

Good News: **GOD** *IS GIVING AWAY*

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Printed by:
UNITED CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

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HOPE
POWER
BOLDNESS
RICHERS
STRENGTH
WISDOM
LOVE
NEW LIFE
JOY
GIFTS
PEACE

I can do all things through
Christ
who strengthens me.

Philippians 4: 13 NKJV

Dear friend, ... God wants to do wonderful things with and through our lives. Our old human nature keeps pulling us down and making us do things that hurt us and hurt those around us.

When Jesus died for us on the cross He took upon Himself the sin and death of our old human nature and now God offers us a “new nature”. He overcame sin and death; He arose from the grave and now God offers us an exciting “new life” in Christ. With this new life comes hope, joy, peace, love, self control, etc.

My prayer is that you will experience this “new life” in all its fullness.



Jack Kennedy

GOOD NEWS GOD IS GIVING AWAY

ETERNAL LIFE (Live forever)

*And this is what God has testified: **He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.** So whoever has God's Son has life; ... **I write this to you who believe in the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.** I John 5: 11-13*

A FATHER: God wants to be your Dad

*But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to **become children of God.***
John 1: 12

WISDOM

the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.
Proverbs 2:6 NASB

LOVE, JOY, PEACE

But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. ...
Galatians 5: 22-23

HOPE, AN INHERITANCE, POWER

*I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is **the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.** These are in accordance with **the working of the strength of His might***

Ephesians 1: 18-19 NASB

GIFTS: God gives us special abilities to help others.

he ... gave gifts to his people.'... He is the one who gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ,
Ephesians 4: 8-12

GOD WANTS HIS CHILDREN TO HAVE ...

NO FEAR : *Instead a spirit of power, love, soundness*

God has **not given us a spirit of fear**, but (God has given to us a spirit) of **power** and of **love** and of a **sound mind**. *II Timothy 2: 7 NKJV*

HOPE: *Hope for a good life, with God and for God*

For I know the plans I have for you, 'says the LORD. They are **plans for good** and not for disaster, **to give you a future and a hope**.
Jeremiah 29: 11

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, **looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**,
Titus 2: 11-13 NKJV

GOD'S OWN SPIRIT (Person) WITHIN US

But the Helper, **the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things**, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. *John 14: 26 NASB*

For all who are **led by the Spirit of God** are children of God. *Romans 8:14*

STRENGTH : *(To do His will)*

I can do everything with the help of **Christ who gives me the strength I need**. *Philippians 4:13*

THE GOOD NEWS

(Memorize this page)

1. God loves us

God is love. *I John 4: 8*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, ... *John 3:16*

2. Sin and death destroy our lives

all have sinned ... *Romans 3: 23 NASB*

the wages (result) of sin is death, ...
Romans 6: 23

3. Jesus overcame sin and death for us

Christ died for our sins ...
He was buried, and ...
he was raised from the dead *I Cor. 15: 3-4*

(Jesus) ... bore our sins in His body on the cross, ... that we might ... live to righteousness ... *I Peter 2:24 NASB*

4. God offers us “new life” as a free gift

God saved you ... it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, ... *Ephesians 2: 8 –9*

5. Accept the gift - become a child of God.

all who believed him and accepted him, ... become children of God. *John 1: 12*

THE GOSPEL (Good News)

*I Corinthians 15:1 Now let me remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the **Good News (Gospel)** I preached to you before. ... 3 that*

***Christ died for our sins**, just as the Scriptures said.
He was buried, and
he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said.*

*5 **He was seen by Peter** and then by the **twelve apostles**. 6 After that, **he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time**, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now.*

*7 Then **he was seen by James** and later by all the apostles. 8 Last of all, **I saw him**, too....*

*Romans 1: 16 For I am not ashamed of this **Good News** about Christ. **It is the power of God at work**, saving everyone who believes...*

Write down the “Good News” in a few words.

How many people saw Jesus after He rose from the dead. _____

In Romans 1:16, why is Paul (the Apostle who wrote Romans) not ashamed of the Good News.

God doesn't want you to have questions about your salvation.

He wants you to know that you are saved and that you are His child, that you have eternal life and that one day you will see Jesus face to face and spend eternity with Him and with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you have already asked Jesus to be your savior, write down when you did that, where you were, how it came about, etc. If you are asking Jesus to come into your heart now and be your savior, you may want to write down that you did that and also share that good news with a Christian leader in your life.

A PERSONAL RECORD

Take time and write down where you are in your relationship with Jesus. You may be wondering if He really lived. If He is God and actually died for your sins. Or you may have already accepted Him as your savior.

Write down your thoughts or questions about who you believe Jesus is.

