

Wildwood Church of Christ

Theme for 2021

Step By Step: Grow With Jesus

July 10, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Sermon: Godly Living – Do Business Till He Comes

Luke 19:11-27

Where Is The Verse?

I heard a preacher say this on television, "If you want Jesus to come into your heart just pray this prayer!" He continued with the prayer that is supposed to put one into a saved relationship with Christ. Where is the biblical passage that teaches this doctrine? There must be one since this is so frequently repeated as the plan God has given man for salvation. Again, where is the verse?

It is alleged that one of the verses is Acts 2:21 where Luke, the writer of Acts, penned, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." I can almost hear some sideline spiritual cheerleader shouting, "Yes, that is it!" Question: Is that what Luke meant? Did he mean if you just call on God to save you that He will?

One of my vivid memoirs takes me back to a class I took under the late Dr. Rex Turner Sr. In one of his classes he remarked, "Things that are equal to the same thing are equal to each other."

You may need to let that soak in for a bit. I did the first time I heard it as a young preacher. My good, lifelong friend Luther Mixson told me that he used Dr. Turner's statement in teaching geometry that things that are equal to the same things are equal to each other. This is just simple mathematics. Two plus two equals four. Three plus one equals four. Hence, these two statements and their conclusions are equal to each other because they reach the same conclusion.

Now how does that compare with the so-called sinner's prayer? Note a comparison of three passages that contain the phrase "shall be saved." If one meets the conditions in these three passages, then one can enjoy the result, namely that you "shall be saved."

Passage one: Acts 2:21 – "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord SHALL BE SAVED."

Passage two: John 10:9 – "I am the door; by Me if any man enter in, he SHALL BE SAVED."

Passage three: Mark 16:16 – "He that believeth and is baptized SHALL BE SAVED."

All three verses contain the same phrase: "shall be saved." Logically, to call upon the name of the Lord is equal to entering the door. To enter the door is equal to believing and being baptized. All three verses are equal to each other because they are equal in their result.

To call on the Lord's name is the same as entering the door and entering the door is the same as obeying the gospel as men and women did on the day of Pentecost – Acts 2:1-47.

On the first Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection, the apostle Peter preached the first gospel sermon under the great commission – Mark 16:15. After preaching the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (Acts 2:22-24), the people asked, "What shall we do?" Some modern-day preachers would say, "Pray the sinner's prayers." The concept of a sinner's prayer is a recent phenomenon not rooted in biblical truth. How did Peter respond to the question, "What shall we do?" In verse 38 he told them to "repent and be baptized . . . for the remission of sins" (vs.38). Put in the form of a mathematical equation, repentance plus baptism equals forgiveness of sin. In a book of sermons in my library is a sermon of a preacher who answered the people's question like this: "Repent and believe for the remission of sin."

The statement made in Acts 2:21 as to who SHALL BE SAVED is answered in verse 38. Those who believe on Christ,

repent of their sins, and are baptized in the name of the Godhead for the remission of sins are those who are saved. Those on Pentecost were told to "call on the name of the Lord" (Acts 2:21). They did so when, as penitent believers, they were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38).

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What happened to those who were saved? They were "added to the church" (Acts 2:47). To which church were they added? Since Jesus promised to build His church (Acts 2:47), it seems logical that they were added to Christ's church or the church of Christ. False doctrine versus the Bible is the choice we have. I don't know about you, but I don't want to gamble with my soul by believing some man-made teaching. By Billy Lambert

Prayer List

~Please remember **Taylor Williams** and all her family in the sudden loss of Kevin this past Thursday afternoon. Our hearts are aching for them and they need our prayers and support. We will let you know as soon as we have more details and information.

~ **John Workman** is still in the hospital. His esophagus has healed enough so that last week the doctor was able to remove the stent. We praise God for this progress! The doctors are continuing to work on his low blood pressure when he stands up.

~ **Sister Edra Nell Courtney** was in the hospital for dehydration and got weaker while she was there. They have moved her to the Chatham Glen rehab in Summerfield on 42. She is in room 152 and would love to have visitors. Fully vaccinated people can visit anytime, unvaccinated need to call ahead.

~**Mike Whisenant** was taken to the hospital yesterday morning and admitted for problems with cellulitis in his leg. They ask for no visitors at this time.

~ **Judy Glenn** is doing very well recovering at the rehab after her hip replacement surgery and hopes to go home sometime later this week.

~ **Loraine daSilva** had a fall a few weeks ago and broke her knee that she had replaced many years ago. The doctor put a brace on it and she has to use a walker. She will have to have surgery sometime in the near future but right now she is in Huntsville, Al. with her sister (and Marlin Kilpatrick's sister) who has had a stroke and is not doing well. Please also remember **John daSilva** while Loraine is away.

~ **Marlin Kilpatrick** is going to have knee surgery on July 12th.

~Remember the **Freeman family** in the passing of their long-time friend, Elizabeth Rogers.

~Also remember **Wayne and Joyce Freeman**. Joyce has had several falls recently.

~**Nathan Myers** was diagnosed with Covid last week. Nathan has asthma so the family has been concerned for his health but he seems to be doing ok right now.

~Our hearts rejoice in **Elaina Hartman's** decision to be baptized into Christ last Wednesday, July 7th, at Bible camp! Elaina and her good friend, **Hannah Touchton**, who has been to services at Wildwood many times, was also baptized.

Remember: Martha Pope; Jeanette Harris; Alicia Barrett; Linda Grove; Millie Tudor; Peggy Murphy; Shirley Threet; Charlotte Martin; Ken Scott; Richard Menninger; Joyce Albert; Larry Hyder; Joyce Freeman; David Deason; Teresa Broyle

Announcements

~ **JAMAICA:** If you would like to help purchase **school** backpacks for the children in Jamaica, you can give your money to Mike or David. The backpacks are pre-filled with the required items for the children by the Jamaican school system. Thank you so much!

Pantry Items

Canned Sweet Potatoes

July Birthdays

Harper Williams-2; Logan Pickron-3; Lois Babbitt-3; Jamie McCartney-4; Alyssa Pickron-6; Barbara Barden-6; Martha Rushmore-12; Jon Bratcher-12; Linda Grove-13; Garrett Cook-17; Ashlynn Vernon-17; Don Albert-18; Dorcas Faulkner-20; George Barrett-20; Irma Bottorff-20; Pat Ponsford-21; Joyce Albert-23; Dawn Creekmore-24; David Myers-25- Greg Pope-25; Sarah Alls-28; Jeanette Harris-28; John Workman-28

July Anniversaries

Fred & Marilyn French-3; Mike & Meagan Whisenant-14; Ronnie & Cecelia Strickland-15; Don & Joyce Albert-28

church website: www.hischurch.faith password: John3:16 (no spaces)

