

## **DEDICATION**

This booklet is dedicated to the wonderful family of God at Central Baptist Church. God has blessed this Pastor greatly by giving me the joy and privilege of being pastor to the best congregation of which I've ever been part. Your love, attention, and care has ministered to my heart many times. You have made it easy for this pastor to love God's flock. Thank you for allowing God to use you.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**TURNING SOULS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS**

BY DR. ANDY BLOOM

**DANIEL 12:3** *And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.*

Not every one to whom Jesus witnessed on this earth received HIM as their Savior. Jesus was not a failure. It was those to whom he witnessed who failed. Paul had the same results in which some places he preached, few were saved. Noah preached and we are told that “few” (I Peter 3:20) were saved. Only eight souls. There are those today who teach that Noah was not a good man. They paint him as a big failure because of getting drunk one time after coming off the Ark. Yet we see him in the *hall of faith* in Hebrews chapter 11. In II Peter 2:5 we read of him, *And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

When we share the gospel with an unsaved person, we are turning them to righteousness. Since they have a free will, they are the ones who decide to accept or reject it. Our duty is simply to *present the truth in love*, and to give our very best effort in trying to convince these people of their need of salvation. When we do, we are turning them to righteousness. Those that turn many to righteousness shine as the stars forever. *Shining* speaks of glory. There will be a greater degree of glory for some than for others.

We must not forget the first phrase of Daniel 12:3; *and they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament;*. That takes us back to Proverbs 11:30 *The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.* In this passage, winning souls is to gain their favor through your kindness. The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life. That greatest kindness then is sharing the plan of salvation with the lost sinner. None of us want to be as Lot. His life was so worldly, that the Bible tells us he *vexed his righteous soul* from day to day by being among them. They could not see a difference between his life and theirs. So when he tried to witness to his son-in-laws, they thought he mocked.

The purpose of this booklet is to help you turn others to righteousness. On your part it is required that you love Christ, and then ask HIM to give you a burden for the lost souls of men that you may lead them to be saved from their sins and receive eternal life from Christ. This booklet is not exhaustive in content. It is also realized that although the **saving gospel** is always the same, the presentation of it differs. It is also realized that those who would *turn many to righteousness*, must be aware of two things: First, Satan will try to prevent you from presenting the gospel. It is a spiritual warfare. Therefore, there will always seem to be a fear factor when you set out to witness. Secondly, the more you do it, the better and more comfortable you will become in presenting it.

## PREPARATION

In looking at preparation to turn many to righteousness, we will consider the spiritual and the physical. Sometimes your opportunity comes on visitation night. Sometimes, the visitation night

will present an opportunity to share the gospel with someone who has just visited your church. They heard the gospel in the sermon, the people in the church were hopefully friendly, the music was different than what they hear wherever else they go in this world. There was something different about it all. With that still in their mind, it is often a good time to present the gospel to these people personally. However, sometimes you visit someone who is already saved and only looking for a church home, or they came for a special meeting. That is therefore very limited in scope if that is the only time one witnesses. If we go door to door we may also have an opportunity to win a lost soul to the Lord. However, if visitation is the only time one presents the gospel, they are not turning many to righteousness. Witnessing is to be a daily part of our life.

Although there are many steps we should give in preparation, we will present only three in this venue. We can remember them with the three “P’s”: **Prayer; Planning; Personal-Responsibility.**

### **PRAYER**

Ephesians 6:17 calls the Bible the *Sword of the Spirit*. But it is followed by a colon. The colon tells us that what follows is connected to using the Bible as the Sword of the Spirit. That is Prayer and the Bible are connected. Prayer that is right is prayer that prays according to the Word of God. We know that in I Peter 1:23, the Word of God is needed in salvation. There it says: ***Being born again, not of corruptible seed, BUT OF INCORRUPTIBLE, BY THE WORD OF GOD, which liveth and abideth for ever.*** Read your King James Bible prayerfully. Ask God to give you a clear understanding of the truth that you may use it in witnessing to the lost. When we love Christ, we love souls. The destiny of those poor souls are then very important to us. Therefore, we should pray in two ways in preparation to turn souls unto righteousness: first, we have our regular time of daily prayer and Bible study. Secondly we have prayer before we go to witness to anyone. In your prayer ask the following:

