signs that tell you if someone is born-again/saved, is that the person will talk about Jesus Christ voluntarily and take their own initiative to speak His Name. Jesus said in Matthew 12:34, **...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.**

5Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. 6And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. 8And there was great joy in that city. (Acts 8:5-8)

Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Titus 2:14

The Amplified reads: **Who gave Himself on our behalf that He might redeem us (purchase our freedom) from all iniquity and purify for Himself a people [to be peculiarly His own, people who are] eager and enthusiastic about [living a life that is good and filled with] beneficial deeds.**

If you’re born-again, you are zealous about the things of God and now you want God to be first in every area of your life. You

want everybody that you know to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. You want to tithe, and give more to help support the gospel and help support God’s kingdom, and you’re always praying for others to come to Jesus. And, you want to guard your heart and never become cold, or lukewarm.

Don’t Become Lukewarm or Harden Your Heart

Just before Jesus gave us the command of the Great Commission, He upbraided His followers for their unbelief and hardness of heart in Mark 16:14: **Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.**

Jesus said in Revelation 3:15-17, **15I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:**

It’s easy to become insensitive and harden one’s heart toward the lost, those living in sin, the backslider and those who have gone wayward from the Lord.

Our Most Important Goal in Life:

People have goals that they want to accomplish in this lifetime – things they want to do and achieve. They have a list of things to do, and a hundred places to see before they die, **but how about the list of people we want to see saved before we leave this earth?**

You should have a list of people you’re praying for daily to come to Jesus. They’re people that you’re burdened with because you know they’re lost. These are people who are on your heart day and night, and your goal is to see them come to Jesus.

I can remember a minister being interviewed by Johnny Carson. Johnny Carson made mention that he had heard that this minister had a “Top-10” list. He asked the minister what that meant. The minister said, *“These are 10 people that I’m praying for to be saved”* (born again).

Johnny Carson asked what their names were. The minister proceeded to give the names of the people he was praying for. Apparently, Johnny Carson had been counting, because he remarked *(to my surprise), “That’s only nine. You said there*

were ten – who is the 10th one?”

The minister said, “*You are, Johnny. I’ve been praying that you come to Jesus.*” (Or words to that effect). Immediately, Johnny Carson took a commercial break.

In another incident, one night when I was traveling, I had my radio on scan and I just happened to catch a syndicated radio talk-show host that caught my attention because the caller had apparently phoned in to witness to him.

I just caught the last part of the conversation, and what piqued my interest and caused me to stop on the program was that the caller was telling the radio host that he was born-again. The radio host cut the caller off with an arrogant attitude and made the comment, “*I’m not one of those fortunate people who’s been born twice. I’ve only been born once.*”

Then he broke for a commercial. That reminded me somewhat of Nicodemus. He did not understand what Jesus was talking about. **Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born?** John 3:4

The **most important** and **only thing** that you must do before you die is you, yourself, must become born-again by confessing Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. This is not a head confession. This is a heart confession. When you confess Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you’re to believe what you’re saying in your heart, as we read in Romans 10:9, 10, **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.** This is how you accept God’s pardon for your sin.

Jesus Paid Your Sin Debt,
Now Accept Your Pardon!

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. Acts 20:28

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; Ephesians 1:7

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s. 1 Corinthians 6:20

In the natural, if you went to court and were found guilty of breaking the law, you could be fined. If you didn’t pay the fine, you’d face the consequences of being incarcerated. Let’s say the fine far surpassed your ability to pay, and you know that

you’re headed for jail. Then, the judge says to you, “**Fear not, for someone paid your fine.**” This is what Jesus did when He went to the cross and gave His life.

We owed a debt we could not pay. And Jesus paid the debt He did not owe. He became sin for us so we could become the righteousness of God in Christ.

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Our sin debt was taking us to hell, but Jesus paid our sin price to keep us from being eternally damned. Sin will take you to a place that you do not want to go. The place is called hell. Sinning should scare us to the point that we never want to sin – that we definitely do not want to live in sin — that if we do sin, we want to immediately repent of it and forsake it and highly treasure our salvation.

All you have to do is **believe** it, and **accept** it, and **confess** it and **act** accordingly. It is so simple to get saved by receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and have all your sins forgiven, and yet almost everyone in the world is not saved.

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it Matthew 7:13,14.

This is all because they’ve not heard that their sin penalty was paid through Jesus Christ – or, they heard it and did not accept it. **1And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. 2And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands? 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.**

4But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. 5And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. 6And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching. Mark 6:1-6

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being

mixed with faith in them that heard it. Hebrews 4:2

These are people who refused to believe.

