

T R U T H

THE CHAPEL
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WEEK 7: THE TRUTH ABOUT SALVATION

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WHAT WE BELIEVE AND WHY IT MATTERS

KEY SCRIPTURES

2 Corinthians 5:17 If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Romans 3:20-25 Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.

1 Peter 1:3-5 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Colossians 1:21-23 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel.

Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

READ & REFLECT on the above Scriptures using the questions below:

- What do you notice about God in these passages?
- What does this teach us about "truth?"
- Is there a word, phrase, or verse that stood out to you? Why?
- How do these verses challenge or encourage you right now?

SERMON QUESTIONS

1. Salvation is a free gift, not something we can earn. How do we balance that truth with the Bible's call to live rightly and do good works? Why do you think it's hard for people to simply receive grace instead of trying to "earn" it?
2. If salvation is God's free gift, why do you think some people find it easier to believe than others? Do you think everyone has the same opportunity to come to faith? What influences a person's openness to Jesus?
3. If good works don't save us, why does 2 Cor. 5:10 say we'll be judged for what we've done? How would you explain the difference between being saved by grace and being rewarded for works?
4. Romans 8 says that nothing can separate us from the love of God. How does knowing your salvation is secure change the way you live and relate to God? Have you ever doubted your security in Christ? What truth helped you find assurance again?
5. **The message talked about two tests of genuine faith: persevering faith and persevering obedience. What does that look like in your life right now? How can we help each other stay faithful and obedient over time?**

RESET

What is one meaningful thing you can do this week because you're saved – not to be saved?

CLOSING PRAYER

- **Thank God** for saving us by grace and not by works.
- **Invite group to pray** for grateful hearts that live in response to His gift, and for opportunities to share the hope of salvation in the week ahead.