

After Salvation Plan

This booklet is a guide for the new converts who have recently received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Jesus said to Nicodemus, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” - John 3:3.**

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

Now that you have been redeemed by Jesus how do you start moving forward in the Christian life? The following five steps may help you:

1. We must pray. **(Philippians 4:6-7)**
2. We must study God’s word. **(2 Timothy 3:16)**
3. We should fellowship with other believers. **(Hebrews 10:24-25)**
4. We must witness for Christ. **(Matthew 28:19:20)**
5. We must obey God. **(Romans 6:14-23)**

The very first thing that the first Christians did after Christ ascended to Heaven was to pray. Acts 1:13-14 lists the 11 disciples along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and His brother and said, **“They all continued with one accord in prayer and supplications,.....”** They stayed in the upper room and prayed.

Prayer is to the spiritual life is what breathing is to the physical life. In other words, without prayer our spiritual life is dead. We talk to God through prayer. There is no specific way or mode of prayer. It could be vocal, thoughts, or groaning. Vocal and thoughts praying will be discussed in depth

later, but as to groaning I refer you to verse **Roman 8:26** which say,
“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercessions for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” A prayer can be of any kind, on any subject, and at anytime of the day or the night. Remember that God is available 24/7 and He wants to hear from you; plus, you have your own direct line to Him.

The provincial position for prayer is to fold your hands, close your eyes and bow your head but the Good Book says the position could be lifting up your hands toward heaven, standing, kneeling, bowing down, or lying down. The issue is not the position of your body, but the condition of your heart.

The most famous prayer in the Christian world is the model prayer (Matthew 6:9-14) that the Lord Jesus taught His disciples. The most extensive prayer is the High Priestly Prayer of Jesus (John 17:1-25).

Let's cover some aspects of prayer

A. Why do we pray? We usually want God to bless us or we want to thank God for something that He has done for us. In the Book of Matthew, Jesus said, **“And whatever things that you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.” (Matthew 21-22)** The key word here is **“BELIEVING”**. God hears and answers all of our prayers. However, He works in His own way and in His own time, but in the end He will answer your prayer. It may be not be the way you want it or when you want it, but it will be the perfect answer. God's answer

B. How do you pray? The majority of them start of with praise, and then a request, and then thanks, and then more praise and end with some

rendition of, "I say this all in the name of Jesus." This is because the Bible tells us that Jesus said in Matthew 14:13 **"And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."** OR **"No one comes to the Father except through Me."** (John 14:6) The length of a prayer varies according to the subject and who is praying. However, the Bible tells us that the prayer should not be long or repetitious. That is saying the same thing over and over. You do not have to be an eloquent speaker to pray to God. If your heart is right, He will hear you. One of the most common types of prayer that most Christians will use many times in their lives is called a breath prayer. An example is, "Help me Lord." We should thank God for all of the blessings that he bestows on us, but let us remember that when we bless our food outside of the home, we only want God to hear our prayers, not the other diners.

C. When do you pray? You might start your day by thanking God for allowing you to get out of bed and having the ability to walk, talk, see, hear, think, and the many other wonderful things that God designed you to do. Inform Him of what your plans are for the day. That is, "Lord this is what I have planned for the day, IF IT IS WITHIN YOUR WILL." Pray for wisdom, strength, ability, and probably patience, in solving that tough problem that you are facing that day. Thank Him for your breakfast. Thank him for your lunch. Ask him to forgive you for the sin you just committed. Oh yes, we all sin. **For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)** At the end of the day thank God for all the blessings that He bestowed on you during the day. If you had "one of those days" you can at least thank

Him for the water you drank, the earth you walked on, the clothes you wore, the air you breathed, the food you ate, and the roof that is covering your head as you lay it down to sleep.

The Apostle Paul tells us in **1 Thessalonians 5:16-17** “**Rejoice always, Pray without ceasing.**” As we know this is far from realistic. I believe that he is saying is keeping God on your conscience at all times. As an example when you see a beautiful sunrise or sunset, a hug from someone special, or receive good news and you automatically react by thanking Him, the Giver of all good things.

When you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too (Mark 11:25, NLT).

When you are considering, and you will, skipping prayers remember these lines in the Hymn “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.” The lines are, “O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.

2. Study God’s word:

2 Timothy 3:16 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work

Our usefulness to Christ is directly related to our spiritual maturity, which is related to how well we know and apply God’s word. Remember that you talk to God through prayer and God talks to you primarily through the Bible and the Holy Spirit.