**So, because they did not believe,
they could not receive!**

NO FREE PASSES!

The other day, a businessman introduced himself to me after hearing through someone else that I was a minister. He said he worked with churches all over the country. He talked about the church he attended and how much he liked it.

I waited until he got done talking and I asked him, "Are you saved?" He said he was, and told me how it happened and what year he received the Lord as his Savior. Then, he said something that apparently was very amazing to him: he said it's been years since someone asked him if he was born-again and that he was glad I did. He asked, "Do you do that often?" I said, "I try to make it a point to ask almost everyone I talk to if they're saved."

You can't let people's church-talk impress you or sidetrack you. Don't give these people a free pass.

Ask them the tough question: **Are you born-again? Have you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Are you saved?** If they say yes, ask them to tell you how it happened.

It's very dangerous to assume that anyone you encounter is saved. **Ask** them if they are. We don't want anyone slipping through the net – we are fishers of men, Jesus said, and we don't want even one getting away! **And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.** Matthew 4:19

A Sign You're Not Born-Again:

On the other hand, a religious person talks about God and church. Their faith is always in religious rituals, customs and traditions, but never in the Word of God.

Born-Again Believers Want to Tell Everyone

But, once a person gets saved, or born-again, (the terms are interchangeable in the New Testament), they want to go tell someone else about the Lord Jesus Christ.

New believers may have feelings of inadequacy, or feelings of intimidation, but they have a heart full of concern and compassion for every human being. Their heart goes out to their loved ones and to everyone else.

It is because their eyes have been opened to the truth about God's Word. They realize they were blinded, believing religious lies and hypocrisies.

3But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 5For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:3-5

The born-again believer realizes that the truth of God's Word had been kept from them, but now they've escaped Satan's prison of religion, sin and bondage, and they want to reach everyone else with the gospel before they leave this earth.

Soon after I got saved, I wanted to tell everyone I knew about Jesus Christ. I put bumper stickers about salvation through Jesus on my automobile, talked to someone at least every day about Jesus, whether I knew them not. And from the first family reunion we had after I got saved, I made a public announcement to all the relatives there that I had gotten saved and told them about Jesus and how they could get saved. At the time, I was scared to do it, but I knew I needed to.

**You show me someone who's truly
born-again
and I'll show you someone whose
biggest concern is if you are born-
again!**

Growing Up in Religion Does not Make You Born-again

I grew up faithfully attending church on a regular basis, taking communion and singing hymns. I had the belief that I was OK because I went to church. I believed I was a Christian because I went to a Christian church. I gave offerings, said prayers, did good deeds, helped people out and did things for my mom and dad, but it wasn't until people started witnessing to me that I found out that you have to be born-again to go to heaven.

Sure, some of the people that witnessed to me offended, upset, irritated, annoyed, aggravated and angered me and made me uncomfortable.

But thank God, they never stopped witnessing to me. And, when you're religious and not born-again/saved, born-again people usually bother you *big time*. You get together with the other relatives and friends that are religious but not born-again, and you laugh, joke and make fun of the one who is born-again.

Born-Again People are Offensive to the World - and should be!

Almost every office, every neighborhood, every town, every church, every synagogue, every company, and yes, almost every family has at least one born-again Christian who's always talking about Jesus. As long as we're around, we bother the people who walk in darkness. They don't realize that one of these days, yea, even maybe today, Jesus is going to come back and remove all the born-again Christians from this earth.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thessalonians 4:16,17

But until that day, we must be witnessing to others. They're not going to like it, and they may not appreciate it at the time, but whether they do or don't, we must stay faithful until the day we leave this earth to let our lights shine and shout it from the housetop that you must be born-again.

What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27

A Second Sign You're Born-Again:

A second sign that a person is born-again is they have a hunger for God's Word: **As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:** 1 Peter 2:2

Suddenly, the Bible becomes God's Word to you, and no longer just a religious book. You want to do everything it says to do, you want to know everything the Bible says in it, and more than anything else in this world, you want to please God and do everything He says to do.

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. James 1:22

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6

I carried my Bible wherever I went, and still do. If it's not in my hand, it's in my backpack or in my automobile - but it's handy and accessible - it's no longer a religious book that I don't understand. It's God's living Word. When Paul got that jailer's household saved, he took time to teach them the Word.

Tell Others About Jesus, then Pray for Them

Peter said there is no salvation in any other name but the Name of Jesus.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12

Jesus told believers, not just ministers, to go tell it to everyone in Mark 16:15:

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Paul said by the Holy Spirit in Romans 1:14-16,
I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth...

We always stay ready to share the good news with others. Even in Acts 26, Paul shared his testimony before King Agrippa and Festus.

