**Salvation**

We can’t earn salvation. We can only receive it as a free gift from God. *Ephesians 2:8-9* For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

To be saved, we need to exercise faith. The faith we need to exercise is also a gift from God. It comes when we hear the gospel. *Romans 10:17* So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Living a good life, being a good person, being a sincere believer in some other religion, or doing wonderful works of kindness will not save us. Salvation is only through Jesus. *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.

No-one will be saved by prayer alone. To pray for someone’s salvation without them ever having heard the gospel, is like watering the ground without first planting a seed. First preach the gospel – then pray!

God makes salvation available to everyone. *Titus 2:11* For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. The Greek word translated “appeared” means “become visible,” so everyone has the opportunity to see that God’s salvation is available for them. *Luke 3:6* … all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

The conditions for being saved are set out...
**in Romans 10:9** 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. This doesn’t mean that anyone who says the words, “Jesus is Lord” and believes that He rose from the dead, is born again. The Greek word translated “confess” here, means more than just saying words. Those words have to be heartfelt enough to result in actions. In the same way, the word translated “believe,” has the meaning of believing and continuing to believe. It’s not a one time act!

Salvation includes far more than being saved from your sins and going to heaven when you die. When Jesus died on the cross for us, he provided so much more than forgiveness of sins. He provided healing, **1 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; prosperity, **2 Corinthians 8:9** For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich; eternal life, **John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life; which is an intimate relationship with God. **John 17:3** And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent; and much more. All of these good things are received by using our faith.