What is the next step for you in your thoughts about Jesus and in your relationship with Him?
What do you think you need to do to move forward in your relationship with Jesus?

Take time to pray to God and ask Him to help you get to know Him better. You may want to tell Him that you believe in Jesus and that you want Jesus to forgive you of your sins and come live within your life and help you live a life that is pleasing to Him.

SIN

*Romans 3: 23 for **all** have **sinned** and **fall short of the glory of God**, NASB*

*Exodus 33: 18 Then Moses said, **I pray Thee, show me Thy glory!**"NASB Exodus 34: 5 Then the LORD ...passed in front of Moses and said, **I am the LORD, I am the LORD, the merciful and gracious God. I am slow to anger and rich in unfailing love and faithfulness. 7 I show this unfailing love to many thousands by forgiving every kind of sin and rebellion. Even so I do not leave sin unpunished,***

In Romans 3: 23, how many people sin? Do good people, preachers, priest, etc. sin also?

What is sin? Is it just the bad things that we do or is it also not doing the good things that God wants us to do? The Bible says sin is “falling short of” or not living up to God’s glorious way of living. What is God’s “glory”, or glorious way of living as described in Exodus 33 & 34?

PENALTY FOR SIN

Genesis 2: 15 The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and care for it. 16 But the LORD God gave him this warning: You may freely eat any fruit in the garden 17 except fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat of its fruit, you will surely die."

Genesis 4: 8 Cain suggested to his brother, Abel, Let's go out into the fields. And while they were together there, Cain attacked and killed his brother.

Romans 6: 23 For the wages (payment, result) of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

What did God say would happen when we sin?

Our sins cause us to die in many ways. Sins cause us to kill or hurt friendships, marriages, trust, etc. What are some hurts that sin cause in your life?

When a man ask a woman to marry him and he wants to give her an engagement ring, what is she going to have to believe in her heart and what is she going to have to say with her mouth to become his wife?

She probably **has to believe** in her heart that she can trust him and that he loves her and that he will be faithful to her. And **she has to say** "Yes, I will marry you and become your wife".

Accepting Jesus as our Savior is very similar. Jesus is telling us that He loves us and He has proven His love for us on the cross. Now he is asking you, will you accept Him as your savior.

What does Romans 10: 9-11 say we have to do to receive God's salvation?

What do the other verses on page 10 say we have to do to: receive eternal life, be saved, become a child of God?

ACCEPT GOD'S GREAT GIFT OF SALVATION

John 3: 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that **everyone who believes in him** will not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 10: 9 For **if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

10 For it is **by believing** in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is **by confessing** with your mouth that you are saved.

11 As the Scriptures tell us, **"Anyone who believes in him will not be disappointed."**

Acts 16: 30 He brought them out and asked, **Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"**

31 They replied, **Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with your entire household."**

32 Then they shared the word of the Lord with him and all who lived in his household.

John 1: 12 But to **all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.**

13 They are reborn! This is not a physical birth ...this rebirth comes from God.

THE BIBLE TELLS US

how we can receive God's great gift of salvation,
It is important for you to know:

- how this is done and
- if you have done it.

CHRIST PAID THE PENALTY OF SIN FOR US

I Corinthians 15: 3... **Christ died for our (my) sins,** just as the Scriptures said. ...

I Peter 2:24 and ... **(Jesus) bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness;** for by His wounds you were healed. NASB

I Peter 1: 18 For you know that **God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors.** And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. 19 **He paid for you with the precious life-blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.**

In I Cor. 15:3, who's sins did Jesus die for?

What do you think it means In I Peter 2:24, when the verse says that " we might die to sin and live to righteousness"? How do we do that?

In I Peter 1: 18, when Jesus "ransomed" us or "bought us back" from an empty life full of sin and death, what did He use to make the payment with?

GOD LOVES US

*Romans 5: 8 But **God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.***

*9 And since **we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ**, he will certainly save us from God's judgment. 10 For since **we were restored to friendship with God by the death of his Son** while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be **delivered from eternal punishment** by his life. 11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God--all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us in **making us friends of God.***

What did God do for us that shows us how much He loves us ? Did He love us even when we were doing bad things, while we were still sinning?

What are some other things that God did for us through Jesus' death for us? Look at verses 9-11.

SALVATION IS A FREE GIFT

*Ephesians 2: 8 God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; **it is a gift from God.** 9 **Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.***

*Titus 3: 3 **Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled by others and became slaves to many wicked desires and evil pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy. We hated others, and they hated us.** 4 But then God our Savior showed us his kindness and love.*

*5 **He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.***

From Ephesians 2:8-9, is salvation a gift, or is it something that you work for and earn?

From Titus, 3: 5, what does it mean that we are saved by His mercy, and not because of the good things we did?