Festus ridiculed Paul in verse 24: **Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.**

And in verse 28, King Agrippa said, **Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.**

I think about King Agrippa's statement that Paul almost persuaded him to become a Christian.

Some people are so close to receiving Jesus that we must keep on praying and interceding for them that their hearts be opened to the Lord Jesus Christ.

How About You? Are You Saved?

A Prayer to Receive Jesus as Your Savior

Have you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If you haven't, and/or are not too sure about how you stand with God, how about praying this prayer with me? Read the scriptures, and then if possible, bow on your knees and say the prayer that follows them out loud:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9, 10

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

God, I receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior today. I believe in my heart and I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord.

I thank You for forgiving me of all my sins, known and unknown. And I thank You for saving me today and bringing me into Your family, so when I die, I won't go to hell, but I will go and be with Jesus forever.

Thank You, God, for saving me.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Witnessing Scriptures

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a **witness** unto all nations; and then shall the end come. **Matthew 24:14**

Go ye into all the world, and **preach the gospel** to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **Mark 16:15,16**

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses unto me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. **Acts 1:8**

And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that **with all boldness they may speak thy word**, Acts 4:29

And **we are his witnesses** of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him. **Acts 5:32**

And they, when **they had testified and preached the word of the Lord**, returned to Jerusalem, and **preached the gospel** in many villages of the Samaritans. **Acts 8:25**

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.** And **they spake unto him the word of the Lord**, and to all that were in his house. **Acts 16:30-32**

God knows how often I pray for you. Day and night I bring you and your needs in prayer to God, **whom I serve with all my heart by telling others the Good News about his Son.** Romans 1:9 NLT

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth... **Romans 1:16**

[So] that in Him in every respect you were enriched, in full power and **readiness of speech [to speak of your faith] and complete knowledge and illumination [to give you full insight into its meaning]**. In this way [our] **witnessing concerning Christ** (the Messiah) was so confirmed and established and made sure in you **1 Corinthians 1:5,6 AMP**

He has enriched your whole life. **He has helped you speak out for him and has given you a full understanding of the truth**; what I told you Christ could do for you has happened! Now you have every grace and blessing; every spiritual gift and power for doing his will are yours during this time of waiting for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:5-7 TLB

The Importance of Being a Witness

Your salvation is something you never want to take for granted. It's something that is always on your conscience, conversation and conduct. There's nothing more important in life than for one to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Therefore, there's no more important assignment that God could assign us, as the body of Christ, than evangelizing the world. We accomplish this through interceding for the lost and praying that God will send forth laborers, as Jesus said in Matthew 9:37,38: **The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.**

We should be ready to witness, always having an attentive ear to people's conversations for an opportunity to share what we believe and know from God's Word. There are many ways we can accomplish this. Someone may ask, "*How are you?*" Sometimes, I respond by saying, "*I'm saved. How about you?*" When they ask what that means, I can tell them. When I got saved, I started signing my checks with the word, "*saved*" under my signature. When a teller at the bank asked me what that meant, I had an open door.

A while back, I was in a coffee shop and there was a man sitting next to me, reading the New York Times. I asked him if he was saved. He said yes, and continued reading the paper. Right there, he gave an indication he didn't know what I was talking about. So I asked him, "*So how did you get saved?*"

He seemed to keep looking at the newspaper. Then he pulled the newspaper down a little and looked at me and said, "*Maybe I don't know what you're talking about.*" He proceeded to tell me that he went to church, told me the name of the church, and where it was. I asked him if he was born-again and if he'd received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. I pulled out the New Testament that I had with me and read him the following scriptures and I explained to him the importance of receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8, 9

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9, 10.

You have to realize that most people who go to church, whether they attend regularly or not, assume that their eternity is secure. I know I did. I thought I was a Christian because I went to church.

But salvation can never be achieved through attending church, joining a church, becoming a Catholic or Protestant, keeping the Sabbath, or practicing religious rituals. According to the Word of God, all one has to do is become born-again by receiving Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. In so doing, they are acting on God's Word.

While I was reading him scriptures and talking to him about Jesus in that *country-club coffee shop atmosphere*, another lady walked over and asked, "*Could you give me the scriptures you gave him?*" Then the man asked me why he needed to be born-again.

I told him, "*The same reason I needed to be born-again (and everyone else), is because of one reason and one reason only - it's because we've sinned.*"

Sin

Though sin is only a three-letter word, it alone damned the human race. Romans 6:23 says, **For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Sin started in Genesis, Ch. 3, and dominated the world until Jesus Christ came and conquered it with His shed blood. Every human being - *except for one human who has ever lived - (Jesus Christ) -* was born in sin and/or committed sin.