There are many versions of the Bible. Southern Baptist ministers usually use some version of the King James to preach from but many of their flock will use the New American Standard or the New International Version to learn the word of God. Select the one that is easiest for you to understand and READ.

You might speak a simple prayer like the following before you start to study your Bible. “Dear Lord, please open my heart and mind to what I am about to read, and please give me the wisdom to understand it and the sense to use it to grow Your Kingdom and also to draw closer to You and be more like Your Son Jesus.”

You can start at the beginning in the Old Testament and work your way through to Revelations, or start in the Book of Matthew and work to Revelation. For a quick synopsis of the Bible you could start with the first 10 chapters of the Book of Genesis and then read both the Book of John and the Book of Roman. Genesis will tell you about the beginning of the world, John will give you a more personal look at Jesus, and the Book of Roman will give you a clearer understanding of the Christian Doctrine and how to apply it in real life. It is your choice where you start, just start and do not stop. Take your time as you read for it is better to read and understand one paragraph than to read a whole chapter and not understand any of it. Read faithfully, but not hurriedly. After you finish reading, pray again thanking Him for giving you the wisdom to understand what you have read. A side note before we continue, “Do not expect to understand everything that you read the first time. The Indwelling Holy Spirit will allow you to learn more as you mature in your faith.” If God gave you instruction while you were reading His Word, thank Him and then following His directions.

Reading, studying, memorizing, and meditating on God's Word should be a daily activity. It is recommended that you set a certain time of day every day that you can to study His word and meet with Him. Make it like your morning coffee. In other words, you have to have it.

Test everything you are told about the Bible by the Bible. It does not matter whose voice you hear, do not believe it unless it is read to you, or by you, right out of the Word, the Bible. Be especially aware of those who are afraid of contradiction. Also, if someone preaches the Word and gets defensive and pleads special insight and some superior knowledge, be especially aware of such a man. **Revelations 22:18-19 says, “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of this book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of life.”**

You must take each verse as it is written, and remember that EACH verse is from God. We cannot pick the verses that we like and obey them and disregard the ones we do not like. The Bible is not Burger King where you can “Have it your way.” Tragically, many Christians select whatever verses that pleases them and disregard the ones that displease them. This is like allowing a child to select what they want to eat. They will pick the hotdogs, hamburgers, and desserts but will bypass the broccoli and Brussel sprouts. This will not build a healthy physical body no more that picking only certain verses out of the Bible will build a healthy spiritual body.

3. **Join a Church**

After you have been saved Satan is going to immediately try and convince you that Christianity is a bunch of nonsense. You will need positive Christian support to combat him and you get this by studying your Bible and joining with people of a like mind. You will find these people in a Bible Teaching/Preaching church. A new child of God, as well as those of us who have been in the faith for awhile, should plan at least once a week to assemble with other believers. **Hebrews 10:24-25 says, “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,**

What is a church? Generally speaking, anytime Christians get together in a local community it can be called a church. The building they meet in is just that, a building. The Christians inside are the church. The members are often spoke of as a flock with Christ as the Shepherd (John 10:14), or as individuals making up the body with Christ as its Head (Colossians 1:18), or as branches with Christ as the Vine (John 15:5), **In 1st Corinthians it says, “By one Spirit we were baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have been all made to drink into one Spirit, For the body is not one member, but many.”** Every Christian is already a member of the Body of Christ and should attach themselves to a local God Fearing, Bible Teaching assembly for the purpose of ministering to others and to be ministered to.

Most churches have a Sunday school. This is the place where you really learn the in and outs of the Bible and you will also find people, your Brothers and Sisters in Christ, who will welcome you and help you learn. The classes are taught by individuals who are well versed in the contents of the Bible and individual study material will be provided to you. Some of the best friends that you will ever have will be found in the classroom.

How important is it for you to join a church? **“Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it” (Ephesians 5:25, NIV).**

4. **Witnessing**

There are two kinds of Christian witnessing. The first is by the way you live your life and the second is by verbally telling someone what Jesus has done for you and wants to do for them. Your way of life will change as you grow in Christ and you friends will notice it. When they ask about the change just speak from the heart. Again, simply tell them what Jesus has done for you and wants to do for them. Eventually you will be including Bible verses in your witnessing as well as using Bible tracts that explain the salvation procedure. The Bible tracts will be provided by your church or you can buy them on line for pennies. One you might use is Billy Graham’s “Steps to Peace

with God.” Another is “Here’s Hope” published by the North American Mission Board. These are just two of the hundreds that are published.

