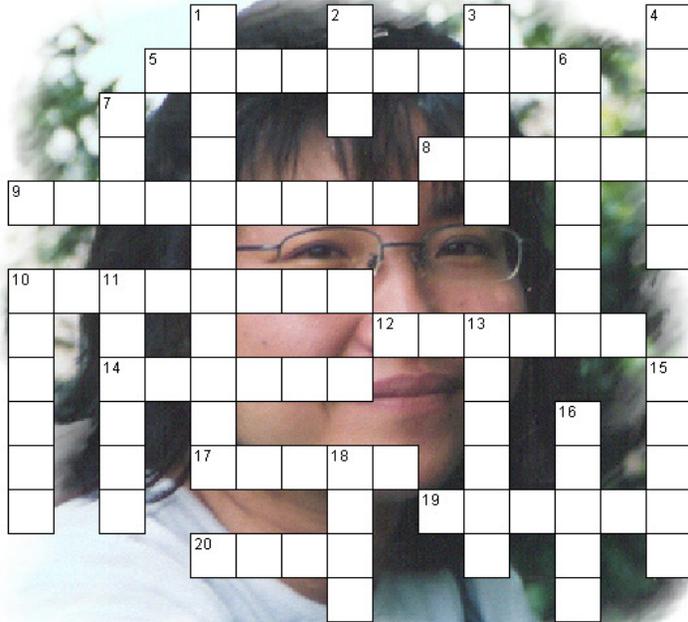


CROSSWORD puzzle



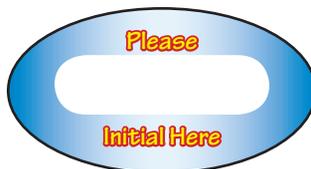
Across

5. He realized his condition by the Spirit's searching, enlightening and ____.
8. Repentance is having a ____ of mind.
9. We must be saved from our sinful _____.
10. Don't let your heart be _____.
12. We must ____ that we have sinned.
14. The smaller... the sin that God has to use to ____ our conscience, the better.
17. The prodigal son was reduced to poverty, hunger and _____.
19. He desired to _____ to his father.
20. We should ____ away from our sin.

Down

1. Repentance brings _____ of sins.
2. Man must be saved from ____.
3. ... turn from darkness to _____.
4. God will _____ us...
6. We must have a _____ repentance.
7. _____ must be saved from sin...
10. ... poverty, _____, and shame...
11. When a person hears the truth of the gospel... he is able to _____.
13. ... the truth of the _____.
15. By nature we are _____.
16. ... the _____ of the gospel...
18. Repentance is to have a _____ of mind concerning our sinfulness.

Parent's Initials:



The Truth and Experience of God's Salvation

- Lesson Thirteen -

How to Be Saved - From Sin (1)

I. Overview.

Man must be saved from sin and from death. Beginning with this lesson, we will look at how man is saved from these two elements of the fall. In this lesson we will look at how man is saved from sin.



Until God shines on us, we may not realize that we've been in the darkness of sin.

The first requirement for salvation from sin is a genuine repentance. Because we have a conscience which is sensitive to God, the Holy Spirit is able to convicts us of our sinful condition. The Holy Spirit causes us to recognize our real situation before God. When we realize our sinful and fallen condition, we should have a genuine repentance. When we have such a genuine repentance, we experience the forgiveness of our sins. The nakedness and shamefulness of our sinful condition is covered by Christ, just as the prodigal son was covered with the best robe by his father.

II. Memory Verse.

“And that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem.”

(Luke 24:47)

III. Lesson.

The Necessity of a Genuine Repentance

In order for us to be saved from our sinful condition, we must have a genuine repentance. Repentance is having a change of mind concerning our sinfulness. We should turn away from our sin and regret that we have sinned. When a person hears the truth of the Gospel, he is enlightened by God. In this enlightened condition he is able to see his sinfulness and he is able to repent. Once his eyes have been “opened” he is able to “turn from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God” and “receive forgiveness from sins” (Acts 26:18).

By nature we are blind. We truly do not see or understand things as God sees them. We are also hardened in our heart – not concerned about God or His righteousness. It usually takes some kind of failure for our proud and hardened hearts to repent and turn back to God. The earlier in life that this happens, the better. The smaller the sin or failure that God has to use to pierce our conscience, the better.



We should be careful not to allow our hearts to become hardened.

We Must Not Let Our Hearts Be Hardened

When a man allows his heart to become severely hardened, he sometimes must almost reach the point of destruction before he will finally surrender and turn back to God. The classical example of repentance is that of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-24. After the younger son foolishly and selfishly squandered his dear father’s inheritance, he was eventually reduced

to poverty, hunger and shame, desiring even the pig’s food. It took a long time, but he finally realized his condition. He realized his condition not only because of his terrible circumstances, but also because of the Spirit’s searching enlightening and convicting. At this point he had a genuine turn and repentance. He was truly sorry for what he had done and he desired to return to his father.

Before we can have our sins forgiven, we must have a real repentance. We must turn away from our sinful ways and return to our “Father”. God will accept us and will clothe us with Christ as the “best robe”. He will forgive our sins and we will have peace and happiness.

— QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION —

1. What two things does man need to be saved from?

2. What is the first requirement for us to have salvation from sin?

3. What is repentance?

4. What happens if our hearts get hardened?