Psalms 51:5 says, **Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 3:23

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us! 2 Corinthians 5:21 TLB

The Amplified says, **For our sake He made Christ [virtually] to be sin Who knew no sin, so that in and through Him we might become [endued with, viewed as being in, and examples of] the righteousness of God [what we ought to be, approved and acceptable and in right relationship with Him, by His goodness].**

So You Think You're a "Good Person," huh,
or Haven't Sinned?

Now, sin may mean nothing to many individuals, but it is a real big deal to God, because it separates mankind from the presence of God. Sin will keep us out of heaven. The scripture says we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 3:23

One of the reasons why people, and even religious people don't believe it's important to become born-again is because they don't believe they've sinned. – **Do you believe you've sinned?** According to the scriptures, we all have, except for Jesus Christ. And, if we say we haven't sinned, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Anyone who thinks they haven't sinned, or thinks they don't need to be born-again is deceived and blinded to the truth of God's Word.

(7But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 8If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 1:7-2:2).

We don't need religion, or religious rituals. We need forgiveness of our sins, known and unknown sins. This is why we need Jesus. If we hadn't sinned, He would have not had to come. No religion in the world has a cure for sin - only Jesus Christ and His

blood can cleanse our sins.

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Romans 5:9

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; Ephesians 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, Revelation 1:5

Hell

Don't think for one moment that you would be willing to take your chances, because the worst day of your life is no comparison for one moment in hell.

And, the same God Who informed us about heaven also informed us about hell. Jesus said,

19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: 20And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, 21And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. 24And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. 26And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

27Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou

wouldest send him to my father's house: ²⁸For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

²⁹Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. ³⁰And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. ³¹And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead. Luke 16:19-31

And, once you've received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you're not to live in sin, or practice sin, or keep sinning, because that, too, can forfeit your right to go to heaven. Many dear believers continue to practice sin, thinking that if they die, they will still go to heaven. But the scriptures say, writing and talking about born-again people:

¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; **Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19- 21**

¹Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; ²And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour.

³But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; ⁴Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

⁵For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

⁷Be not ye therefore partakers with them. ⁸For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: ⁹(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) ¹⁰Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

¹¹And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of

darkness, but rather reprove them. ¹²For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. ¹³But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.

¹⁴Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. ¹⁵See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, ¹⁶Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Ephesians 5:1-18

⁹ Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

¹²All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. ¹³Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

¹⁵Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. ¹⁶What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

¹⁷But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. ¹⁸Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

¹⁹What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Corinthians 6:9-20

⁵Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;

fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: **6For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:** **7In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.**

8But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. 9Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; **10And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:**
Colossians 3:5-10

These verses weren't written to sinners. They're epistle letters written to the body of Christ, so we believers constantly have to war after our own flesh. We can't continue living in sin as believers, just because we're under God's grace and mercy as we read in Acts 6:1, 2:

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. 1 John 2:1

God's Word tells us we're not to sin, but if we do sin, we have to confess our sins to God according to 1 John 1:9 and turn away from our sin by repenting and seeking God's help. We do this by meditating on God's Word and praying, so we can gain and maintain victory over the flesh.

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Luke 13:3

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 John 1:9

This makes it pretty plain that the believer that lives in sin is out of fellowship with God almost as much as the one who never received Jesus as their Lord and Savior. If we don't do the Word, we deceive ourselves.

If we don't become convicted by sinning or living in sin, it's a sign that we may have seared our conscience, according to 1 Timothy 4:1, 2: **Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;**

This is why we always have to stay in the Word daily and stay in

prayer constantly, because we never know when we might die. We do not want to take that chance or gamble on our salvation, or make the deceptive assumption that we can live any way we want to live, act any way we want to act, or do what we feel like doing, all the while thinking, "*Well, God loves me just the way I am.*"

God does love us, but if we sin and continue on that road by continually living in sin, we place ourselves in the position of eternal damnation. Remember, we live in a world that winks at sin - a world that says, "*Do whatever makes you feel good. After all, God wants you to have fun.*" **Many dear people are in hell now because they had that kind of belief that it's ok to sin as a believer.**

Jesus said, **Take heed that no man deceive you** (Matt. 24:4). God knows our weaknesses. He's here to help us overcome the flesh and temptations that are in this world, but we limit Him in helping us when we refuse to cooperate with Him.

Tolerating sin and allowing it to enter into our life is the most dangerous thing we can do. And, we don't judge others - we judge ourselves. **For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.** 1 Corinthians 11:31

We intercede for others. But at the same time, we don't compromise the message to appease others. We give people the Word and let them know what the Word says about sin. We want to avoid sin at all costs, and if we happen to fall into it, *immediately* cry out to God for forgiveness, confessing to God what we did and get right back into the Word and into prayer so we can get stronger spiritually.