- 1) That God will give you quick recall of the Scriptures as it applies to the situation.
- 2) That God will give you wisdom and discernment in conversation with the person to whom you are witnessing.
- 3) Ask God to prepare the heart of the person to receive the witness, asking God to give you favor with that person.
- 4) If you already know the person to whom you will witness, pray for them by name.
- 5) Ask God to rebuke the devil and prevent him from bringing in people, a cell or phone call, or any other thing that may hinder the presentation of the gospel.

### **PLANNING**

When we speak of the “plan of salvation”, we do not speak of some secret code or handshake. Instead, we are speaking of a logical presentation of the way to be saved without leaving anything out that is important for that person to know in order to be saved. We are trying to lead them to Christ, therefore we don’t want to get in the way by a confused, discombobulated presentation. Sometimes the gospel will upset people, but it shouldn’t be from our illogical presentation. It is then of utmost importance that you memorize the plan of salvation in such a way that you could say it comfortably backward and forward. In our bookstore, we have the plan of salvation on “CD”. The way it is presented may not be the same way someone else would present it. But it is something that you can listen to many times in order to learn it yourself, as well as to give it to someone. On the cover of the jacket is the following: *If I could talk to you about spiritual things, the things contained in this “CD” is what I would want to say. The “CD” is only sixteen minutes long. I would like for you to listen to it alone in your car, home, or somewhere it is private. You may share it with others. It is your gift to keep. After you listen to it, I would like to know what you think of its contents. I will be happy to try to answer any questions you may have about it. These may be things that you already know and have experienced, but it is just that I don’t know it because we have not talked about it. It is very important to me that you do listen to it.* Can you see the language compromises nothing of the truth, yet it is a way to present the truth. Do your best to learn this plan. Again, you will hear some folks who teach it differently, but the plan of salvation is the same. The important thing is that we do it. To do it better we must review it often in our own mind. When you drive to work, work in the yard, or some other activity that allows you to think on other things while you’re doing it, then think on the plan of salvation.

### **PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

We live in a day when the society is dressing down and is more casual than ever. When one is dressed up, it draws the attention in a manner of respect. In our Christian School, we use to have Fridays designated as the day the boys could wear Jeans and the girls could wear jean skirts. We noticed that the learning times, discipline, and conduct was not as good as the other days. We went back to the normal dress for every day. Nothing wrong with jeans and jean skirts, but they simply did not command a serious learning situation. In turning others to righteousness, we do not want our dress, demeanor, nor our person to become an instrument of the devil.

The following four precautions are very important:

- 1) **Bathe daily.** The unsaved will see those who do not bathe often as ignorant. The devil lets them know you are too ignorant to believe what you are saying.
- 2) **Wear deodorant.** Living in Florida, sometimes one perspires. However, usually we just plain sweat. Sweat or not, deodorants can help. I also suggest talcum powders. However, be careful of perfume. More than a few people are allergic to its odor. There is a time it is alright to be liberal. Be liberal in the use of deodorant and cleanliness. I suggest for men to wear a tee shirt under their shirts. Even in summer I find it is an insulator. By the way, don’t chew gum, but it is good to have a breath mint of some kind in your mouth a few minutes before talking to someone.
- 3) **Dress appropriately.** Ladies, wear a dress that covers the knee or lower. Be dignified, and

modest. Men, wear a nice shirt and slacks. Dressing too casual may send a signal of disrespect.

Do not be flashy, i.e. purple tie, orange shirt, red coat, plaid pants, and white socks, with sandals.

Have your hair combed and non offensive. Ladies are not going to a home dressed in an evening

gown, while he is in a tuxedo, but we are not wanting to be disrespectful by sensual dress. The bottom line is we don't want our manner of dress to detract from the gospel presentation.

