

The plan of salvation

Our Problem – SIN

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death...Romans 6:23a

God's Only Solution – Jesus Christ

...but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23b

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

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

My Response – Receive God's gift

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. Romans 10:9-10

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

Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Revelation 3:20

Admit that I am a sinner and need God's forgiveness.

Believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose again for my sin.

Confess that Jesus Christ is the only way to God and commit to live for Him for the rest of my life.

Dear God: I admit that I am a sinner. I have done many things that don't please you. I have lived my life for myself. I am sorry and I turn from my sin. I ask you to forgive me. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sin and rose again to save me, and give me eternal life. You did what I could not do for myself. I come to you now and ask you to take control of my life, I give it to you. Help me to live every day in a way that pleases you. I love you, Lord, and I thank you that I will spend all eternity with you. I pray this in my Savior's name, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Previous sermons in this series are available in audio at: concordiawesleyan.com

Share The Faith



"Live - Love - Lead"
I Thessalonians 2:1-13

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We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too. I Thessalonians 2:8 (NLT)

**If we are to share the faith
we need to...**

Live _____.

Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

I John 2:6 (NLT)

**We have to _____ the _____ of God,
before we _____ the _____ of God.**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

A life marked by...

Genuine _____ – *We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly. ³As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 1:2-3 (NLT)*

Real _____ - _____ - *Because of your good lives, you are showing all the Christians in the countries of Macedonia and Greece how to live. ⁸The Word of the Lord has been spoken by you in the countries of Macedonia and Greece. People everywhere know of your faith in God without our telling them. ⁹The people themselves tell us how you received us when we came to you. They talk of how you turned to God from worshipping false gods. Now you worship the true and living God. I Thessalonians 1:7-9 (NLT)*

Pure _____ - For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. ⁴On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. ⁵You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. ⁶We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else... I Thessalonian 2:3-6 (NLT)

Resolute _____ - So you received the message with joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering it brought you. In this way, you imitated both us and the Lord. ^{3:7}So we have been greatly encouraged in the midst of our troubles and suffering, dear brothers and sisters, because you have remained strong in your faith. ⁸It gives us new life to know that you are standing firm in the Lord. I Thessalonians 1:6; 3:7-8 (NLT)

Love _____.

As apostles of Christ we certainly had a right to make some demands of you, but instead we were like children among you. Or we were like a mother feeding and caring for her own children. ⁸We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too. ⁹Don't you remember, dear brothers and sisters, how hard we worked among you? Night and day we toiled to earn a living so that we would not be a burden to any of you as we preached God's Good News to you. I Thessalonians 2:7-9 (NLT)

Relationships.

Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. ³⁰But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" ³¹Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ³²I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:29-32 (NIV)

_____, _____, and _____ **for opportunities.**

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. ³Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. ⁴Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. Colossians 4:2-4 (NLT)

**People don't care how much you know,
until they know how much you care.**

We are called to _____ people, not win _____.

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. I Peter 3:15-16 (NLT)

Lead _____.

Live wisely among those who are not Christians, and make the most of every opportunity. ⁶Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone. Colossians 4:5,6 (NLT)

Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith.

Hebrews 13:7 (NLT)

Now may the God of peace—who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood—²¹may he equip you with all you need for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21 (NLT)

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who is wise wins souls.

Proverbs 11:30 (NAS)

But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) ²⁷So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." ³⁰Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this:

"HE WAS LED AS A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER; AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER IS SILENT, SO HE DOES NOT OPEN HIS MOUTH. ³³"IN HUMILIATION HIS JUDGMENT WAS TAKEN AWAY; WHO WILL RELATE HIS GENERATION? FOR HIS LIFE IS REMOVED FROM THE EARTH."

³⁴The eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

Acts 8:26-35 (NAS)