

Saved and Sanctified to Serve:

- ▶ A message of salvation, sanctification and preparation to serve God - to do the ministry He has prepared us to do.
- ▶ 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.

Salvation.

- ▶ What is salvation?
- ▶ Ephesians 2:8-9: For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not of yourselves. It is the gift of God - not by works so that no one can boast.
- ▶ We are justified - declared righteous - when we believe in God and His promises.
- ▶ Genesis 15:6: Abram believed the Lord, and He credited it to him as Righteousness.

God's Promises:

- ▶ What had God promised Abram?
- ▶ He had promised him a land.
- ▶ He had promised him descendants as many as the stars in the sky.
- ▶ He had promised him an heir.
- ▶ God is faithful to fulfill His word.

God's Creation:

- ▶ When God created the universe and all that is in it, He created man in His own image.
- ▶ God wants a personal one-to-one relationship with us.
- ▶ He gave man dominion to rule over all he had made.

Sin Entered The World

- ▶ Adam disobeyed God.
- ▶ Sin entered the world and through sin - death.
- ▶ Man is now born with a sin nature.
- ▶ We have the DNA of Adam.

God's Plan:

- ▶ God had a plan from before the foundation of the world to redeem man, to set us free from sin.
- ▶ John 1:29: Behold, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.
- ▶ Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God Draws Us:


- ▶ God created us with a longing - a need to worship.
- ▶ It is only in Christ Jesus that the longing will be filled.
- ▶ It is God who draws us to come to Jesus.
- ▶ John 6:44: No one can come to *Me* unless the Father who sent *Me* draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.

Repentance:

- ▶ When we come to Jesus, we realise that we are sinners in need of a saviour.
- ▶ 1 John 1:9: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- ▶ Romans 10:9: That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
- ▶ We are now born again of the Spirit of God and are children of God.

Sanctification:

- ▶ Now that we are saved, the work of sanctification begins in our heart.
- ▶ 1 Peter 1:15-16: But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do, for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.
- ▶ Sanctification means to be set apart.
- ▶ This is the work of God in us through the indwelling Holy Spirit

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- ▶ God has set us apart from the world and unto Him.
 - ▶ 2 Corinthians 6:17-18: Therefore, come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord almighty.
 - ▶ John 17:14-16: I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.

God's Possession:

- ▶ Mother Theresa said, “Our progress in holiness depends on God and ourselves - on God’s grace and our will to be holy.”
- ▶ We have been reconciled to God through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross.
- ▶ We are no longer our own. We now belong to God.
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:9: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.

Responsible to God:

- ▶ We are now accountable and responsible to God for all He has done and is doing in us.
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 6:9-11: Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

False Gospel:

- ▶ There is a false gospel that is being taught today, a life of blessing and prosperity, of perfect health.
- ▶ We are being formed into a vessel for our Master's use.
- ▶ 2 Timothy 2:20-21: In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

Persecution:

- ▶ Paul warns us that there will be persecution in the lives of believers.
- ▶ 2 Timothy 3:12: In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
- ▶ We see in the lives of the apostles how they suffered for their faith.
- ▶ They were hated and persecuted and eventually nearly all of them were martyred for their faith.

Paul's Persecution:

- ▶ Jesus appeared to Saul, Paul, who was persecuting the Christians.
- ▶ He sent Ananis to pray for Paul.
- ▶ Acts 9:15-16: Jesus said to Ananis, “Go! This man is My chosen instrument to carry My name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for My name.”

- ▶ In Paul's ministry we see many of the afflictions he endured.
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 6:3-5: We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings , imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights, and hunger.
- ▶ V8-10: Through glory and honour, bad report and good report; genuine yet regarded as imposters; known and yet regarded as unknown; dying and yet we live on, beaten and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing and yet possessing everything.

- ▶ Charles Colson said, “unquestioning acceptance and obedience are the foundation of the Christian life.”
- ▶ He also said, our goal as believers is to seek to please God, not what he can do for us. Personal victories may come, but they’re a result, not the object. True Christian maturity -holiness, sanctification - is God-centered.
- ▶ C.H.Spurgeon said, “To be sanctified in your spirit, soul and body should be our aim.”
- ▶ This is what we see in the life of Paul and the other apostles.

Trials and Testing:

- ▶ As believers we know that we will go through trials and testing.
- ▶ James 1:2-4: Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.
- ▶ It is through perseverance that we become mature and complete - holy.

Lives of Holiness:

- ▶ When we surrender our lives to God and allow Him to take control of every area, He will guide and direct us in everything we do.
- ▶ It is through the Holy Spirit that we live lives that are pleasing to God, lives of obedience and surrender, lives of holiness.
- ▶ Hebrews 12:14: Make every effort to live in peace with all men, and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.


Spiritual Roots:

- ▶ We will put down roots and the deeper our roots go, the stronger our faith will grow.
- ▶ Jeremiah 17:7-8: But blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

- ▶ The fruit of the Holy Spirit will be evident in our lives.
- ▶ Galatians 5:22-24: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature.
- ▶ We will grow in spiritual wisdom and understanding.
- ▶ We will begin to reflect Christlikeness in our daily lives.

Prepared to Serve:

- ▶ We are now prepared to serve the Lord and others.
- ▶ We have been cleansed and sanctified unto good works.
- ▶ Ephesians 2:10: For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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- ▶ God has given us everything we need to complete His work.
 - ▶ 2 Peter 1:3: His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 15:58, tells us to always give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because we know that our labour in the Lord is not in vain.

Stewards of God:

- ▶ God has entrusted His mysteries to us.
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 4:1: NASB. This is the way any person is to regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- ▶ God reveals His mysteries to His faithful stewards.
- ▶ We have been given much and we are responsible for much.

The Great Commission:

- ▶ Jesus' last command to His disciples we see in the Matthew's Gospel.
- ▶ Matthew 28:19-20: Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

God's Commands:

- ▶ 1 Peter 4:7-11: The end of all things is near. Therefore, be clear-minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

Pray: Love Deeply:

- ▶ 1 Thessalonians 5:17: Pray continually.
- ▶ The first commandment is to love.
- ▶ Matthew 22:37-38: Jesus replied, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Hospitality:

- ▶ Acts 2:42-47: They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to everyone as they had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Pure Religion:

- ▶ James 1:27: Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this; to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.
- ▶ Proverbs 28:27: He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses.
- ▶ Romans 12:12-13: Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Jesus - The Servant:

- ▶ Jesus is the example we are to follow.
- ▶ He came to serve, not to be served.
- ▶ Jesus washed the feet of Judas, the one who was to betray Him.
- ▶ John 13:14-15: Now that I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Jesus' Humility:

- ▶ Philippians 2:5-7: Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Saved, Sanctified to Serve:

- ▶ We are saved unto good deeds.
- ▶ Matthew 5:16: In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

Glory to God.

- ▶ God is to be given all glory and honour and praise.
- ▶ We worship Him in spirit and in truth.
- ▶ When we walk by the Spirit, we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.
- ▶ We have been saved, are being sanctified, and are servants of the Lord.