4) **Kindness.** Manners do not hurt. As a matter of fact, compliments about children, their home, or

an interest they may have, might open the door for them to listen to the gospel from you. The Bible refers to the law of kindness. It is good to make it a habit of your life. Be a good listener.

This kindness may be the very thing that allows you to come back later. The gospel already is offensive to many. It doesn't need our help to be more offensive.

**Principles of prayer, planning, and personal responsibility are important. Keep it before you.**

## **PRESENTATION**

Before the actual presentation, we need to know what the gospel involves. The following Scriptures teach us what we ought to know:

*1 Corinthians 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:* This chapter starts out by saying "I declare unto you the gospel..." We are also told it is the gospel by which we are saved. In a nutshell it is that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; that HE was buried; and finally that HE rose again (bodily) from the grave the third day, according to the Scriptures. When we share that gospel we are turning people to righteousness.

We learn this of Jesus: HE was called Jesus because HE would save HIS people from their sins. In saving from sin it is saving from sins power over us and sins consequences. In the eternal it will also be the removal of sin. It is in the future we receive a new body for HE will change our vile body and fashion it like unto HIS glorious body. That is why when HE was on the cross we read in I Peter 2:24 *Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.* I like the comments of old Dr. M. R. DeHann, who was a man who had a passion for lost souls and kept his publication "Our Daily Bread" separated, fundamental, and in the King James. (It was after he was dead they changed to a moderate, liberal theology). Dr. De Hann made the following statement: *The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ meant that every sin had been successfully paid for. Not a single sin remained un-atoned. Had Jesus paid for all sins of mankind except one, HE would have still remained in death and be there today. HIS resurrection, therefore, is proof that when Jesus cried, "It is finished," it was indeed finished, and HIS resurrection proved*

*this to all the world, to all generations, and now the only sin which can condemn a man today is refusal to accept as a free gift this finished salvation. That quote is right, having these Biblical references as proof: Rom 10:14,17 **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.** That is why we read in Acts 4:12 **Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.** Titus 3:5 **Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to HIS MERCY HE SAVED US, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;***

*John 14:6 **Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.** You and I need to understand that Jesus Christ alone saves. HE saves us from sin and its eternal consequence. We need to understand that there are not many roads to heaven; only Christ Jesus our Lord will save a soul. That is why Col 1:14 states: **In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:** Understand also that Jesus is God with us. May these verses suffice: Matt 1:23 **Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.** John 1:1-3,14 **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.** Jesus Christ was the God Man. Not 50% God and 50% man, but fully God and fully man. HE was virgin born so as not to inherit a sin nature with which we are born. HE, by the Holy Ghost coming upon Mary, is the only begotten Son of God.*

The next truth we must understand is that we are all sinners. Rom 3:10, 23 state: ***As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*** Rom 5:12 ***Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*** Even in the Old Testament we read in I Kings 8:46 ***If they sin against thee, (FOR THERE IS NO MAN THAT SINNETH NOT,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near; For a person to receive Christ, they must first realize they are sinners who deserve to go to hell.***

We next need to know that the wages of sin is death, Rom 6:23 ***For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*** The wage, what we have earned, is to go to hell forever, being separated from God's mercy, grace, and salvation. It is a place where the lost soul never ceases to exist and is never consumed. Their body will feel the pain night and day with no hope of relief. The wages we've earned is to go to that place. But God has a gift. That gift is seen again in God's grace. It is eternal life. The man without Christ in eternity has eternal existence, but not eternal life. Our spirits will live forever for we were made in the image of God. But eternal separation in a lake of fire, provided with a body that will feel all the torment and pain, yet never cease, is not life. But Jesus paid it all so we would not have to go there. That is why we read in Rom 5:8 ***But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*** When Jesus was on the cross HE was suffering for every sin you ever have or ever will commit. 2 Cor 5:21 states it this way: ***For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of***

