

— OUTLINE —

- I. God saved you for the purpose of enjoying an intimate relationship with Him from now on.

*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.*

JOHN 3:16

*And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and
Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

JOHN 17:3

- A. The idea that salvation is merely “fire insurance” came from the church putting a period where the Bible only has a comma.
- B. It’s not **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish”**—period.
- C. So many preachers stop here and emphasize salvation’s byproduct of missing hell, and totally ignore God’s primary purpose—**“but have everlasting life.”**
- D. Jesus didn’t come as a dutiful Creator under some sense of obligation to rescue His wayward creation—Christ’s motivation was pure love, and anyone who loves has a need to be loved in return.
- E. God’s compassion for you in your lost condition and His passion to restore you to fellowship with Him were combined into a sacrificial love that endured the cross.
- F. With the barrier of sin forever removed, you’ve been freed to receive His love and to love Him in return.
- G. **“Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father”** (Gal. 1:4).
- H. Jesus didn’t just save you from a future evil world (hell); He also delivered you from this present evil world, according to the Father’s will.
- I. You are now able to walk and talk with Him—get to know God!

*Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy
right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*

PSALM 16:11

*Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see
him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.*

1 PETER 1:7B-8

- J. True joy and happiness in this life come from your intimacy with God.

II. Become a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ!

- A. A “disciple” is a learner, someone who follows another—**“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”** (John 8:31-32).
- B. As you step out in faith to follow Jesus, the freedom in your life will increase more and more.
- C. Your heart attitude should be, *Lord, I know You love me, and I love You too. Show me what to do and I’ll do it! I follow You!*
 - i. Lay everything out before Him and make no reservations.
 - ii. Recognize that He is God and you’re not.
 - iii. Hold nothing back from Him, because He’s already given you everything—He laid down His very life for you!
- D. **“Thy word is truth”** (John 17:17)—It’s only the Word you know and follow that makes you free.
- E. You can carry your Bible under your arm and set it beside your bed, but until you put His Word in your heart, it won’t do you any good.
- F. Meditate (chew on) His Word until it becomes a part of you.
- G. Once you believe it to the point of taking action, you’ll know the Word intimately.
- H. When this knowledge comes, it’ll set you free!

III. Welcome to God’s family!

- A. If you take to heart what I’ve shared with you and do it, you’ll be well on your way to maturity.
- B. Choosing to make the Lord Jesus Christ the center of your life is the greatest decision you’ll ever make!
- C. I congratulate you for choosing wisely.
- D. As your brother in Christ, I wish to leave you with this word from God our Father:

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

2 PETER 3:18

DISCIPLESHIP — QUESTIONS —

1. For what purpose did God save you?

2. John 3:16 says, **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but _____.”**

3. According to John 17:3, what is eternal life?

4. True or false: Jesus came to earth out of a sense of obligation to rescue His wayward creation.

5. With the barrier of sin forever removed, what has happened to you?

6. **“Who gave himself for our sins, that he might _____ us from this present _____ world, according to the will of God and our Father”** (Gal. 1:4).

- A. Take / stagnant
- B. Deliver / evil
- C. Buy / average
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

7. What is a disciple?

8. **“If ye _____ in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the _____, and the truth shall make you _____”** (John 8:31-32).

9. What happens when you step out in faith to follow Jesus?

10. John 17:17 says, “_____.”

11. True or false: You can carry your Bible under your arm and set it beside your bed, but until you put His Word in your heart, it won't do you any good.

12. Is choosing to make the Lord Jesus Christ the center of your life the greatest decision you'll ever make?

13. Which verse says, “**But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen**”?

— SCRIPTURES —

JOHN 3:16

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.

JOHN 17:3

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

GALATIANS 1:4

Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

PSALM 16:11

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

1 PETER 1:7-8

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: [8] Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

JOHN 8:31-32

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; [32] And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

JOHN 17:17

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

2 PETER 3:18

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.