

New Berean News

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God's Minute: Saving Faith

Sometimes when Christians are asked how he knows that he is going to heaven, the answer is "because I have faith". But, when asked further and asked what their faith is based on, the answer is often very vague. Some of those answers are: "I have faith in myself", "I have faith because I am religious," "I don't know, I just have faith". Faith is so misunderstood, but yet, so important. We are told "with out

faith it is impossible to please God": "for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a new rewarder of them that diligently seek him". Faith always has a foundation. The God-Man, Jesus Christ is our foundation "for other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ (1Cor:3:11). Simple belief of who he is , finished sacrifice on the cross for our sins.

His death, burial and resurrection is the faith that saves when we call upon him confessing our need of salvation. (Rom 10:8-13) .We are encouraged to share our faith (Matt 28: 18 -28). Have faith in your life and continue to trust in the Lord with all your heart.

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Go ahead....Start a problem

The problem of not enough parking spaces, classrooms and pews. Wouldn't it great if we ran out? who attend Bible classes we need to add on classrooms. We need such a problem now!

The problem of requests for more Bible studies. We had to put some of them on a waiting list? The problem of so many youngsters The problem of wanting to support more evangelists than are available to go into hard places to preach.

What a lift it would be if we had so much surplus money that we had to seek out men to support.

The problem of too many members of the church wanting to teach Bible classes. Wouldn't it be awesome if we had to take numbers.

You agree these are good problems? You also agree we have had more than enough of the other kind? If you can cause us to have these positive problems, have at it.

Who is Jesus to you?

To the artist He is the One Altogether Lovely.

To the architect He is the chief cornerstone,

To the baker He is the Living Bread.

To the banker He is the Hidden Treasure.

To the biologist He is the Life.

To the builder He is the Sure Foundation,

To the doctor He is the Great Physician.

To the educator He is the Great Teacher .

To the farmer He is the Lord of the Harvest.

To the florist He is the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley.

To the geologist He is the Rock of Ages.

To the jurist He is the Righteous Judge, the Judge of all men.

To the jeweler He is the Pearl of Great Price.

To the lawyer He is the Counselor, the Lawgiver, the Advocate.

To the horticulturist He is the True Vine.

To the newspaper man He is the Good Tidings of Great Joy.

To the oculist He is the Light of the World.

To the philosopher He is the Wisdom of God.

To the preacher He is the Word

of God.

To the sculptor He is the Living Stone,

To the servant He is the Good Master.

To the student He is the Incarnate Truth.

To the theologian He is the Author and Finisher of Our Faith.

To the traveler He is the New and Living Way.

To the sinner He is the lamb of God that takes sin away.

To the Christian He is the Son of the Living God, Savior, and Redeemer.

12 steps to humble yourself

1. **Routinely confess your sin to God (Luke 18:9-14).** All of us sin and fall short of the glory of God. However, too few of us have a routine practice of rigorous self-honesty examination.
2. **Acknowledge your sin to others (James 3:2, James 5:16).** A true test of our willingness to humble ourselves is willingness to share with others the weaknesses we confess to God..
3. **Take wrong patiently (1 Peter 3:8-17).** Patiently responding to the unjust accusations and actions of others demonstrates our strength of godly character and provides an opportunity to put on humility.
4. **Actively submit to authority...the good and the bad (1 Peter 2:18).** How purposely and actively

do you work on submission to those whom God has placed as authorities in your life?

5. **Receive correction and feedback from others graciously (Proverbs 10:17, 12:1).** Look for the kernel of truth in what people offer you, even if it comes from a dubious source. Always pray, "Lord, what are you trying to show me through this?"
6. **Accept a lowly place (Proverbs 25:6,7)** Support others being recognized, rather than you. Accept and look for the lowly place; it is the place of humility.
7. **Purposely associate with people of lower state than you (Luke 7:36-39).** Resist the temptation of being partial to those with status or wealth.
8. **Choose to serve others (Philippians 1:1, 2 Corinthians 4:5,**

Matthew 23:11). When we serve others, we are serving God's purposes in their lives.

9. **Be quick to forgive (Matthew 18: 21-35).** To forgive is to acknowledge a wrong that has been done us and also to further release our right of repayment for the wrong
10. **Cultivate a grateful heart (1 Thessalonians 5:18).** A grateful heart is a humble heart.
11. **Purpose to speak well of others (Ephesians 4:31-32).** Speaking well of others edifies them and builds them up. Make sure, however, that what you say is not intended as flattery.
12. **Treat pride as a condition that always necessitates embracing the cross (Luke 9:23).** Committing to a lifestyle of daily dying to ourselves.