**God in him.** The first three hours of the cross, man did all he could do. Many movies, art, and oratory has described the hanging bloody mass in such a way that it stirs our senses. It was what God allowed that man might see God's attitude about sin. During the last three hours of the cross, it turned dark. God the Father took over the crucifixion. HE poured out a spiritual punishment on the human spirit of Christ that is even more than any man will suffer in hell. What we must realize is not just HIS suffering, we must picture ourselves hanging there. We must see that as our consequence that we should be hanging there. If HE doesn't come and pay our penalty, that is our eternal fate. That is why **absolutely no man goes to heaven on their own merit.**

We then need to understand that in order for a person to be saved, he must see that it is Jesus who saves. Not men, not baptism, not the church, but Jesus. What HE requires of us is **not** a work in order to be saved. Instead, HE requires **faith!** Understand what is meant by *faith*. A person may believe that eating too much fried food is not good for him. He sincerely believes it. But, he eats too much fried food. You see, the belief is a statement which he thinks is true. But it is not faith because he eats too much fried food. We are told in I John 3:2 that one day we will be like HIM for we shall see HIM as HE is. Most every born again person believes that. It is a doctrinal statement. But it is not faith unless we do what v3 states: ***And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*** With those thoughts in mind, let us consider the following verses: Jesus said in Luke 13:3,5 ***I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. 5 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*** Acts 3:19 ***Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;*** Acts 17:30, 31 ***And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.*** Luke 24:46-47 ***And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that REPENTANCE AND REMISSION OF SINS SHOULD BE PREACHED IN HIS NAME among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*** II Peter 3:9 ***The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*** We see the importance of repentance in these verses as regards our salvation. The word **repent** has the meaning of *to change the mind. To turn.* We are reminded of Ezekiel 33:11 ***Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways;*** But there is another truth in the Bible that cannot be overlooked. This all inclusive verse states in Isa 64:6 ***But we are ALL as an unclean thing, and ALL our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we ALL do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*** Evangelist Ray Comfort, although not a fundamentalist, has done an excellent job in using the ten commandments to show people who think they haven't sinned, or are not bad enough to go to hell, that they have broken nearly every commandment. Now the problem is this: I can not remove my sin. I cannot cleanse myself from my sin. So repentance is a change of mind in two ways concerning myself: first, I'm willing for the Lord to take away my sin. I cannot say, I believe HE died for me, but I'm going to go on doing my drugs, etc., but I will ask HIM to save me since HE says HE would in no wise cast me out. Well that is not repentance. Just remember, in repentance, you do not remove the sin, Jesus does. You do what



you can do. If drinking is a problem, don't have it around. But Jesus cleanses you from sin and its power over you. You must be willing for HIM to do it. Secondly, you are in a sense putting all your eggs in one basket. That is, you are trusting Christ and HIM alone for your salvation based on HIS death, burial, and resurrection. Instead of trusting religion, baptism, confirmation, works, etc., you are trusting HIM alone. That is why we also read about **faith** in passages as John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8,9; Romans 10:9,10, 17 Without faith it is impossible to please HIM. How could anyone get saved without faith in HIS Word that HE will save "whosoever believeth in HIM."

Now we want to look at the presentation. Illustrations will be used with each point. You may use it or another illustration you have heard. Make sure when you present the plan of salvation that you tell the person, if he blurts out a question as ("Where did Cain get his wife?"), that you will get back to that later, but you really want to present this part first. Also understand that the presenting of the plan of salvation is not a sales pitch; it is not a masterful use of psychology; it is not about your personality. It is turning that person to righteousness. This is a supernatural thing. That is why we pray. It must be done in the power of the Holy Spirit. The things about dress, etc., were to not allow the flesh to get in the way of the presentation and work of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes one will hear that a person was **gloriously saved**. Anyone who gets saved is gloriously saved because it is Jesus Christ who saves. The new birth is HIS work. When it is all about Christ, we will be showing people the way of salvation, turning them unto righteousness. It is they who must decide to accept or reject. As a side note, one year I gave a very good salvation tract to our church people on Sunday morning. I read the tract with very brief explanations. It took about 20 minutes. Many people realized they could read as well, or better, than I do. Then I gave them a challenge to come forward and promise God they would read it just as it is to at least one person. Over 30 salvation decisions were recorded. When you understand that the power is of God, and you are not trusting in a method, nor psychology to do the work in the heart, then the Holy Spirit will do the work through HIS Word.

