
A NEW BEGINNING

Getting To Know Jesus

You are in a family.

When you accepted Christ as your Savior, you were “born again” into the family of God.

*“Jesus answered and said unto him, ‘Most assuredly,
I say unto you, unless one is born again*,
he cannot see the Kingdom of God.’”
John 3:3 (*literally, “from above”)*

In John 3:16, He explains *how* to be born again:

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten
Son, that WHOEVER BELIEVES in Him should not perish
but have everlasting life.” (NKJV emphasis added)*

So, now you have become a son of God. You are literally a brother¹ to Jesus Himself, and every other child of God on earth.

BIG family! Welcome!

We gave you two Bible studies to help you begin in God’s Word. There are plenty more - all free. Order as many as you want, we attached an order form. We will briefly explain four, basic doctrines for a new believer here:

¹ Romans 8:28,29

1. Baptism: “Dead To Sin - Raised To Liberty: Baptized Into Christ”
2. The Word of God: “The Bible: Spiritual Food, Spiritual Weapon”
3. God: “Walking With God: Prayer Conversation”
4. Family: “Family: The Fellowship Of Believers”

We will recommend Bible studies that go deeper into these topics. So let's get started. Let's begin getting to know the Jesus you only knew *about*!

Dead To Sin - Raised To Liberty Baptized Into Christ²

TEXT: Romans 6:1-11

KEY VERSE: Romans 6:4,7

“For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism.

And just as Christ was raised from the dead

by the glorious power of the Father,

now we may also live new lives.

For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin.”

Romans 6:4,7 (NLT)

God has made a covenant³ of eternal salvation with us. This was not His *first* covenant with mankind. It is His LAST! Each of God's covenants has had a sign confirming it. Sometimes He calls it a “token”⁴.

In God's first covenant, He promised the Seed, who would crush the head of Satan, and bring victory over the sin that had just entered the world. The token of that covenant was the covering of animal's skins that He made for Adam and Eve.

In His second covenant, He promised never again to destroy the world with a flood. The token of that covenant was a rainbow.

² SofD Publications: #42

³ Jeremiah 31:31-34

⁴ Genesis 9:12,13,17

In His third covenant, with Abraham, He promised to bless him with the Seed who would bless all the families of the world⁵, and give him children as numerous as the sand on the seashore. The token of that covenant was circumcision.

In this last covenant, the New Covenant, the sin of the garden of Eden, that brought death to all of us⁶, is finally laid to rest. We are made free from the law of sin and death. The power of sin is dead. The token of the New Covenant is baptism.

1: The token is part of the covenant, but it is not the covenant itself.

Romans 4:8-13

The skins God used to clothe Adam and Eve did not make them righteous. They were a sign of the righteousness that would come through Christ. God shed the blood of an innocent animal and removed the shame of man's sinful condition. It represented the TRUE Lamb of God, Who would shed His *own* blood, and once-for-all, conquer sin.

The rainbow did nothing of itself to protect the world from a flood. It was a sign of the promise of God, who cannot lie, that He would never again destroy all of mankind with a flood.

Circumcision made NO ONE a child of Abraham. That came by birth. It was a sign that a child was an heir of Abraham's promise.

*"Circumcision was a sign that Abraham already had faith,
and that God had already accepted him and declared him
to be righteous -- **even before he was circumcised.**"*

Romans 4:11

(NLT emphasis added)

Likewise, baptism is the sign of the New Covenant. It does not make you righteous before God, nor does it give you eternal life. Those are received as a free gift from God by faith; no physical work involved.

Faith is ENTIRELY a decision of the heart.

The token of EVERY ONE of God's covenants is a token of the faith in a person's heart. **That is crucial!** It is not the token that makes the covenant with God, it is the covenant that makes the token. Faith ratifies the covenant. The token declares it.

⁵ Galatians 3:8,9

⁶ Romans 5:12

*"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 (KJV)

Even diligently seeking Him is done by faith from the heart.

"For whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

Romans 14:23b (KJV)

✚ Animal skins did not justify Adam and Eve. Faith in God's mercy and the coming "Seed of the woman" did.

✚ Rainbows do not withhold God's watery judgement. God's promise to never again destroy the world with a flood does.

✚ Circumcision does not make you Abraham's descendant. Faith in Christ -- the faith that Abraham had⁷ -- does.

✚ Baptism does not give you new birth, redemption, or everlasting life. Faith does.⁸

EVERY covenant with God is a covenant of faith!

