



8/13/26

Romans 10:11-17

I used to be part of a Bible study where we were asked every year to write out our testimony answering three questions so that we would always be prepared to give an answer for our hope in Christ (1 Peter 3:15). I want to share those questions with you and encourage you to write them down for when God gives you the opportunity to share why you love Him. Truly, you don't have to have all the answers in order to share your faith. No one can argue with a personal testimony. You may notice that the questions look very similar to what you hear on a baptism celebration Sunday.

- 1. What was your life like before Christ? Describe your core struggles, your perspective on God, and what was missing in your life.*
- 2. How did you meet Christ? Explain the specific circumstances, turning point, or biblical truths that led you to trust Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins.*
- 3. What is your life like now? Share how God has changed your desires, beliefs, and outlook since you accepted Him.*

If you take me up on my challenge, I'd love for you to share your answers with me.

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Romans 10:11-17 ~

Backing up a little, I see from vs. 9-10 that true salvation is found in faith and confession. Believe in my heart that Jesus not only died for my sins, but rose again. Confess... agree... that Jesus is my Lord and Master. To truly believe the wonder of the gospel is to choose a new leader for my life... to no longer live for myself and my selfish passions, but to live for the Lord and what pleases Him. This is the message I need to hear... This is the message I need to offer

to the Lord in prayer... This is the message I need to share. May I never try to share without first bringing it to the Lord in prayer.

What is it I can hear, pray about, and share from this passage?

Vs. 11-13 ~ "For the Scripture says, 'EVERYONE who believes in Him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of ALL, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. For "EVERYONE who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

This is very inclusive. God uses the words "everyone, all, no distinction" to show that His salvation is for ALL who call on Him. There is one absolute truth for every single person who is a genuine follower of Jesus Christ, a Christian. That one distinction is that every single one of us has understood that we can't save ourselves. We ALL understand that salvation comes through Jesus and His sacrifice alone.

We bring faith, which is also a gift from Him. He brings everything else. What does He bring? He brings reward for simply believing Him. It says, "Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame." At the core of all shame, even the shame I feel as a Christian, is a lack of faith in His promises and His word.

What else does God promise here? He promises that there is no second place at the foot of the cross... no distinction between Jew and Gentile. He is Lord of ALL who are His. He doesn't relegate some to an angel saying, "I have no time for you. You're not important enough for Me." ALL belong to Him and get to be with Him. ALL matter to Him!

He also says that He is rich toward ALL who call on Him. I can hold to the promise that He will never ignore my prayers. He'll always reward me for calling on Him. 2 Peter 1:3-4 tells me that He gives me ALL things pertaining to life and godliness and He gives me His precious and very great promises. Every promise in Him is yes and amen. And every word of His IS a promise.

Salvation is for EVERYONE who calls on the name of the Lord. There is no sin that is too big that His blood can't cover it. When people say God can't forgive them for what they've done, they're way underestimating the love of God. When Jesus said, "For God so loved the WORLD that He gave His only Son," He knew all the sinful corruption that Jesus would have to pay for with His blood. He didn't say, "For God so loved only those whose sin wasn't that bad."

So... His salvation is inclusive. He does not shame me. He rewards my faith. He gives me riches beyond measure, beyond the treasures of this world. He does not relegate me to the lesser place in His kingdom. He saved my soul. Lord, I hear this! I pray that You'll help me to remember this! Help me to pray for others to hear this! Help me to share this wonderful hope and not keep it to myself.

I see that we have responsibility in our salvation... to believe, to confess, and to call on You.

Help us all to grasp that. Help us all to grasp that Your blood was enough to cover ALL sin. Praise Your name!

Vs. 14-15 ~ "How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!'"

O Lord, are these rhetorical questions?

- How will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? There has to be a way!*
- How are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? Someone has to tell them!*
- How are they to hear without someone preaching? They won't! At some point, my testimony has to go beyond example, and I have to open my mouth and speak.*
- How are they to preach unless they are sent? Am I sent? Every believer is sent. When Jesus said to the disciples in Matthew 28, "Go and make disciples", He didn't mean "only you go" or "only a few go". To make disciples means to train others to carry on their work of sharing the truth. Also, the meaning of the command to "go" in the original Greek was, "As you are going, make disciples." That sounds a lot like what God spoke through Moses in Deuteronomy 6... that the truth of the Lord would be so prevalent in my life that speaking of Him would be a natural outpouring of my love for Him.*

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" God calls the sharing of my faith beautiful. How beautiful are the feet of those who shared their faith with me! Do I value what God calls beautiful? O Lord, please make it so! Please help me to never pursue a beauty that is not what You call beautiful. Please help me to comprehend the beauty of sharing my faith with others... just as Jesus brought the beauty of His own feet carrying the message of the gospel, the good news.

Vs. 16-17 ~ "But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, 'Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?' So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Here's where the rubber meets the road... obedience to the gospel. What is obedience to the gospel? Faith and confession. It's putting my faith in Christ from my heart... shifting the feelings, emotions, motives, and choices that I make to a confidence in Him rather than in myself. AND it's confessing Him as Lord... not just saying that I believe He's in charge of what happens in the world, but He's in charge of me. He's in charge of my feelings, emotions, motives, and choices.

Isaiah 53 is an incredible prophecy of the good news of the gospel that Jesus brought 700

years after it was written. It starts out, "Who has believed the message he has heard from us?" Then, it explains how Jesus laid down His majesty and beauty to come and walk this earth with the only beauty He took with Him, the beauty of the gospel. It explains how He took on all our griefs and sorrows and sin... how He remained silent when He was led like a lamb to the slaughter even though He was innocent... how He was going to be buried with the wicked, but then was buried with the rich (the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea) ... how He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors, but He bore the sin of many and makes intercession for the transgressors. Whoever believes that message will not only say, "Yes, I want a ticket to heaven. I don't want to go to a place of torment." They will also say, "Yes, I want a RELATIONSHIP with the one who gave His life for me. I want YOU to be in charge of my life, O Lord."

They also need to be able to say, "I have HEARD the message." That means I need to share the message. I'm not responsible for turning their hearts to the Lord. That's the job of the Holy Spirit. I'm responsible to speak the message. Paul said in Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes." O Lord, I praise You that I have heard it. I pray that You will draw others to You. I pray that I will faithfully share it because it is such beautiful, good news. Let it penetrate every feeling, every thought, every emotion, every motive, every choice of my life. Help me also to know that success for me only means faithfulness to You. You are the one who saves the soul. I just speak the truth... and You call that beautiful. Amen.