

Our Great Salvation

Facilitator Instructions: *The words in italic are possible answers you are looking for as you lead the discussion. Give a number of people time to answer the questions before you try to answer the question. Also, always have group members look up the Scriptures in their Bibles while one group member reads.*

As you lead the discussion, be open to the Holy Spirit and what He is doing during the meeting. You may never get beyond one or two questions if they are provoking a great discussion. It may also be that someone in the group needs important ministry because of what the discussion opened in their heart. Take the time to allow the Holy Spirit to minister the person through your group members.

Ice Breaker: Who is your favorite Bible character and why?

Bible Study Discussion: Our Great Salvation.

Facilitator: *Share the following and then ask the question that follows.*

The Bible refers to our common salvation experience as a great salvation, a salvation that Old Testament prophets and righteous men and even angels have desired to look into, but could not experience.

Hebrews 2:3 *how shall we escape if we neglect **so great a salvation**, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,*

Matthew 13:16-17 *"But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; 17"for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.*

In this lesson, our goal will be to look into this great salvation that has been freely given to us by the Father and to see why it is so great. What are components of salvation that make it so great? How do we receive all that God intended for us to experience through this Great Salvation?

- **When you think about your salvation experience, what is the one thing that stands out in your mind the most about what God has poured into your life in salvation?**

Facilitator: *Have a couple of people read the following Scriptures and discuss the questions that follow.*

2 Peter 3:9 *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

- **How did God show His longsuffering towards you?**
- **What does it mean when it says, "The Lord is not willing that any should perish?"**

John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

- **What does John 3:16 mean to you? What all do you see in this Scripture?**

It is because He died for all that we can claim for ourselves and confidently extend to others the right and title to sonship and salvation through Christ, and live in a state of blessed assurance.

Romans 5:18 *Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.*

Since all humanity came under judgment in Adam, all humanity must come into at least the possibility of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Facilitator: *Have someone read the following the Scriptures and then ask the questions that come after them.*

John 1:29 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

- **Why did John the Baptist introduce Jesus as the Lamb of God?**

It is through the blood sacrifice of Jesus that makes salvation possible.

Hebrews 9:22 *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.*

- **What is it about blood having to be spilled that is so important in relationship to salvation?**

Facilitator: *After your group members have attempted to answer the above question, read the Scripture below.*

Leviticus 17:11 *'For the **life of the flesh is in the blood**, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'*

Facilitator: *Share the following and then have someone read the two Scriptures and then ask the question that follows.*

We see in Scriptures that it is very clearly stated that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation for mankind.

John 14:6 *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Acts 4:12 *"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."*

- **What is it about Jesus that separates Him from all other religions or spiritual figures?**

The Reason Jesus is the only way to the Father is that He was and is both God and man. He

came to us as the only begotten of the Father and gave Himself as a ransom for our sins by dying on the cross and pouring His blood out to make atonement for our sins.

1 Timothy 2:5-6 *For there is one God and one **Mediator** between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,*

Facilitator: *Share the following, including the Scripture and then ask the question.*

We must realize that salvation is a free gift from God and that there are no amount of good works we can do to earn it. It's Free!

Ephesians 2:8-9 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

Salvation has nothing to do with whether we deserve it or not. It is not based on how good we are or have been. It is a free gift of God's unmerited favor being bestowed upon our lives in spite of ourselves. It is totally based on our belief in the person of Jesus Christ is and who we believe Him to be.

- **Why do you suppose God decided to make salvation a free gift?**

Facilitator: *Have someone read the following two Scriptures and then ask the question that follows:*

Hebrews 5:9 *And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation **to all who obey Him.***

Matthew 18:2-4 *Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, {3} and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, **unless you are converted** and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. "Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*

- **What do these two Scriptures have to do with salvation?**

Repentance and obedience to Jesus and the Word of God are absolutely necessary in the salvation experience, because Jesus has become to all those who obey Him, the source of eternal salvation.

- **What does true repentance mean?**

Ministering Purpose & Prayer: *Ask if there is anyone in the group, who has never completely surrendered their life to Jesus Christ in true repentance and then have everyone pray and minister over them.*