For illustration sake we will call the person we are trying to turn to righteousness, **John Doe**. I like being original. I will start at the point in which I will ask him about his soul. I will not do this throughout this presentation, but I will give you three ways in which some people approach it. First,

*Mr. Doe, do you know for sure that if you died today that your soul would go to heaven? Some use the question that Evangelism Explosion uses, which is, If you were to die tonight and appear before God and HE said, John Doe, why should I let you in to my heaven?, what would your answer be? A third question some use is, Mr. Doe, if there is a way you could know that you are going to heaven, wouldn't you want to know it? I'm sure there are many other ways people get started in a witness.*

Now lets go through it unabated. *Mr. Doe, do you know for sure that if you died today that your soul would go to heaven? **I think I would. I know I'm not perfect, but I do the best I can. I don't hate God and I am law abiding. So I think I would make it.** Well Mr. Doe, I'm sure you are a good person and even more so than what you told me, but you wouldn't mind me taking a few minutes to show you how you can know if you died tonight that you would go to heaven, do you? **Yes, it will be alright.** Mr. Doe, you can call me Andy. You don't mind if I call you John do you? **Of course not, I would prefer it.** John, I'm going to use mainly the book of Romans in*

the Bible. Genesis is a book that tells us how it all got started, Revelation tells us how it ends. Romans is a book that tells us about ourselves and how we can go to heaven. The first passage is Romans 3:10,23 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" John, you have received me into your house. You have been kind and I can see you are what most people would claim is "a good man." But these verses are written from God's perspective who is holy and who is also the judge. Can you see that we are all sinners. That is, we've all done bad things? **Yes, I admit that.** John, I admit the same thing. But let us learn more about this. Romans 5:12 states: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" John, Adam's sin was that he ate of a tree that God said, "Don't eat of it." We have told our children, "No candy before dinner." If they get some we don't kill them. Not only because we love them, but also we don't equate it as deserving death because we know we've done much worse. Since Adam is the father of the race of man, we have inherited from him a sin nature. That is what this verse is telling us. We are born sinners. John, did you have to teach your children to lie, or steal candy? **No I didn't. They must have inherited that from me, (laughing).** That is funny, but it illustrates the truth that we do not teach our children how to do wrong, rather we must teach them how to do right. We must teach them manners, morals, and obedience. Now let us look at this passage in Romans 6:23 "**For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**" John, the first part of that verse says the wages of sin is death. Wages is what we've earned. If I work forty hours for you for an agreed amount, when the time is finished you owe me a wage. Since God is the owner and boss of the universe, as we live this life we belong to HIM. The wage we earn for our sin is death. That word "death" is interesting. It does not mean ceasing to exist, rather it means separation. When we die, our spirit separates from our body. If I were to cut my finger off and lay it on the table in front of us, it would still be my finger, but it would not be me, because the real me lives inside me. When we die, the real person, or inner man, goes to live forever somewhere, either in heaven or hell. We've earned it because the judge of the universe has decreed that the wages if sin is death. Death means final complete separation from God forever in the lake of fire, hell. That is a place where one is not ever able to cease to exist, but he has no hope of escape. I wouldn't call that life, would you John? **No.** That is grim news John, but that is only half the verse. The second half is not only good news, it is great news. It says: "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Notice the difference from the first half of the verse. Here we read it is a "gift." There it was a "wage." Here it is "eternal life." There it is "death." Here it is "through Jesus Christ our Lord" and it is God's gift to us through HIM. There it is death as a result of what we have earned. Now lets us see some more good news. By the way John, the word "gospel" means good news. What I have shared with you so far is that both you and I deserve to go to hell by God's standard because we are sinners. That is not good news. But notice Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." I want to show you some special good news here. It is saying that God, that is God Almighty Himself loves us and extends that love toward us. It says, "while we were yet sinners." John, I don't know about you, but when someone does something for me that is really nice, I want to do something for them. A man one time paid for me to have eye surgery. I needed it but could not afford it. I did not borrow it from him. He saw my need and told me to go get the surgery. I wanted to do something for him, but I could not do for him what would be equal what he did for me. In like manner we think I have to get good enough for Christ to save me. But, we can't be good enough. It says "Christ died for us." In my worse state, just as I am,

