



Connect Guide

Salvation

What Do You Believe? – Matthew 7:13-23 & Ephesians 2:1-10

The very first thing you need to know about salvation is this:

1. God wants to save _____.

1 Timothy 2:4 & 2 Peter 3:9

Salvation means *set free from the guilt of sin.*

Matthew 7:13-14

When you were dead in your sin there was nothing you could do to move towards God. So, God moved towards you.

2. You are saved by _____.

JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO BE SAVED.

Acts 4:12

3. You are saved to _____.

Once saved you help others get saved.

You are invited to use this paper to take notes during the worship experience on the message and then study it at home or in a small group.

Discuss:

1. How assured are you of your salvation and of the people who matter most to you? Why do you think most people are apt to believe in heaven and quick to dismiss the reality of hell?
2. Read Mathew 7:13-23. Jesus uses two distinct images to describe people and the consequences of their beliefs. What are Jesus' encouraging words? In what sense is it narrow-minded to believe in Christ? Why do believers continue to sin?
3. How do you know, what evidence is there, that God wants to save you and all persons? What is salvation?
4. Other than salvation, when was a time in life you experienced an act of grace? How would you describe grace? John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, described God's grace as threefold: prevenient grace, justifying grace, sanctifying grace. Look up these terms if you are unfamiliar with them. How do they help you understand or see grace more clearly?
5. What good works have you done this week? Because of your salvation, what good works will you do next week in the name of Jesus?

Apply:

Salvation is God's free gift to anyone who asks. No matter your past or your present, your future can be secured in your acceptance of this gift. If you would like to know more about Salvation, contact Elizabeth Some at ESomes@CommunityUMChurch.com or another staff member.

Prayer: Lord, you love us so much you saved us from our sin and guilt. We don't deserve it, but your grace is amazing. Thank you for giving us the Bible, sending Jesus, filling us with the Holy Spirit, allowing us to talk to you through prayer and placing us in the church. Amen