Jesus said in Luke 15:11-32,

11And he said, A certain man had two sons: 12And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. 13And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare,

and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, ¹⁹And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

²⁰And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. ²¹And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

²²But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: ²³And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

²⁵Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. ²⁸And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

²⁹And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: ³⁰But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

³¹And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. ³²It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

The younger son, in his sinful indulgence, came to himself and knew he needed to repent. As soon as he asked God to forgive him, his fellowship and relationship with God were restored, and the blessings of God came back on him.

As a believer, you may have never gone back to the worldly ways of living in sin and ungodliness, but you still want to stay compassionate to those who have. Do all you can to restore them, for the Lord said in Luke 15:4-10,

⁴What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? ⁵And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with

me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

⁷I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. ⁸Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? ⁹And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

¹⁰Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. Galatians 6:1-3

Restoration:

- Restoring the Fallen Believer

When I was a carpet installer, there was a Pentecostal minister who left his wife for another woman. He got in some financial difficulties, and the Lord dealt with me about giving him some money. The Lord said to tell him God wasn't through with him, even though people were, and I was to keep praying for him.

In the Pentecostal movement, that was about the worst thing a minister could do. He gave me his library of Christian books, bibles and commentaries and told me he would never need them gain. I told him I would hold them for him on a closed-in porch that was connected to my apartment. There were several boxes of books. I told him that whenever he wanted, please feel free to come back and get them.

Before I left to go to Bible school, he returned to my house. He was restored back to his wife, and he'd taken his church back and was getting back to pastoring and preaching.

He wept and cried and said, "You were the only one who believed in me." The last I heard of him, my mother told me that his children had turned out to be preachers, and as far as

I know, they're all still in the ministry today!

People fail, people sin, and people make mistakes. If the angels rejoice when one is restored, how much more should you and I? I was so blessed the day that pastor knocked on my door and wanted his library back.

We have not only got to reach out to the lost, but also reach out to those who have fallen into sin. We don't cast any stones. We stand in the gap, intercede, walk in love and watch God do the restoring, repairing and recreating!

(Read John 8:1-11).

Sinning by Yielding to Weaknesses in the Flesh Can Mean Hell for You

If we have a weakness in our flesh (*and we all have some kind of weakness*), whether it is jealousy or envy, strife or division, unforgiveness, worry, fear, lust, drunkenness, gluttony, out of control fleshly habits, lying, stealing, or sowing discord among the brethren, if we find ourselves in something we seemingly can't get the victory over, like pornography or drunkenness, or drugs, – *or whatever* – we take the Word of God like Colossians 1:13 and begin to thank the Lord that according to the Word, we're delivered:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: Col. 1:13

This gives God something to work with. His Word will not return to Him void and it will prosper in our walk with the Lord (Is. 55:11). It may not be over night, but we stay with the Word. We say what the Word says about us.

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. Phil. 2:12

We're not trying to earn our salvation, because we can't.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of

yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8,9

We're just endeavoring to live a godly, holy, sanctified life.

We must make progress in these areas that cause us to stumble into sin, because a lack of attention to those weaknesses, weights and sins that so easily beset us can **take us to hell.**

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1,2

He who is victorious shall inherit all these things, and I will be God to him and he shall be My son.

But as for the cowards and the ignoble and the contemptible and the cravenly lacking in courage and the cowardly submissive, and as for the unbelieving and faithless, and as for the depraved and defiled with abominations, and as for murderers and the lewd and adulterous and the practicers of magic arts and the idolaters (those who give supreme devotion to anyone or anything other than God) and all liars (those who knowingly convey untruth by word or deed)--[all of these shall have] their part in the lake that blazes with fire and brimstone. This is the second death. Rev. 21:7,8 AMP

But the person who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Shun immorality and all sexual looseness [flee from impurity in thought, word, or deed]. Any other sin which a man commits is one outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

Do you not know that your body is the temple (the very sanctuary) of the Holy Spirit Who lives within you, Whom you have received [as a Gift] from God? You are not your own, You were bought with a price [purchased with a preciousness and paid for, made His own]. So then, honor God and bring glory to Him in your body. 1 Cor. 6:17-20

You Can Live this Christian Life – God is Here to Help

Satan can get believers so caught up in sin that they get deceived, thinking it is hopeless and there's no way out. They think, "I can't live this Christian life." And in the natural, we can't. That's why God gave us His Word and the Holy Spirit to help us.