2: Baptism produces remission of sins.

Acts 2:14-39; Romans 6:1-11

"Remission" is a term related to financial obligation; as is "forgiveness". We are bound to a debt until it is remitted (paid), or forgiven (*considered* paid). Both terms describe release from a debt. Debt is bondage.

"The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."

Proverbs 22:7 (KJV)

⁷ Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3; Galatians 3:6-29

⁸ John 3:14-18

*“When the LORD your God blesses you as he has promised you,
you will lend to many nations but not borrow;
you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.”*
Deuteronomy 15:6 (HCSB)

When a debt is paid, it no longer holds any authority or power over you. If a debt is forgiven, obligation is removed without you paying the debt. Either way, it holds no power over you anymore.



*Baptism frees
you from the
power of sin.*

DELIVERANCE

*“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ
Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him
through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”*

Romans 6:3,4

(NKJV)

Jesus' death took all of mankind's sin to the grave and left it there! Then, He was raised from the dead to claim victory over sin and death, and walk in new life. Jesus' resurrected body was not the same! After resurrection, He appeared and disappeared.⁹ He made Himself unrecognizable.¹⁰ He walked through walls.¹¹ But He was STILL flesh and blood.¹²

In baptism, we are declaring by faith, “This is what the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus has done in my life. Sin holds no power or authority over me! I am not under any obligation to sin! I have been baptized into Christ for the remission of sin! I walk in a new life in this same body!” Glory to God!

In great detail, Romans chapter 5 explains that justification -- right standing with God -- is a free gift that is received by faith, by simply believing in Jesus. It is by faith that we are made righteous, and have peace with God.

*“**THEN** those who gladly received His word were baptized;”*

Acts 2:41a (NKJV)

⁹ Luke 24:31, 36

¹⁰ Luke 24:13-35

¹¹ John 20:19, 20, 26

¹² Luke 24:39-43

Notice the order: *First*, receive the word about Jesus, believing on Him. That faith brings righteousness, justification, and eternal life.

*"Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God
through our LORD Jesus Christ."*

Romans 5:1 (KJV)

*"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not
believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name
of the only begotten Son of God."*

John 3:18 (NKJV)

Second, be baptized for the remission of sins. Peter preached the blood of Jesus. Those people who believed his word were justified¹³; then they were baptized, giving them power over sin. You too.

Paul says that we were baptized into Christ's death; that the same power that raised Jesus from death to new life, would also raise *us* to a new life. That power is faith in the resurrection power of the Father. So, indeed, it is faith that brings remission of sins. Look:

"How God anointed Jesus...

To Him give all the prophets witness, the through His name

WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHALL RECEIVE REMISSION OF SINS."

Acts 10:38a,43

READ:

Romans 8:1, 5:1

As with everything else in God's Kingdom, it is of faith. Remission of sin is also received by faith. Baptism is a demonstration of that faith. You are saying:

"I believe that the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus has given me new life and power over sin. I will walk in this new life, no longer a slave to sin!"

¹³ John 3:14-18; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:8,9

Free from the law,
O happy condition,
Jesus hath bled,
And there is remission;
Cursed by the law
And bruised by the fall,
Christ hath redeemed us
Once for all. --Philip P. Bliss

The Bible: Spiritual Food, Spiritual Weapon

The Bible is unlike any other book in the world! It is living! It is powerful! Those are not metaphors! It was this Word of God that you hold in your hand that created the worlds!¹⁴ and you.

Faith in the Word is the key. To the extent that you BELIEVE the Word, it can overcome ANYTHING!

*“For the Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow,
and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

Hebrews 4:12

(NKJV)

First, make the decision right now that the Bible is ALWAYS true, and ALWAYS THE final authority. Do not make it complicated, just say: “I believe the Word of God!”

¹⁴ Genesis 1:3,6,9,11,14,20,24,26; John1:1-3 (“and God said...”)

READ:

Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3;
John 6:63

1: The Bible is Your Spiritual Food.

Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4; Romans 10:17

If you are having trouble with faith --believing God's Word--faith comes by HEARING God's Word.¹⁵ So, you need to hear more of the Bible.

Your spirit will be as strong as the Word you feed it.¹⁶ One preacher said, "You wonder why you're weak spiritually? You feed your body three meals a day, and your spirit a snack on Sunday." Get the Bible in you every way you can! Read, listen to preaching and spiritual music, and speak it to yourself.



