

Session 7: The Summary of Salvation

Open in Prayer

Opening Activity

Briefly share the results of the previous session's "Out of the Comfort Zone" assignment.

Food for Thought

In Acts 21, a man named Agabus took Paul's belt, bound his own hands and feet, and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles'" (verse 11). It was appropriate that Agabus used Paul's belt because he was to be persecuted simply because he preached uncompromising truth. He refused to compromise the fact that a man is not justified by the works of the Law, but only by faith in Jesus Christ.

Jesus warned Peter that he would pay the ultimate price for his faith. He would bear more than scars from the spiritual battle. Jesus said that when Peter was young he girded (dressed) himself and he was able to walk wherever he wanted. Then He said that when Peter was old, another would gird him and carry him where he didn't wish to go (see John 21:18).

When we are girded about with truth, the world will hate us. If we would just say Jesus isn't the only way to God, or that you can live a life of sin and still love God, or that the Bible is only one of many revelations of God to man, then we would have the world's approval. The unyielding truth may cause us to have to pay the ultimate price for our faith. Like Peter, when we were young and lacked understanding as to what produced true salvation, we had a choice. However, because we know the truth, we have no choice. For "we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20).

View the Video The Summary of Salvation

Discussion

1. Why would a doctor take the time to explain to a patient the symptoms of a disease before he offers the cure?
2. What can we learn from the doctor analogy about sharing the gospel?
3. Explain the concept "Law to the proud, grace to the humble."
4. Can you think of biblical examples of "Law to the proud and grace to the humble?"

5. The Bible speaks of the Law being “good.” How can the Law be used in a way that is not good?
6. According to Scripture, how should we share the gospel with a person who is living a sexually immoral lifestyle?
7. How would you witness to a Jewish person? A Muslim?
8. How does the Law reveal to us our true state? Explain the “dust” analogy in your own words.
9. Why don’t sinners naturally thirst for righteousness? What do they love instead?

Out of the Comfort Zone Activity

If you have the “Ice Breakers” sample pack of tracts, recommended for use with this course, have each person in the group take a few tracts. Go over suggestions on how to use each tract, then use these “ice breakers” with unbelievers before the next session.

If you just can’t stand the thought of handing someone any piece of literature, simply start a conversation with a friend or stranger, bring up the things of God and share your faith. A well-designed tract, however, helps by breaking the ice, opening up the conversation about God, and making the whole experience easier. We offer many unique tracts through our website (www.wayofthemaster.com).

Remember, the key is not to consider your own welfare but the eternal welfare of the unsaved person. The worst that can happen to you is you will be rejected. The worst that can happen to the person to whom you are giving the tract is that he will spend eternity in hell. Ask God to give you compassion that will swallow your fears. Remembering your Gethsemane experience, say, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,” then do it. Simply ask, “Did you get one of these?” Then run if you must...

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