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By David Ingram

People often hear the terms "born again Christian" or "saved by grace", but for many the meaning remains a mystery. The Bible offers firm guidance on what it takes to be saved, and how any individual can become a born again Christian.

## Assurance of Salvation

The first thing to understand on the path to salvation is that God created the world and humanity, that He loves every individual, and that He has a desire to save every individual.

Genesis 1:27 - male and female He created them.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

After this, the next step is to acknowledge that everyone has sinned, and cannot be saved by their own merits.

Romans 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God.

Next it is necessary to understand that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to earth, lived a sinless life, was executed to atone for the sins of humanity, rose from the grave three days later, and ascended to Heaven. The story of Jesus' life can be found in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through me".

## How to be Saved

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1 Peter 3:18 - for Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

Salvation through the blood of Jesus is available for all humanity. All that is required is to accept the Lord and believe what the Bible says about Him.

Romans 10:9-10 - that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

John 1:12 - But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.

Prayer of Salvation

According to the Scriptures listed above, all one has to do to be saved by grace and saved by faith is to believe in Jesus and accept Him into their hearts and lives. Anyone who desires to be saved and accept Jesus as their Lord can pray this prayer:

Dear God, I know that I have sinned, and that my sin has separated me from you. Thank you for the sacrifice you made for me that my sins may be forgiven. I pray that you would forgive my sins, come into my heart, and be my Lord and savior.

Dave Ingram writes for multiple online publications, focusing on Bible Studies and issues in Business Management.

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