The important point is that we keep trying, and not give up. We keep saying what the Word says about us, and not quit. We thank God that He's here helping us to live the life He wants us to live. You'll find out that if you talk about Jesus every day, pray in the spirit and be a witness every day, and confess the Word every day, you will get stronger.

Confessing the Word and praying in the spirit builds our faith, according to Romans 10:17: **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Jude 20

Living a Holy Life in Front of Others

Witnessing to others about Jesus Christ on a daily basis is a constant reminder of a "so great Salvation" we have and helps us become aware of our conduct and manner of life.

Those to whom we're witnessing will be watching our life to see if we are what we profess to be, Amen?

¹⁴Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? ¹⁶And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols?

for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, ¹⁸And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. Galatians 6:7,8

Always Obey Your Conscience

If we yield to temptation and sin, it hinders our faith and tarnishes our spiritual life. Sinning can keep our prayers from being answered and cause us to have guilt in our conscience. That guilt that we get when we sin is a warning to let us know we've done wrong so we can quickly repent. Some believers have got themselves in the position that they've seared their conscience. **...having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 1 Timothy 4:2**

Their conscience no longer bothers them. That's why the sinner can sin and it doesn't bother them. But once a believer is born-again, and if they ever sin, their conscience will bother them. Paul said he always obeyed his conscience. We'd all do well if we practiced that faithfully.

Therefore I always exercise and discipline myself [mortifying my body, deadening my carnal affections, bodily appetites, and worldly desires, endeavoring in all respects] to have a clear (unshaken, blameless) conscience, void of offense toward God and toward men. Acts 24:16 AMP

A Warning:

Anything that you have ever gotten victory over or have been delivered from, Satan will try to bring it back on you, as Jesus said in Matthew 12:43-45:

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

So we have to keep ourselves full of faith, power and the Holy Ghost, so we're always sensitive spiritually so we can discern right from wrong, **(But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Hebrews 5:14)** and know if we've missed it, or sinned.

This way, we can immediately judge ourselves and not be condemned with the world **(But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world 1 Corinthians 11:32).**

Getting God to Forgive You of Your Sins

Remember, for forgiveness to work, you have to confess your sins. Tell God what you did and ask Him to forgive you. Forgive others of what they've done to you. Some people won't forgive others, but they want forgiveness for themselves from God.

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14,15

No matter how hopeless it may seem to you at that time, no matter how many times you seem to fall into sin, keep going to God and keep saying what the Word says about you, and thank God every day that He's helping you live as an overcomer. Just keep doing the Word. Keep listening to the Word and being taught the Word, and keep your prayer life going. Find time every day to put into prayer.

**God didn't come to condemn us.
He's here to help us. (John 3:17)**

If you listen to what the devil's saying, he'll tell you you're never going to make it and you might as well quit and give up. And if Satan can't get you to believe that lie, he will tell you the sin you're committing is OK. He'll tell you God understands you and doesn't mind what you're doing (*referring to sin*).

Satan talked to Jesus in Matthew 4:1-10. He'll talk to you. We aren't to be ignorant of Satan's tactics, so always answer those thoughts that come to you with God's Word in Jesus' Name!

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Corinthians 10:4,5

We always have to keep in mind that we're the righteousness of God in Christ, and sin does not have dominion over us. But, at the same time, we must always bear in mind that it's our responsibility to keep ourselves from the wicked one and that we're in the world, but we don't allow the world to get in us.

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. Romans 6:14

We know [absolutely] that anyone born of God does not [deliberately and knowingly] practice committing sin, but the One Who was begotten of God carefully watches over and protects him [Christ's divine presence within him preserves him against the evil], and the wicked one does not lay hold (get a grip) on him or touch [him]. 1 John 5:18AMP

Don't Get into Either Ditch

In the area of the flesh, there seems to be two extreme ditches that we can get into: The first is, "*I can't stop myself from doing it*". The second is, "*What I'm doing is OK with God*". They're both wrong! This is why we have to stay in the Word and stay in prayer and keep working on our lives spiritually, so we'll make progress spiritually, and in the flesh, Amen?

Remember, we're more than conquerors and we're overcomers, and we've got the Name of Jesus. We just have to keep applying the Word to our life. To learn to apply the Word to your life in the area of the flesh, read the following pages daily. They contain a prayer for victory over the flesh, scriptures, and a confession that will help you.

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. Romans 8:37

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 John 5:4,5

A Prayer for Victory over the Flesh

Note:

I encourage you to take time out every day to pray the following prayer of consecration and dedication on your knees with your hands lifted up to the Lord. Begin to thank the Lord day and night that you're delivered from any weight or sin that you seem to have a difficult time getting the victory over.