As you grow in Christ you will hear about different plans of salvation. Two of the most common are the Roman Road and the FAITH Plan. These can be used during a one on one situation or they can be used in a group sitting. Below is an example of each one written as if it was presented to a group. The Bible verses are in **Bold Print**. The remainder of the verbiage is the words that the speaker uses to explain the verses. If you decide to use either plan, all you have to do is remember (or read from a paper or another source) the Bible verses and the explanation can be your own as long as there are consistent with what the Bible teaches.

XX

THE ROMAN ROAD

Hell is often described as a lake of fire.

Heaven is often thought of as a peaceful and tranquil place where God wipes away your tears.

I am going to assume that when you die that you all want to go to heaven. Now the question is, how do we get there? The answer can be explained when we understand why we need God’s salvation, what God’s plan of salvation actually consists of, and how to receive it. We will also learn about God’s promise of eternal life, and the results of salvation.

FIRST of all we must agree that God Is the Creator of Life. **Roman’s 1:20-21: “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse, because although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.”** God reveals himself to

us - His divine nature and personal qualities - through creation. We must acknowledge Him as God and as the Creator and Sustainer of life.

So why do we need Salvation, or if you like, what is the fact of our Sin? **Roman's 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."** We must recognize that we are sinners and that we do not meet God's perfect standards. He has set laws in place for his creation to obey. What are these laws? They begin with the 10 Commandments. While you might consider yourself 'good' compared to most people, how do you measure up against God's law? Have you ever told the smallest lie? Then you are a liar. Have you ever goofed off at work? If so, you have stolen money that you did not work for and are a thief. All sin makes us sinners not just the big obvious sins like murder and adultery. All sin is serious in God's sight and includes thoughts, words and actions. **Roman's 5:12 says. "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it."** You do remember **(James' 2:10) "Disobedience to God is sin."**

Realistically: Man's effort by himself is hopeless as far as his ability not to sin. **Romans 3:10: "As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one."** No one can earn right standing with God. We must understand that our good deeds or religion are unacceptable to God because our good works cannot cancel out our sin.

That brings us to the question of what is the penalty of sin. **Romans 6:23a: "For the wages of sin is death."** God's holiness demands a penalty (consequence) for our sin, which is death. Eternal death is separation from God forever in Hell. God is a just God, and He demands punishment for every sin.

However God has a plan of salvation, the forgiveness of your sins. **Roman's 5:8: "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."** You remember **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 everlasting life.'** While Jesus died on the cross, he was mocked, spit upon, and cursed. Yet according to

Luke 23:34 Jesus cried out, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” With such love, Jesus died in your place knowing every evil act, word, and thought you would commit. What a powerful love! He loves you unconditionally even to the point of death when you are at your worst. You can never be saved by trying to be a good person, nor can you be saved through any amount of ‘good works’. **Ephesian’s 2:8-9** says “**For by grace have you been saved by faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.**” You and I can be saved only by confessing our sins and placing our faith in God’s son, Jesus Christ who died and paid for our sins on the cross. We must also surrender our life to His lordship... placing him in charge of every area of our life because we now belong to him.

So what is God’s promise of eternal life? Remember earlier I said **Roman’s 6:23a** stated, “**For the wages of sin is death,**” **Roman’s 6:23b** says, “**but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**” Disobedience to an infinite eternal God deserves an infinite eternal consequence. God has showed us His character and his laws in his creation, the world around us. He has also written his laws in our hearts... on our conscience. He has also given us his WORD the Bible. No good judge would let the guilty go free, the criminal go unpunished. Neither can a holy righteous God allow sinful man to go unpunished, however God LOVES man whom he has made in his image and He has provided a way of escape by sending his only son to die in our place.

