



Amazing Salvation

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Focus

God is eternal. When we decide to trust Jesus, the gift of salvation is also eternal for our past, present, and future.

Fun

Does anyone enjoy drinking smoothies? Which fruits and veggies do you mix?

Review

Key Scripture: Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–14; Luke 15:4–10

Salvation is the eternal gift of God.

Romans 6:23; Romans 10:13; 1 John 2:25; 1 John 5:13; Revelation 1:4,8

Eternal means that God has always existed, does exist, and will always exist. In Revelation, God calls Himself, “who is and who was and who is to come.” The gift of God is knowing we have eternal life in Christ Jesus. We are saved when we believe and trust in Jesus. The word *saved* means to keep safe and sound, to deliver from penalties of judgment, and to make one whole in spirit, soul, and body.

Salvation makes us whole: spirit, soul, and body.

Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–14

Receiving the gift of salvation means that we receive the finished work of Christ in our life. We become justified, sanctified, accepted in the Beloved, redeemed, and forgiven. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Believing the past part of salvation impacts our view of the future.

God rejoices when we are saved.

Luke 15:4–10

When you put your faith and trust in Jesus, you will be saved at that moment.

Just as finding something you've lost causes you to rejoice, God rejoices over your salvation.

Group Dynamics Idea

Think of a neighbor who is an acquaintance. Consider an act of kindness as a way to open the door to friendship. A cheerful card left at their door or fresh muffins offered on a weekend would make them feel valued.

Discuss

1. Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." How does this verse link eternity with the gift of salvation?
2. Name some of the *past* parts of salvation as stated in Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–14 and 1 Corinthians 6:11. Why does believing these truths about the past bring peace for the present and faith for the future?
3. Ephesians 1:5 says that God has a good destiny for everyone who chooses Him. What are some decisions you've made based on this promise?
4. Explain the meaning of being saved in the spirit, in the soul, and in the body. How does each relate to the past, the present, and the future?
5. Describe the consequences of believing with the mind versus believing with the heart. Which connects you directly with God?

Take Home

When you believe and trust in Jesus, you have been saved from the penalty of sin. You are being saved as you learn and grow in Christ. Salvation presently keeps your soul from the power of sin, and your body will be saved one day in the future. The blood of Jesus makes you holy and without blame. Believing the past part of salvation brings peace for the present and faith for the future.

Pray

Jesus, You are so good to us. When we believe in You, Your blood washes us clean. We love You and thank You for the gift of salvation. We believe that we will be with you for eternity in heaven just as You've promised. We rejoice that we were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip

A way to laugh and rejoice in the goodness of the Lord is by singing. Pick out a simple scripture and sing it! A short verse repeated in a rhythm may bring laughter at first, but it will result in a joyful harmony inside the group.