

# Equipping People to Know Jesus and Follow Him

## Salvation

**Background** - How do we establish a relationship with God?

**Take away** – Make sure everyone has heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ, had a chance to respond, and live assured and confident in their salvation.

**Key Verse/Scripture Memory** – Eph 2:8-9

- 1) Pray – that God would speak to our hearts and give us assurance and joy in our relationship with Jesus.
- 2) Briefly review the sermon outline. Have people read aloud a few of the scriptures covered and explain why they are important and meaningful.
  - I. How do we establish a relationship with God?
    - A. God reveals the truth of who He is in Jesus – Col 1:15, Rom 1:18-20
    - B. Sin separates us from God – Rom 3:23, Rom 6:23, Rom 1:18-20
    - C. Jesus died on the cross to give us forgiveness – Mt 27:52-52, 1 Thess 4:13-14, Eph 2:8-9
    - D. Place your faith in Jesus – Acts 2:38-39, Acts 4:12, John 14:6, 1 John 5:11-13

### 3) Use the following for discussion questions:

- a) What happens to people that die before they place their faith in Jesus?
  - Hell is a real place, and we will spend eternity somewhere (either in Hell separated from God, or with Jesus in Heaven). If there are no consequences for evil and sin, then Jesus died for nothing.

- b) What happens to infants and the mentally ill who die without understanding their need for Jesus?
- Romans 1 says clearly that God reveals Himself to all people, so no one can make the excuse that they didn't know the truth. God doesn't send people to Hell. They go there because they made a choice to reject Jesus and His authority in their lives. So, infants and the mentally ill do not have the ability to understand the concepts of sin and salvation. They therefore are incapable of making a choice, so Jesus just takes care of them and ushers them to Heaven.
- c) Are you secure and confident in your relationship with Jesus? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die? Why?
- This is where 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:11-13 comes into play. This is a black and white issue. You either believe in Jesus or you do not. If you have accepted Jesus into your heart, you are eternally secure in that faith, and no one can take it away. So, we need to live confident lives assured of our salvation through grace.
- d) Have you placed your faith in Jesus Christ? Describe how and when.

### **Further Resources**

Bill Bright – *The Four Spiritual Laws*

Billy Graham – *Where I am: Heaven, Eternity, and our life Beyond*

CS Lewis – *Mere Christianity*

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