How should we respond to the death of His Son? **Roman’s 10:9-10:** “**That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**” We must believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God Who died for us on the cross, was buried, rose from the dead, and is Lord. We must put our trust in Jesus alone to make us right with God. Salvation involves believing in our hearts (inward belief) and an outward confession that Jesus is Lord. **John 1:12** tells us that God promises “**But as many as received him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believed in His name.**” Yes, God does hear and accept ALL who come to put their faith in Him. There is no need to fear death any

longer because Jesus broke the power of death on the cross with his own blood. The price has been paid in full and it is God's promise to receive all who come to him by placing their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. One of the most loved and quoted verses in the Christian Community is **Roman's 10:13: "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."** "

What are the results of putting our faith in Him? Simply put- you will receive salvation. Why? **Roman's 8:1: "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."** By accepting Jesus' death as a payment for our sins, we will never be condemned for our sins. **Roman's 5:1: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."** Peace with God means we have been reconciled to Him through Jesus Christ. We can now have a relationship with the living God because sin no longer separates us from Him.

Am I trying to scare you? No. I am just telling you like it is. You have two choices of where you will spend eternity and that is Heaven or Hell. It is really simple to get into Heaven. All you have to do is confess from your (tap chest) heart that you are a sinner, that Christ died for your sins and was buried and rose again three days later, and ask Him to forgive you of your sins and to come into your heart as Lord and Savior. It is even simpler to get into Hell. Just ignore the free gift to Heaven that I just explained to you.

God wants everyone to repent and come to Him, but He is not going to make you.

IF you have not met our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and want to, I would love to introduce you to him.

Sinner's Prayer, "Lord Jesus. I am a sinner. I believe that You died for my sins and was buried and three days later arose from the grave. I repent of my sins and ask your forgiveness for them and also ask you to come into my heart as Lord and Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.

THE FAITH PLAN

I was sitting next to this guy in the departure lounge. He turned to me and said, "Gosh, I hate flying. Hate it! I can't think of a single reason why the plane should stay up in the air. I mean, if something goes wrong, that's it - you've had it. If God had wanted us to fly, he would have given us wings."

I asked, "So why are you flying then?"
He retorted, "I've got to, I'm the pilot."

Funny? I thought so. However, what I want to talk to you about this evening is not funny. In fact, it is deadly serious, but first let me quote three verses from the Holy Bible:

Roman 6:23 say, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."

Revelations 21:3-4 says, "And I heard a loud voice from Heaven say, "Behold, the Tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes: there shall be no more deaths, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." This folks is but one word picture of Heaven in the Bible.

Revelations 21:8 says, "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murders, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. Folks, this is but one picture of Hell in the Bible.

I am going to assume that all of you would prefer to spend eternity in heaven and not in hell. Right? Right. Okay, having established this I am going to ask you a question. I want you to form your answer in your head, but keep it to yourself. The question is this, "In your personal opinion, what do you understand it takes for a person to go to Heaven?"

Everyone have an answer? Okay. I am here this evening to share with you how the Bible answers that question. I am going to use a simple five letter

word to explain how we get to Heaven. The word is FAITH. (Spell on your fingers F-A-I-T-H.)

* The F of the word FAITH stands for FORGIVENESS. We cannot have heaven and eternal life without God's forgiveness for our sins against Him.

However the Bible tells us, **"In Him (meaning Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our sin."** (Ephesians 1:7)

* The A is for AVAILABLE Forgiveness is available. It is available for all. For the Bible tells us, **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that WHOEVER believes in Him should not perish but have ever lasting life."** (John 3:16) That means forgiveness is available to every man, woman, child. He doesn't care if you are rich or poor, black, white, red, or yellow. If you live on this planet, it is available to you.

But this is not automatic because the Bible also tells us that Jesus said, **"Not everyone who calls me Lord, Lord shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven."** (Matthew 7:21a)

* The letter I IS FOR IMPOSSIBLE. It is impossible for God to allow sin in heaven.

Why? Because God is Holy

God is perfect

God is Love (John 3:16) God so loved the world

God is also just. The Bible tells us that **"Judgment is without mercy."** (James 2:13) Folks, there is not going to be any teacher's pets on judgment day. Everyone is going to be judged the same way

Now Man is Sinful

For the Bible tells us that, **“All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)**

That begs the question, “How can a sinful person enter heaven, where God allows no sin?”

* That brings us to the T in the word FAITH. The T stands for turn. If you are driving down the road and your fellow passenger tells you, “Turn up ahead.” What is he saying Right, go in a different direction. The word used in place of turn in the bible is repent.

In order to get in to heaven we must TURN from something-(point to yourself) which is sin and self. Why, because the Bible also tells us, **“But unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:3b)**

You must turn from, “Sin and Self, “and turn to something else and that something else is Jesus Christ. Why Christ, because the Bible tells us that, **“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.” (1st Corinthians 15:3b)**

It also tells us, and this is my favorite verse in the Bible which is **Romans 10:9, that, “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead you will be saved (my underlining).”** Not you should, or could, or may be, but, **“YOU WILL BE SAVED.”**

* The letter H of the word FAITH stands for Heaven. Heaven is also tied directly to eternal life.

Heaven is here on earth today. I say this because the Bible tells us that Jesus said, **“I have come that they may have life, and that have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10b)**

Heaven is also in the hereafter because the Bible also tells us that Lord Jesus also said, **“If I go and prepare a place, I will come again and receive you to myself, that where I am, there you may be also.” (John 14:3)**

I have explained what F A I T H (spell out on your fingers) means to me. You may be thinking what I have told you make sense, but you will take care of it later. Let me tell you folks, it is only through the grace of God that you took that last breath of air. And only God knows how many more breaths you have left until He says, “That is enough.”

Am I trying to scare you? No. I am just telling you like it is. You have two choices of where you will spend eternity and that is Heaven or Hell. It is really simple to get into Heaven. All you have to do is confess from your (tap chest) heart that you are a sinner, that Christ died for your sins and was buried and rose again three days later, and ask Him to forgive you of your sins and to come into your heart as Lord and Savior. It is even simpler to get into Hell. Just ignore the free gift to Heaven that God is offering you.

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As a new Christian your life will change. Things that you used to like, worldly thing, will no longer appeal to you. You will feel an inward peace that you never felt before. You will want to obey Jesus’ Commandant of **“Love one**

another as I have loved you,” (John 15:12) and start loving your neighbor as yourself. You will start putting others' wishes before your own. You will want to help people. You will find the happiness that you thought was lost forever. The people around you will see a big change, for the better, in you. None of us can know--at least in this life--about the impact we're making on others. We're not always aware of people who are watching us to see if our walk matches our talk. We're also unaware of the life-changing effect our encouragement or kindness may make with other people, but Jesus knows.

As stated earlier, as a new Christian you will be excited and want to tell people what Jesus has done for you. Not only will you want to but Jesus mandates that you do. In **Matthew 28:19-20** Jesus says, **“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”** Also in **Acts 1:8** Jesus says, **“Ye shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and to all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

You will not be alone as you witness because when you become a Christian the Holy Spirit “comes upon you” and will help you while you are witnessing. Also Jesus said **“I am with you always.....” Matthew 28:20**

5. Obeying God

When the Holy Spirit comes into the body, the first response is a desire to turn from sin to God. Obey God immediately when God gives you a command. Do not try and reason it out and find away around it because when the Holy Spirit says, “No.” that is exactly what He means. These instructions not only come from the Holy Spirit and the written words in the Bible, but may also come in many other ways such as through others who are reputable and have a genuine relationship with God or even through God speaking to you directly. The important thing is to obey God's instructions.

The following are reasons why must we obey God:

First of all, if we obey God's word we will receive salvation. **John 5:24** says, **"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."** This means that when we die an angel of the Lord will carry us to Abraham's bosom where we will be comforted. After the second coming of the Lord we will enter heaven where there is no more sorrow or pain.

Secondly, if we obey God's word we will be blessed in many ways. **Deuteronomy 28:1-2** say, **"If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all of His commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nation on earth. All of these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God."** If you read the Bible you will see that God blessed many people that obeyed His word and I believe that He is still blessing people that obey His word today. To be blessed means to endure with power for success, prosperity, and longevity. In other words they are given a rich and abundant life. **1 Corinthians 1:9** says, **"But it is written: Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."**

Deuteronomy 28:11 says that if we obey the Lord's command we will be blessed financially. **Joshua 1:8** says that if we obey Him we will be blessed with success. **Deuteronomy 4:40, 5:33, and Proverbs 10:27** promises long life if we obey Him, and **John 5:24** says that if we follow the Lord's commands we will have eternal life.

A few final thoughts:

There are many who believe in God and have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior and yet do not obey the commands of the Bible. **John 14:15** Jesus says, **"If you love Me, keep my Commandments."** Genuine love for God is demonstrated in obedience to Him.

Luke 11:28 says, **"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it."**

Being a Christian does not mean that everything is going to be pie in the sky, so when your life seems to be thankless drudgery, or when you'd like a little more recognition for your sacrifices; remember that Jesus appreciates you. And one day, when you meet Him face to face, He will hug you and say, "Well done, good and Faithful servant."