*Jesus Christ the Lord died for me. The penalty I owed, "death," was paid by HIM. But not for me only, but as we shall see in a few minutes, it was for "whosoever." His bodily resurrection from the dead proved he had conquered all that had conquered us. That is why HE says in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me." Jesus is our only way to heaven and salvation because HE paid it all for our sin before the holy God of heaven. John, if you tried to do it on your own, you would have to die, go to hell, and then resurrect yourself three days later, make your body eternal, then ascend into heaven with the payment of your blood. John, do you think you could do that? **No way.** (Me laughing, I say) John there is no way I could either. How dumb it would be when Jesus already died for us. Now I want to take you to one final passage in Romans 10. Verse 9 says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." The Lord Jesus means this "Lord" HE is God in the flesh, "Jesus" HE became a man to save my soul. If you will "confess with your mouth," that is as a marriage ceremony in which you make that commitment with your mouth. We see also "and" meaning at the same time, believe in your heart that God hath raised HIM from the dead, which speaks of a literal bodily resurrection and for your sins, "thou shalt be saved." John, by that God means we are saved from our sins and therefore, sins penalty and power over us. It also means saved from the eternal lake of fire as a result. Now look at verse 10 because this is very important. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." John, there is a difference between a serious head belief and a heart belief. Imagine that I go to the doctor and he shows me by x-rays and blood tests that I have a deadly disease. If it is not taken care of soon, I will die. Until I saw it I did not know I needed the surgery or was near death. I felt fine. Yet the tests prove otherwise. He says, "Andy, can you see that you need surgery and that you will die if you don't have it soon?" I answer "Yes," and with fear because I am convinced that it is true. Now he says, "Well Andy, I conferred with the surgeon. Let me show you his papers and history." These papers and history show him to be the top surgeon in his field with an impeccable record. He has never failed. After showing me everything the doctor asks me, "Andy, can you see how serious this is and that you need the surgery now?" Yes I do. "Can you see that this is the best surgeon in the world and that probably only he can do it?" I answer, "Oh yes, that is plain to see." Then he says, "Okay, I have set the surgery up for next Thursday. Be here at 9:00 a.m." Now I answer, "No, I don't think so." The doctor says, "But don't you see you need the surgery and you will die soon without it?" Yes I do. "Then wont you allow us to do the surgery?" "No I wont." Or I might say, "no not now." Then the doctor says, "You said you believe it and you believe this surgeon can do the work, why wont you go ahead with the surgery, because I cant guarantee your life past today?" I answer, "Because I'm not willing to trust him with my life." Even though I know he can do it; even though I know he has an impeccable record, I am trusting him only with my head, not my heart. In other words, I have a serious head belief, but not a heart belief, that he can do the surgery successfully. Now John, imagine I say "Okay" and they set up for surgery. I go to the hospital and say to the surgeon, "What can I do to help you? Would you like for me to help make the incision, do the cutting, or suture it up when you are done?" As funny as that sounds, we know if he thought I was serious he would say, "You only need to trust me. I will do it all." John that is the difference between a head belief and heart belief. Jesus does it all in salvation. We believe unto righteousness. Not our righteousness, but HIS. We are submitting ourselves unto HIM to do in us what is needed to save our souls. Sometimes we call it being born again, or becoming a child of God. When you become a child of God, HE is father, you are the child who is totally*