Using your words

Words can be very powerful. They can be used to tear people down or build them up. Reading **Proverbs 10:11-12** made me look at my own use of words and how I express them. Do I generally use uplifting or negative words? Are my words usually harmful or encouraging? I never really gave it much thought but after reading Proverbs 10, it made me conscious of how important it is to God to think before we speak.

“The mouth of the righteous is a well of life”

“Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding.”

“Whoever hides hatred has lying lips and whoever spreads slander is a fool.”

“...He who restrains his lips is wise...”

“The tongue of the righteous feed many”

“Wise people store up knowledge, but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.”

Our words carry more than just definition—they carry intent, emotion and attitude. So next time you’re caught up in turmoil or strife, think about using your words wisely.

If you find that you lean more towards negative talk than encouraging, set a new goal for yourself and try saying at least three encouraging comments to someone a day. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you in your speech.

What kind of Bible coffee drinker are you?

Black Coffee – Likes the Word plain and straight.

You are a hard core Berean, who enjoys printing out the text without paragraph breaks, line by line.

Your Bible is clean from notes or commentaries, just the Scriptures and maybe a concordance.

Cappuccino – Likes the Word like a shot of espresso, indulged with frothy foam.

You enjoy digging into the Word with notes and commentaries readily available, inserted alongside the text.

Your Bible is a Study Bible. You underline and make notes in the margin. The Good Book is covered in either (faux) leather or in a canvas Bible cover.

Latte – Likes the Word, rich and creamy, and enjoys a foamy mustache.

You love walking through the Word with companions of devotional thoughts or inspirational questions.

Your bookshelf is never short of a fave devotional or Bible Study series.

Your Bible might be a Life Application Bible, or it’s simply paired with your favorite “Daily Bread” or stacked on top of a study book.

Mocha – Likes the Word, like a chocolaty treat, a rich confectionery splurge.

You love journaling in the Word, reflecting on Christian writing, meditations or even art, music and photography. The Word comes alive in a mosaic of artistic expressions. You are an artist who takes in the Word and sees it reflected in unexpected places.

NBBC Ministries

Each ministry has a purpose within God’s mission. Each ministry has particular gifts. Each ministry reveals the life-giving reign of God in unique ways. No ministry is everything to everyone. But every ministry is something to someone. Who can know God through your worship

style? Who can experience forgiveness and grace through your ministerial community? Who needs the gifts you have to offer? Who can offer gifts you need? Knowing those things, when in conversation are you talking about your ministry to a person in need? Welcoming involves hoping whoever happens to find you

will join. Inviting involves sharing God’s specific gifts—made real in your ministry—in the world.



Our sick and shut in

Father, hear our prayers for the sick and shut in of our church and for those in need. Show your mercy as you make bodies whole. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance so they may join us in thanking your for all your gifts.

Bring your article and ideas

Calling All New Berean members. If you have an article, a word of encouragement, a poem, an or upcoming event that you would like to share, you are welcome to submit it and we are more than happy to include your article in the New Berean Newsletter. The deadline is the 1st Sunday of each month. You can email your article to nbnews01@gmail.com. All articles received after the 1st Sunday may not be included until the following month. We look forward to hearing from you.

Birthdays

- Sis. Deja
- Bro. Alvin Parker
- Sis. Mia
- Sis. Victoria Cason
- Sis. Maggie Weaver
- Pastor Ricks
- First Lady Vanessa Ricks

Anniversaries

- Sis. Lanae
- Bro. Leroy Ricks
- Bro. & Sis. Weaver

Stars of the Month

- Sis. Janis Mann
- Bro. Curtis Jackson

A Christians Pledge

A Christian has pledged to be loyal to the Lord Jesus Christ. If one remains true to that pledge, customs and human traditions will not be allowed to become sacred. The ways of this world will not become a strong influence, and his/her desire will ever be to conform to the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is sometimes difficult for some people to see how wrong it is to introduce into the work and worship of the Lord's church anything that appeals to them. They do not realize that to mix human wisdom with divine is offensive to

God. Jesus rebuked the most pious Jews of his day because they could not accept what God said as sufficient; they had to add their own traditions and customs and make them of equal, if not more, important than scripture.

Our Lord said, "This people honoreth me with their lips; But their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, Teaching (as their) doctrines the precepts of men" (Matt. 15:8-9). One lesson we must eventually learn is that God's ways are incomparable to man's. A religion that is vain cannot be the religion that honors

God. We must always revere and honor the authority of the Almighty by taking our stand on a "thus saith the Lord."

