

## Called-Enlightened-Preserved

Lesson 4 Called-Enlightened-Preserved

**Introduction:** Key Concept - John 19:30 ,,,, but why don't all people benefit from what he did?

#### WHO WE ARE BY NATURE:



#### Written...

Ephesians 2:1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

1 Corinthians 2:14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are <u>foolishness</u> to him, and <u>he cannot understand them</u>, because they are spiritually discerned.

Romans 8:7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

By Nature we are spiritually \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_

#### How does our spiritual blindness keep us from believing?

Written...

**Matthew 13:14** In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

**1Corinthians 1:18** For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**John 15:16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

When we hear the Bible's description of our natural condition, it is obvious that we can't do anything to save ourselves nor to claim for ourselves the salvation that Jesus won.

## HOW DOES A SPIRITUALLY DEAD, BLIND AND HOSTILE SINNER COME TO BELIEVE?

Written...

**1Corithians 12:3** Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.



Written...that you may have life.

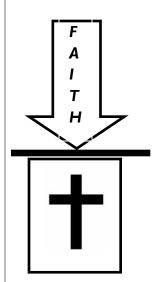
In the Very Beginning

Called-Enlightened-

Preserved

Baptism !

The Lord's Supper



➤ What is faith?

Romans 5:1 Hebrews 11:1



#### How does the Holy Spirit bring us to faith?

**Romans 10:17** Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning <u>God chose you</u> to be saved <u>through the</u> sanctifying <u>work of the Spirit</u> and through belief in the truth. <u>He called you</u> to this <u>through our gospel</u>, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

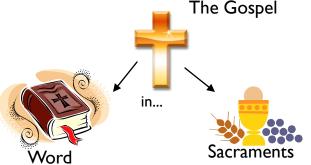
2 Timothy 3:15 and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**Acts 2:38** Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 26:26-28 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup> Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup> This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

The Holy Spirit brings us to faith through the Means of Grace (the Gospel in Word and

Sacrament).



#### WHAT IS THE BIBLE AND WHY IS IT DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER BOOK?

	The Bible	has never	been proven	incorrect	historically	nor scientifically	1.
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- ☐ The teachings of the Bible have affected people from hundreds of different cultures & times.
- The Bible has been translated into thousands of languages and is a perennial best seller.
- ☐ Though written by over 40 authors from different areas and times, there are no contradictions in all of the Bible! [Impossible...unless God is involved.]

### Called-Enlightened-Preserved





	Old Testament	New Testament
Who wrote it?		
Language		
Books total:		
Time Period		
Content		

#### Written...

2 Peter 1:16-21 (look up in your Bible)

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness

The Bible is different than other books because it was \_\_\_\_\_\_ by God! KEY WORD: Verbal Inspiration

Based on the passages above, answer this question: Is everything in the Bible TRUE? John 17:17 Jesus said, "Your word is truth."

### **ENLIGHTENED!**

(by the Holy Spirit using the WORD)

# IF I ALREADY HAVE THE GIFT OF FORGIVENESS, LIFE & SALVATION, WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT I CONTINUE TO LEARN FROM MY BIBLE REGULARLY?

Written
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1 Corinthians 10:12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

2 Peter 3:17-18 Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

It is important to continue to learn from my Bible because it is possible to \_\_\_



## IF IT'S POSSIBLE FOR ME TO FALL FROM GRACE AND LOSE THE GIFT OF SALVATION, WON'T I ALWAYS BE UNCERTAIN ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT I HAVE SAVING FAITH?

### Written...

John 10:28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

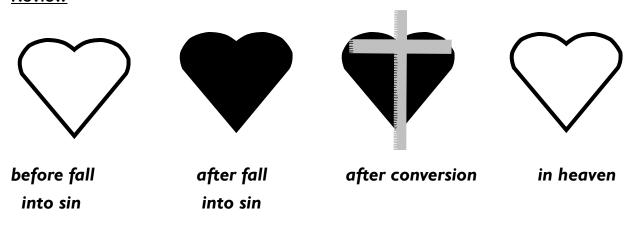
Romans 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We do not have to be uncertain of our salvation because God promises he will
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HOW WILL A CHRISTIAN FEEL ABOUT HEARING AND LEARNING GOD'S WORD?
Written
Deuteronomy 8:3bman does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.
>
Psalms 119:27-28 Let me understand the teaching of your precepts; then I will meditate on your wonders. My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word.
>
Psalms 122:1 I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
>

Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--

#### Review

and all the more as you see the Day approaching.



#### Questions

- I. A/D Jesus also paid for the sins of those who go to hell.
- 2. What is the key concept we talked about in the introduction? Objective Justification So how do we answer the question of "Why don't all people benefit from Christ's saving work? (See Luke 14:15-24 & Matthew 23:37)
- 3. Is it appropriate to say that we make a "decision for Christ?" (John 1:12-13; 15:16; Romans 9:16, 2Peter 1:4, I Corinthians 1:30)
- 4. How to be sure I've been converted?
- 5. Middle way between believer and unbeliever? (Matthew 12:30)
- 6. Why some, and not others? (2 Peter 3:9; Matthew 23:37)
- 7. Election (predestination) (Ephesians 1:4, 5, 11)
- 8. Cooperation with the Holy Spirit after conversion (2 Corinthians 5:17; Philippians 2:13)
- 9. Once a believer always a believer? (I Samuel 10:10 and 16:14; I Corinthians 10:12)
- 10. How do I interpret the Scriptures?
- 11. A/D You can be a believer in Jesus but choose not to go to church.
- 12. A/D An unbeliever can choose Jesus and invite Jesus into his life.
- 13. A/D From time to time, we need to update the teachings of the Bible to fit our society.
- 14. A/D Prayer is a Means of Grace.

#### For Further Learning:

READ Luke 8: 4-15

[A parable is a story that Jesus told to illustrate a truth that he was teaching.]

What four different results doe	God's Word have	among people who hear	it according to the parable?
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Written...that you may have life