

Welcome to Bookbag Sunday! We are so excited today to give every child from Kindergarten to 12th Grade a bookbag with supplies to help them prepare to go back to school! It's a blessing to Partner Together With Parents to Raise Godly Kids. Speaking of going back to school, don't forget to join us for Back To Church, Back To School, August 3rd!

This summer we've been talking about our Blueprints for Life, which are Ten Great Bible Doctrines found in God's Word. So far we've looked at 1) The Doctrine of the Bible. 2) The Doctrine of God. 3) The Doctrine of Christ. 4) The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit. 5) The Doctrine of Man. 6) The Doctrine of Sin. Today we are looking at 7) The Doctrine of Salvation. Followed by 8) The Doctrine of Angels. 9) The Doctrine of the Church, and 10) The Doctrine of Future Things.

For familiarity and consistency's sake we are using Max Anders Major Subdivision for each Doctrine found in his book “30 Days to Understand the Bible.”ⁱ

The Four Major Subdivisions of the Doctrine of Salvation Are:

Basis	Salvation is a gift God gives to those who believe.
Result	God extends forgiveness of sin and eternal life to those who accept Him.
Cost	The penalty of sin is paid for by the substitutionary death of Christ.
Timing	Our salvation is completed at the death of the body.

Basis: Salvation is a gift God gives to those who believe.

We cannot earn our salvation. Salvation is a free gift from a God of grace and mercy who loves us.

Ephesians 2:4-9 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions —it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith —and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

- As we saw in The Doctrine of Sin last week, mankind is lost in sin and enslaved to the sin nature. As imperfect people, we cannot make ourselves perfect. We need a savior.
- Our personal goodness can't help us either. Many people feel they are good enough and don't need to be saved from anything, thinking “Only really bad people need a savior, but not a ‘good ole boy.’” A Pastor once said, “*The hardest man to lead to Jesus is a good man.*” But no one is good enough. The fact is, everyone is unrighteous in God's eyes and all stand in need of a savior.

Romans 3:10 As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one.

- Referring to others, some people will say things like, “*They are not a Christian, but they have a good heart.*” The Bible holds a different view of humankind.
“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked... (Jeremiah 17:9)

So, we all once stood before God, unrighteous and with a desperately wicked heart with no way to make it better.

Jesus Christ Is Our Only Hope.

- **Romans 3:23-24** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and all are **justified freely** by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.
- “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been **justified by his blood**, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved

through his life! Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.” (Romans 5:8-11)

God Gives Us What We Don't Deserve. **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but **the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

ILL: Book Bag Sunday - One of the reasons we give gifts and other free things away is that these gifts are examples of a greater gift; a gift given freely, the gift of eternal life.

NEXT STEP – Everyday this week I will thank God that I don't get what I deserve!

Result: God extends forgiveness of sin and eternal life to those who accept Him.

Salvation is not automatically imputed. We must ask, believe, and receive.

- You Must Ask Jesus to Forgive You. **1 John 1:8-9** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- You Must Believe and Receive Salvation. **Romans 10:9-10** If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.
- As a Result of Salvation, We Become a New Person In Christ Jesus. **1 Peter 1:3-4** Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us **new birth** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.
- As a Result of Salvation, We Have a New Nature, Not Enslaved to Sin. **Ephesians 4:24** ...put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. **Romans 6:11** In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

NEXT STEP: This week I will memorize Romans 6:11 “In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”
And I will confess that I am dead to sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus!

Cost: The penalty of sin is paid for by the substitutionary death of Christ.

- Sin Brings Death. **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death...

God is Love, but also **God is Just**. When we sin, God doesn't look the other way. He can't. Justice must be served. **Romans 2:6** God “will repay each person according to what they have done.” We either pay for our own sins, or we allow Jesus and the work that He did on the cross, His shed blood, to pay the price for our sins.

- Jesus, the Sinless One, Willingly Died So That His Death Could Be the Substitution for the Penalty of Death That You and I Deserve.

1 Peter 3:18 NLT Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.

Timing: Our salvation is completed at the death of the body.

Romans 8:23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, **the redemption of our bodies.**

We are Triune Beings – Body, Soul, and Spirit.

- At Salvation, Our Spirit is Born Again and We Are Given Eternal life.

John 3:3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

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

- But At Salvation our Body Remains Unchanged.

Our body is corrupted by sin and is susceptible to disease and death.

- Our Soul – (Mind, Will, and Emotions) is Still Corrupted With Past Programing Counter to God’s Word and Truths.
- We Are In A Transformation Process To Be More Like Jesus, But Often Times There Is An Ongoing Struggle Between The Flesh and The Spirit.

Galatians 5:17-18 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

- This conflict continues until the death of the body, the outer man.

Dead People Don’t Sin. **Romans 6:6-7** For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — **7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.**

- At the death of the body, the born again Spirit of the Christian is transported immediately to heaven. **2 Corinthians 5:8** We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.
- Later At The Rapture of The Church, We Will Receive Our Glorified Bodies.

1 Corinthians 15:50-55 I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: **We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed** —

52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. **For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed** (*our new glorified bodies*).

53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

54 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

55 “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

Salvation Call

Will you receive the free Gift of Salvation today?

ⁱ Max Anders. “30 Days To Understanding The Bible” (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2011), p.254-256