*under HIS love, discipline, and orders. Following that we are told that with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Now v13 says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." John, there was a day when I could place my name where it says whosoever. That is, "For if Andy Bloom shall call upon the name of the Lord." Again, this is believing HE died for me, was buried and rose up from the dead, paying the penalty in full for all my sin. As Lord, I am trusting HIM and HIM alone for my salvation. So I then call upon HIM, that is, I ask HIM to save me. HIS promise here is that HE would. In the book of John HE said HE would in no wise cast you out if you come to HIM this way. Now John, I can repeat a prayer that ask the Lord for salvation. You could repeat it word for word after me. It would only be words if you don't mean it from your heart. John, wouldn't you like to ask HIM to save your soul right now? **Yes I would.** Then lets pray with you repeating after me. Dear God [he repeats] I believe I am a sinner. [repeats] Forgive me of my sin. [repeats] I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for my sin, was buried and rose from the dead. [repeats] I right now ask Jesus Christ to come into my heart, [repeats] as my Lord, as my God, as my Savior. [repeats] Cleanse me from my sin. [repeats] Save me right now. [repeats] Thank you for saving me [repeats] in Jesus name amen. [repeats]. Now John I want to ask you a couple questions. First, do you believe that God would lie? **No.** Do you believe HIS book the Bible is a lie? **No.** He said here that if you believe in your heart and call upon HIM to save you, HE would do it. So John, if you died tonight or fifty years from now, where would your soul go? **To heaven.** That's right. And the reason is that God said so. John, I didn't save you, God did. Now another question: John are you ashamed of Jesus and ashamed that HE died for you? **No.** Then John, look at what Romans 10:11 states: "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed." What we do in confessing Christ is to first do it before God's people. We do that by coming to church. At the invitation time we go forward. The pastor will let the people know what you did tonight. Don't worry, you wont have to give a speech. But it will be great for the people to rejoice with you.*

I think it is good to take this person to both Matthew 28:18-20; and Romans 6:4-6. Explain that baptism is the first command after salvation. Tell him how it shows what Christ did for him in saving his soul. Let them know this does not save him, but it is the first command after salvation. Let him know it is publically identifying himself with Christ. Also, let him know that you were baptized also.

It is always good to try to set up a follow up time in which you come back to his house, or invite him to yours. They will have questions. Our building blocks book is good if you want to disciple that person. Encourage them to begin reading the Bible each day. Maybe have them read from either Mark, or John, and think on it. Tell them that prayer is talking to God. Leave a tract with them and tell them it contains some of what you shared with them. Let them know they should go back and read it if they are having doubts. By the way, Satan will try to make them doubt. Read to them Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:5.

## **PERVERSION**

Some people think you should not say anything about **sin**. Others will emphasize the prayer so much that the faith is placed in a prayer, not the finished work of Christ. By the way, most of the time I explain repentance to a person when I speak of sin. There are many who believe that repentance is a work. That is wrong. This person is turning to Christ. It is more than turning **from** works, self, ritual, etc., it is turning **to** Christ. Easy believism says “As long as you believe, that is all that counts. You can continue to live as you want and do things as that the Bible says is wrong.” That is heresy!

A church in Maine was going door to door asking people if they had a church home. If not, they told them they would like for them to be a member of their church. They must say only that they believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead. That is not salvation. One man spoke of leading twenty people to Christ in thirty minutes. I found out that he would say to a cashier, if you believe Jesus died on the cross and rose up from the dead, shake my hand. He would report it as a salvation decision.

Beloved, we are turning people to righteousness, **not** to a club or latest fad. This is a new life, (II Corinthians 5:17). They become new creatures in Christ. Remember, the preaching, i.e. the witnessing of the cross, is the power is of God unto salvation. It is between God and the one to whom we witness as to whether or not they accept it or reject it. Ours is to turn them to righteousness. To shine as the stars forever is a forever testimony. The one who truly loves Christ will have a passion for the lost souls of men. This booklet is not the ultimate booklet on turning souls to Christ and HIS righteousness. There are courses that go into greater detail. The important thing is to get started turning others to righteousness, while calling upon the Lord for HIS help. Allow yourself to be a light for Christ who turns many to righteousness, and shines as the stars forever.