*"To the extent that you BELIEVE
the Word, it can overcome
ANYTHING!"*

DELIVERANCE

2: The Bible is Your Spiritual Weapon.

Ephesians 6:17

When Jesus was tempted by Satan¹⁷, He responded, "It is written..."¹⁸ Jesus fought His spiritual battles with the same weapon you carry. Know your weapon! Know that the strength of your weapon is prayer. Look at Ephesians 6:18.

Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit will teach you ALL THINGS and cause you to remember. So sit down with your Bible, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you, and take your time. Read slowly and let Him put into your mind what the Word *means*.

Recommended Bible Studies: #9, #12, #21, #31, #33, #39, #46

¹⁵ Romans 10:17

¹⁶ 1 Peter 2:2,3

¹⁷ Matthew 4:1-11

¹⁸ Mark 11:17; Luke 4:18-30; John 10:34

Walking With God:

Prayer Conversation

You DID NOT join a religion! Friends (or enemies) may call you religious. That's easy for them, but it's not accurate. You have begun a personal relationship between you and God.

Above all else, this is personal. You can live, and live ABUNDANTLY, if all you have is you and Him. Others can help and encourage you -- and we will -- but God alone is enough. So your relationship, your "walk", with Him is the most important part of your life.

Talk to Him constantly.

"Pray without ceasing."

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Talk to Him about everything.

*"Don't worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and
petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.*

*And the peace of God, which surpasses every thought,
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

Philippians 4:6,7 [HCSB]

Now, pay attention, because God will answer you. It takes practice to learn to hear Him right. Go ahead, mess it up. This is God we're talking about, He will teach you. And He won't condemn you, **EVER**.

Oh yeah...just *talk* to Him. You don't need to say "thee" or "thou" when you talk to God. "God, I don't know what to do here. Help!" You get the idea. So, jump in.

Find a “mountain”.

After Jesus helped people¹⁹, He went up into a mountain alone, to talk to His Father...and yours.

*¹⁰ “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”*

Psalm 44:10 [ESV]

Find a place where you can get away from the noise²⁰, and hear God. He won’t shout over your life. Take your Bible, it is the most common way God speaks to you.

Recommended Bible Studies: #4, #19, #32, #38, #41

Family: The Fellowship Of Believers

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is

for brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down the

beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;

As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion:

for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore”

Psalm 133:1-3

(KJV)

¹⁹ Matthew 14:23

²⁰ I Kings 19:11,12 (read chapter 19)

Unity.

Jesus told His disciples, “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples.”²¹ Our love for the LORD Jesus is evidenced by our love for other believers. Our faith in Jesus Christ has made us the sons of God.²² So we are brothers.²³ The trademark of that brotherhood is unity, driven by God’s love in us for each other.

The book of I John is a good place to read more about the love God wants us to have for our family of believers. We are to allow God to demonstrate His love through us. Everything in God’s Kingdom is done by faith - depending on God. So ask Him and believe: “God, please show Your love to my brother through me. (Just because a person is your brother, doesn’t mean he will instantly be easy to get along with!)

“For he who does not love his brother whom he has seen,

how can he love God whom he has not seen?”

I John 4:20

1: Get together with your spiritual family.

Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:40,41

God’s Holy Spirit promises to meet with us whenever ANY of us get together, so we are stronger as a family. You will need the gift of the Holy Spirit that another believer has, and he will need yours. We strengthen each other.

2: Be prayed for, and pray for your spiritual family.

James 5:16; Matthew 18:19,20

²¹ John 13:35

²² I John 3:1

²³ I John 5:1

Prayer is a powerful gift God has given us²⁴ to help each other, to win battles²⁵, to receive healing²⁶, even just to get good things from our Father²⁷. When we pray together, God will join us, hear us, and answer.

Find a church where God's Word is faithfully taught and preached. Again, ask God to guide you. He will.

Above all, know that God will never give up on you. He will be with you until He brings you home.²⁸

God bless you!

Contact Us

- Songs Of Deliverance Ministry
PO Box 804
Kenosha, WI
53141
- SongsOfDeliveranceMinistry@Outlook.com
- www.SongsOfDeliveranceMinistry.org
- FB/Songs of Deliverance Ministry
- 262-748-2631

²⁴ II Thessalonians 1:1

²⁵ Ephesians 6:10-18

²⁶ James 5:14,15

²⁷ Matthew 7:11

²⁸ Philippians 1:6; Jude 24