

ONE LARGE GROUP

PRAYER:

PURPOSE: Provide an overview of what the Bible says about: God, man, marriage, and parenting

ASSUMPTIONS:

- God exists & He is sovereign (He is alive & active)
- God’s word is truth (God revealed the Bible for our benefit & guidance)
- The Bible is all we need to understand our world, and live to please God. This allows us to help our families, neighbors, and country

Theme: “Two Paths”

- Every day we decide to either obey God or disobey (honor God or self?)
- There are consequences to each path

LESSON 2 REVIEW: (Sin – The Bad News)

- Originally, Adam & Eve were not sinful, and they had true free will
- Satan tempted Eve
- Satan is the original liar and murderer
- Satan appealed to their strong desires (lusts)
- Eve and then Adam disobeyed God’s only restriction (they sinned)
- All of creation was punished due to Adam & Eve’s sin
- Sin is disobedience to God
- Sin starts in the heart
- Satan uses the same temptations today (attacks through strong desires)

OBJECTIVES OF LESSON 3: (Salvation – God’s answer for sin – Good News)

- Man is helpless without God
- God paid the penalty for man’s sin
- God offers salvation to all sinners (there is only one way to salvation)
- Each person of the Trinity is involved in salvation
- Salvation addresses all the effects of sin (in this world and the next)

Malachi Men Lesson 3 “Salvation” Facilitator’s Notes

BIBLE:

- The Bible was written over a 1600 year period (1500 BC – 100 AD)
- Approximately 40 men were involved in writing the Bible
- These men were from all walks of life: kings, peasants, fishermen, physicians, statesmen, scholars, poets, and farmers
- In spite of this, the Bible is consistent and there is amazing continuity in all of the major themes
- Consistency testifies to its Divine author, truthfulness, and reliability

Note: The United States is only 233 years old, but there is little continuity between our original goals and current goals. The constitution is understood and examined in many different ways. We are not consistent. (Original intent or what we want now?)

SALVATION:

Q – What is man’s condition after the Fall? (Damage control report)

Listen to the following verses which comment on man’s sinful condition.

Gen 6:5 (6) Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that *every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

Ps 53:2-3 (596) God looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God. *Every one of them has turned aside; they have together become corrupt; there is none who does good, no not one.*

Jer 17:9 (756) The *heart is deceitful* above all things and desperately wicked; who can know it?

Jn 8:34 (1043) Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a *slave of sin.*

1 Cor 2:14 (1116) But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

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Eph 2:1-2 (1145) And you He made alive, who were *dead in trespasses and sins*, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.

Conclusions: (Damage report – took a direct hit in all areas)

- Everyone is a *sinner*, none is righteous, all are *deceitful* and *defiled*
- Man is *not seeking God* (he is *worshipping idols*, not God)
- Man is *spiritually dead* (he is unable to save himself)
- Man is a *slave to sin*

Q – What does man need?

- Cancellation of penalty for sin (eternity in heaven, not hell)
- Forgiveness: for inherited sin and personal sins (remove guilt)
- Power over sin (new heart & Holy Spirit to live a life of trust, belief & obedience)

Q – What is Salvation?

- A complete reversal of the condition created by sin
- Extreme spiritual makeover

Q – Who can save man?

- Only God! Our creator is our savior (self-help is no-help)

Eph 2:8-10 (1146) For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (we are saved to serve God)

2 Cor 5:21 (1133) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

1 Jn 3:5-7 (1194) You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him. Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

SMALL GROUPS (Most important verses are in **Bold**)

Opening Prayer

Review Homework: (ask the following questions)

- What did you learn? Are you now thinking differently?
- Do you understand God better? Do you understand yourself better?
- Are you resolved to act differently?

Recite Prior Memory Verses: (Gen 1:1, Prov 4:23)

Q – What is the basis of salvation? (repentance)

Mt 3:1-2 (932) In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "*Repent*, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Mt 4:17 (933) From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "*Repent*, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Acts 2:37-38 (1063) Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Then Peter said to them, "*Repent*, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

SALVATION:

Q – How are each persons of the Trinity involved in salvation?

GOD THE FATHER

Jn 6:44 (1040) No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me *draws him*; and I will raise him up at the last day

Ro 8:29-30 (1107) For those whom He *foreknew*, He also *predestined* to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also *called*; whom He called, these He also *justified*; and whom He justified, these He also *glorified*. (compare with Mt 7:23, 25:12, Ro 11:2)

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Eph 1:3-5 (1145) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as *He chose us* in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him, In love, having *predestined* us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.