One of the best ways you can receive the deliverance that Jesus purchased for you and to receive help from God to get out of bondages and fleshly habits (which are detrimental to your life and Christian witness) is to humbly thank God for His power to manifest in the area that you need help or deliverance.

Father God, I come to You in Jesus' Name and I thank You that You have given me power through Your Word and with the help of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' Name to help me crucify my fleshly appetites. The apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9:27, **But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached**

to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Romans 6:16:

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Galatians 5:16:

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Colossians 1:13:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

God, according to Your Word, I've been delivered from Satan and his power. There's nothing that I cannot overcome, because You said I can do all things through Christ, Who strengthens me. My desire is to please You, Lord, and to walk in the spirit, to keep under my body, to walk in the God-kind of love and to bring glory and honor unto You.

I don't want to be controlled or dominated by my flesh or carnal nature. I don't want to live in guilt or condemnation, constantly having to repent for the same thing over and over again. On the contrary, God, I want to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. I don't want anything in my life to displease You or to grieve the Holy Spirit.

I want my light to shine and for people to see Jesus in my life. I want to live in the liberty of the Lord and not be in bondage to my flesh, the lusts of the world, Satan or any of his evil forces.

Jesus said, **...the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak** (Matthew 26:41). I thank You for helping me to be strong in the spirit so I can overcome the weaknesses of the flesh. Thank You for helping me be a doer of the Word of God and for helping me to do those things that are pleasing in Your sight.

I thank You, Father God, for delivering me from and for helping me never to go back to the world, the dictates of my flesh, or to what I've been delivered from. I don't want to be a servant to sin, or for sin to reign over my mortal body that I should obey the lusts thereof.

I want to walk in the light and not in darkness, righteousness and not unrighteousness, freedom and not bondage, peace and not torment, holiness and not ungodliness, and humility and not pride. I want to live in Your protection and blessings without

exposing myself to the curse or giving the devil any place in my life.

Father, You said in 1 Corinthians 10:13,

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

Hebrews 12:1, 2:

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

James 1:12:

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Romans 12:1, 2: **I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

So I thank You, Father God, that You are in my life and that You love and care for me. Thank You for helping me walk in Your perfect will and for giving me the strength to overcome my flesh and the temptations of the world. I thank You for giving me the authority to resist the devil in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Philippians 4:6: **Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

1 Timothy 2:8: **I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.**

Hebrews 13:15:

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Scriptures for Putting the Flesh Under

Read the following scriptures out loud daily to help you see the importance of keeping the flesh under. They will help you discern the difference between walking in the flesh and walking in the spirit.

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 8:1,2, 5-8, 13: *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

⁵For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. ⁷Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

⁸So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. ¹³For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

1 Corinthians 3:16: Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? ¹⁷If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

1 Corinthians 6:9-12; 15-20: Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. ¹²All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

¹⁵Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make *them* the members of an harlot? God forbid. ¹⁶What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. ¹⁷But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

¹⁸Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. ¹⁹What? know ye not that your body is the temple

of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18: Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? ¹⁶And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols?

for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, ¹⁸And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Galatians 5:14-25: For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. ¹⁵But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

¹⁶*This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. ¹⁸But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

²⁰Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. ²⁴And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. ²⁵If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Philippians 4:7, 8: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are

just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Ephesians 4:25-5:20: ²⁵Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. ²⁶Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: ²⁷Neither give place to the devil.

²⁸Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

²⁹Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

³⁰And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

³²And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Ephesians, Chapter 5

¹Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; ²And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

³But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; ⁴Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

⁵For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

⁶Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. ⁷Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

⁸For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: ⁹(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) ¹⁰Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

¹¹And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. ¹²For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. ¹³But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.

¹⁴Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. ¹⁵See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, ¹⁶Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

¹⁹Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; ²⁰Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

My Confession of Faith to Keep My Flesh Under

My confession of faith is based on God's Word. Jesus said I can have what I say because He said, **For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.**

According to Mark 11:23, I **say** I'm delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of His dear Son. I keep my body under and bring it into subjection to the Word of God. I choose to please God and not my fleshly desires. I choose to walk in the spirit and not in the flesh. I choose to be godly and not carnal. I choose to live a holy and pure life before the Lord.

I put the Lord first, and not my fleshly desires. I'm no longer weak, but I'm strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. I let no corrupt communication come out of my mouth. I cast down any imaginations coming to my mind that are contrary to God's Word.

I think on those things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtue and praise. I refuse to be controlled by

the flesh, the devil, temptations, the things of the world, lust, emulation, wrath, anger, bitterness, clamor, lying or stealing, for I've put on the new man which is after God, created in righteousness and true holiness.

I say I'm a sanctified, Holy Ghost-filled new creation in Christ Jesus, and I'm a child of God living a righteous, godly, holy life, in Jesus' Name.

We all have flesh and areas of our life that we always have to attend to with God's Word.

The important thing is that we are dealing with it and not ignoring it.

There is nothing that we cannot overcome or get the victory over.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.
1 Corinthians 10:13

The Amplified Bible reads:
For no temptation (no trial regarded as enticing to sin), [no matter how it comes or where it leads] has overtaken you and laid hold on you that is not common to man [that is, no temptation or trial has come to you that is beyond human resistance and that is not adjusted and adapted and belonging to human experience, and such as man can bear].

But God is faithful [to His Word and to His compassionate nature], and He [can be trusted] not to let you be tempted and tried and assayed beyond your ability and strength of resistance and power to endure, but with the temptation He will [always] also provide the way out (the means of escape to a landing place), that you may be capable and strong and powerful to bear up under it patiently. 1 Corinthians 10:13 AMP

I want to encourage you to every day, let your light shine, and share Jesus and God's Word with people wherever you go. God is depending on us to be a witness for Him in our daily lives. We're co-laborers together in God's Kingdom. Let's go take the Good News to the world today!

Your partner in faith,

Brother Rich

On pages 21 & 22, I've included scriptures you can study on salvation, and a Prayer for the Salvation of Loved Ones that, if you will read it daily, will encourage you in believing God for their salvation.

SALVATION SCRIPTURES

And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?
Mark 10:17

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

John 3:3-7

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.
Romans 3:23-26

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. **Ro.10:9-13**

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. **Matt.10:32**

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. **Luke 19:10**

That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but

have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **John 3:15-18**

And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. **John 6:40**

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. **John 6:47**

But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. **John 20:31**

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. **Acts 2:21**

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. **Acts 4:12**

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Romans 6:23**

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. **2 Corinthians 5:17**

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. **Ephesians 2:8,9**

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners... **1 Timothy 1:15**

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; **1 Timothy 2:3-5**

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. **Titus 2:13,14**

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost

that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. **Hebrews 7:25**

And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. **1 John 4:14**

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. **1 John 5:13**

A PRAYER FOR THE SALVATION OF LOVED ONES

God, I come to You today in the Name of Jesus, claiming the Salvation of _____. I claim by faith that they are saved, delivered, set free and baptized in the Holy Spirit. In the Name of Jesus, I break Satan's power over their lives. He will not keep them from coming into the family of God.

Lord, You said in Your Word, "...Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" [Matthew 18:18]. Satan, I bind you from their lives. You'll not keep them from receiving Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!

Jesus gave me "...power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy..." You'll not keep the light of the glorious gospel of Christ from shining unto them [Luke 10:19; 2 Cor. 4:4].

Lord, I ask You to remove from their lives any people or influences that are not supposed to be there, and that distract my loved ones from salvation. Father God, Your Word says, "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" [Acts 16:31].

It is written that You "...will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" [1 Timothy 2:4]. It is written that You are "...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" [2 Peter 3:9].

Father, You opened Lydia's heart in Acts 16:14. I believe You will do the same for my loved ones. I ask You to send Holy Spirit-led believers across their paths.¹ I pray that their eyes will be opened to the Truth as they hear Your Word!

I cease not to give thanks for _____, making mention of them in my prayers; that You, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto them the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of You: the eyes of their understanding being enlightened; that they may know what is the hope of Your calling and what are the riches of the glory of Your inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of Your power to them who believe according to the working of Your mighty

power!²

Thank You, Father, for creating the right circumstances for the Word to be planted in their hearts. Laborers are being sent forth to minister unto them and Holy Ghost conviction is drawing them to You.

I refuse to fear; I have claimed _____ for the Kingdom of God in Jesus' Name. I am standing in faith and love for them. I am not moved by what I see or feel; I am only moved by what the Word of God says. Circumstances are subject to CHANGE!³ I have God's Word and it cannot fail. The devil is a liar. He cannot prevent the Word of God from reaching _____.

Father, Your Word will not return to You void, but it will accomplish that which pleases You.⁴ I believe You have heard my prayer and have granted my request.⁵ I am rejoicing with confidence, knowing that You are at work in their lives to will and to do Your good pleasure.⁶ Thank You, Father, that _____ are saved according to Acts 16:31. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1 Luke 10:2 2 Ephesians 1: 16-19 3 2
Corinthians 4:18 4 Isaiah 55:11 5 1 John 5:14,15
6 Philippians 2:13

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