

Prayer: Conversations with God

Pray For Salvation

Lesson Seven

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Scriptures: Psalm 32, 51; Acts 4:10-12; Romans 10:9, 10, 13;

Lesson Goal: To encourage learners to pray for salvation.

Memory Verse: “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans:10:13

One prayer that everyone needs to pray is, “Father, I confess my sins, I believe that Jesus, your Son, was sent to earth and died so that I can have a relationship with you. Please forgive me for my sins. I am asking that Jesus be my Savior and the Lord of my life. I commit myself to live for Him all the rest of my life. I am praying this prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

It doesn’t have to be in those exact words. But, it must mean that. Paul told the Philippian jailer that he should “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.” (Acts 16:31). Jesus quoted the tax collector as praying, “God have mercy on me a sinner.” Jesus says that he “went home justified before God.” (Luke 18:13, 14) Neither of these prayer proposals is as lengthy as what is suggested above. Each of the elements in that prayer, however, is necessary to being in the will of God and to be the recipient of the grace of God. Jesus suggested that His disciples should become as one of the children who were in His presence at the time. (Mark 10:14, 15) His point was that we must come to God with the pure faith of a child. That includes complete honesty (confession of sins) desire for full relationship (asking forgiveness of sins) and total commitment (giving our lives fully to God, in Christ, without reservation). When you pray for salvation, it is not so much what you say, as what you mean.

God, as revealed in Jesus, is the only one who can provide forgiveness for our sins, enter into our life, give us guidance as we live our lives, and adopt us as His eternal children. When we pray for salvation, we are speaking to the only one who can bring us hope. We are coming to one who not only can, but wants to have such an eternal relationship with us. (Acts 4:10-12)

Confession and forgiveness clear away all the past and make it possible for us to enter into the new relationship clean and pure. Jesus died to make that possible. This is the reason that we must believe, have complete faith, that Jesus is God’s unique Son, and that His coming to earth to die and rise from the dead was the intention of God all along. We must believe that the sacrifice made by Jesus on the cross was enough to pay the debt for all the sins we have committed in all of life. It is absolutely necessary to confess our sins. David prayed to God, confessing his sins, in Psalm 51. In the seventeenth verse, David

Pray, Always:

To God
Through Jesus
By God’s Holy Spirit

In Thanksgiving
With Joy
For Others

For Forgiveness
For Salvation
To Confess

For Necessities
For Ability

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prayed, "...a Broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." In other words, God is looking for people who are brokenhearted about their sin...who are very sorry for their sins, and He doesn't look down on such folks in any way. This doesn't mean that we must remember every sin we have ever committed and tell God about it. It does mean that we must be sorry that we sin, and confess those sins that we do remember.

We must believe that God can and does take away all our sin. In the 32nd Psalm David said, "I confessed my transgressions to the Lord; and you forgave the guilt of my sin." We can be sure that He does forgive. Part of our prayer for salvation is thanking God for His forgiveness.

The final element in the prayer for salvation is our promise, without reservation, that our intent is that Jesus be the Lord of our life. In previous lessons we have mentioned Paul's statement that he was no longer living, but that Christ was living in him. (Galatians 2:20) When we pray asking God to save us, to give us eternal life, to make us His own adopted children, we are actually giving ourselves to him. As His children, we are to be like Him, in every way. We are no longer what we used to be, we are forever what He wants us to be. We are no longer our own, we are bought with the price that Jesus paid on the cross. We are no longer in control of our lives, God is in control. The Lordship of Christ means that He now sits on the throne of our life and we trust Him to lead us in the very best way to live.

What a great and wonderful opportunity we have to pray for salvation! Psalm 13:5 says, "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation."

*Underlined sentences in the Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.

Pray, like Jesus:

When Jesus was preaching the Sermon on the Mount, He said, "This, then is how you should pray: 'Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'" Matthew 6:9-13

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Memory Verse: “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans:10:13

>“Father, I confess my _____, I believe that _____, your Son, was sent to earth and _____ so that I can have a relationship with you. Please _____ me for my sins. I am asking that _____ be my Savior and the _____ of my life. I commit myself to live for Him all the rest of my _____. I am praying this _____ in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

>Jesus quoted the tax collector as _____, “God have _____ on me a sinner.” Jesus says that he “went home _____ before God.”

>Prayer for salvation includes complete _____ (confession of sins) desire for full _____ (asking forgiveness of sins) and total _____ (giving our lives fully to God, in _____, without reservation).

>When we pray for _____, we are speaking to the only one who can bring us _____.

>We must believe that the sacrifice made by Jesus on the _____ was enough to pay the debt for all the _____ we have committed in all of _____.

>God is looking for people who are brokenhearted about their _____...who are very sorry for their sins, and He doesn’t _____ on such folks in any way.

>The prayer for salvation is our promise that our intent is that _____ be the _____ of our life.

How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that there is a God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God’s Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus’ name. Jesus’ death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.

Fifth, believe that He has answered your prayer and be ready to live for him all the rest of your life.