Conclusion:

- Salvation is *God’s plan*
- *God decides* who will be saved
- God *calls* those He is saving
- God *justifies* those he calls
- God blesses with every spiritual blessing
- God will eventually *glorify* those He called

GOD THE SON

Acts 4:12 (1065) *Nor is there salvation in any other*, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Ro 5:8-9 (1105) But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, *Christ died for us*. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

Gal 1:3-4 (1139) Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who *gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us* from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. (Sanctification)

Col 1:13-14 (1154) He has delivered us from the power of darkness, and conveyed us into the kingdom of the *Son of His love in whom we have redemption, through His blood, the forgiveness of sins*.

Titus 2:13-14 (1170) Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus, who *gave Himself for us that He might redeem us* from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. (Sanctification)

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1 Pe 2:24 (1188) Who *Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree*, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - by Whose stripes you were healed.

Conclusions:

- Christ died to pay the penalty for our sins (**Savior** - saves)
- Christ rescued and redeemed sinners
- Christ provided a means for God to forgive sinners
- Christ gives believers His righteousness
- Christ is Lord of believers (**Lord** - leads & guides)

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

Ezek 36:26-27 (847) I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. *I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes*, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Jn 15:26 (1053) But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

Jn 16:13 (1054) However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

Jn 17:17 (1055) *Sanctify them by Your truth*; Your word is truth.

Ro 8:14 (1106) For as many as are *led by the Spirit of God*, these are sons of God.

Ro 10:17 (1109) So then *faith comes by hearing*, and hearing *by the word* of God.

Ro 15:13 (1113) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may *abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*.

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Eph 1:13-14 (1145) In Him, you also trusted after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in Whom also having believed, you were *sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise*, who is the guarantee of our inheritance, the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Phil 2:12-13 (1151) therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For *it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure*.

2 Thes 2:13 (1161) But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through *sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth*.

Titus 3:5-6 (1170) Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to His mercy, He saved us through the *washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit*, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Heb 12:14 (1181) Pursue peace with all people, and the *holiness*, without which no one will see the Lord.

1 Pe 1:23 (1187) Having been *born again* not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, *through the word of God* which lives and abides forever.

2 Pe 1:20-21 (1191) Knowing this first, that no prophecy of *Scripture* is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy *men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit*.

Conclusions: (what the Holy Spirit does)

- Gave word of God (Bible)
- Provides saving faith
- Seals believers
- Sanctifies believers
- Lives in believers - Leads & washes believers

SUMMARY:

- Salvation is God’s Plan
- Sinful man is unable to save himself - God paid the price for man’s sin
- God offers salvation to all sinners
- Only those foreknown and called by God will be saved
- Each person of the Trinity is involved in salvation
- Man must believe & repent (both are gifts of God)

Persons of the Trinity in Salvation:

	<u>Father</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>Spirit</u>
Foreknow	X		
Predestine	X		
Call	X		X

Give Faith			X
Seal			X
Justify	X	X	X

Lead		X	X
Sanctify		X	X
Glorify	X		

Components of Salvation:

- Forgiveness for sins
 - Penalty of sin (past & future) – Eternity with Jesus Christ
 - A clean conscience (no guilt)
- A new heart (power not to sin, free to choose not to sin, sanctification)
 - Heart from stone to flesh
 - Sermon on the mount attitude - repentance (Mt. 5:3-12, p. 934)
 - Realize spiritual poverty & Mourn over sin
 - Hunger for righteousness & Endure persecution for righteousness
 - Desire to obey
- A new gift (spiritual – motivation to serve – God is glorified)
- A new faith (believe God – believe Bible is true)

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HOMEWORK:

- Study Israel in the wilderness (Numbers 13, Deuteronomy 1:21-36, Hebrews 3:16-19)
 - How had God shown them grace/mercy?
 - How many were saved? How many were unsaved?
 - What was the difference between the saved and the unsaved?

- Study the rich young ruler story (Matthew 19:16-26)
 - Was he saved?
 - Why or why not?

- Consider the following:
 - Are you saved? If not, what is preventing you?

Memory Verse: (repeat as a group)

Ephesians 1:3 (1145) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

Memory Hint: Say the verse(s) out loud. Hearing God’s word often leads to doing God’s word. Hearing the verse(s) helps your mind attach to Scripture more readily.

Prayer Time: