

Let's take a moment and bow your heads where you're at and invite Jesus to speak to you this morning.

*Lord Jesus,*

*You know what we need to hear from You this morning. And I'm confident that probably in this room there's a lot of different things that You're going to speak to different people because your Word is powerful and active and alive. And so this morning we're going to ask that You would allow your Word to penetrate deep into each of our own hearts and we each individually right now are giving You permission to do some work in us.*

*We know You are very present in this place right now, so we ask for your power to fall upon us in a way that maybe we weren't even expecting when we woke up this morning.*

*We ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.*

You can be seated.

So this morning we want to start a new series called VIRAL. When news is good and it starts to spread rapidly, it goes viral and you can't hold it back. And last Sunday we celebrated the Good News that Jesus is alive; that in His coming out of the grave He validated that He was God and in doing so He overcame death which allows us to know that we, too, have that validation if we'll put our trust in Jesus we, too, can overcome death. As we believe in that, as we put our trust in that, there is a question that we get asked often and that question is just simply this:

CAN I LOSE MY SALVATION?

Or if we come at it from a little different angle: Am I secure in my relationship with God? Is there something I can do that God would smack me down? Or is there something that I could do where God would eventually say, "Yeah, Lee, [*shakes his head*] yeah, it's not happening for you." Might there be a surprise at the end when I thought I was going to be received by God only to find out from Him He says, "Depart from Me"?

We live in a world where there's lots of those kinds of insecurities. There are some of you who know that you're going to be walking into a situation at work tomorrow where you're wondering where you really stand there and what might happen. There are some of you who are living on pins and needles at home right now and you're wondering *Will our family be together a month from now?* There are some of you who are in a dating relationship and you just are in love with this person but you are fearful because you're not sure if there's security there. So in the midst of an insecure world we talk about God being our anchor and the belief in Him being our anchor, so somehow we need to come to a place where we know that we know that we're secure that we cannot lose our salvation.

Now, I want to just tell you this right up front, I'm going to be teaching you over the next few weeks that I am certain according to the Word of God that you cannot lose your salvation. And, of course, in doing that I'm going to walk us through a whole lot of different subjects and questions that you naturally are going to ask. One of the questions that we're going to cover next week is: Is There More? I mean, yeah, I believe, but is there something else I have to do? And if there is, what is that? And if I don't do that, am I going to lose my place with God in Heaven? That's what we're going to talk about next week. The following week we're going to cover the subject of: Is there something bad enough that if I did that thing I wouldn't get to Heaven? Someone called it "unforgivable sin." Is there an unforgivable sin that

if I commit that I'm done, I'm toast? We're going to talk about, "Well, if I can't lose my salvation, does that mean I can live however I want? And do you really think that's a good idea, Pastor?" We're going to answer the question of what happens if you just yourself decide along the way, "I don't want Jesus. I don't want what He has to offer. I don't believe that anymore." Can that separate you? And then there's going to be one final week where we're going to have a conversation about all of the passages in the Bible that would look like we could lose our salvation and what do they mean? And we're going to try to understand that. So that's what we're going to be doing over the next weeks. You can't miss these weeks. This is important stuff and it's huge that we understand it.

Now, many of you know we've been studying the book of John together since about Christmas time and we've been coming at it from a number of different angles. One of the angles is we asked you to read through the book of John and we did that two different times together as a church. Then we went to the book of Matthew and then we went to Mark and now we're reading through Luke together. Today we're in chapter 19 of Luke. If you want to jump into that with us, we're just reading one chapter a day and we have this group as part of our Facebook that is called [Calvary Bible Readers](#). If you go and  Like our Facebook book page you can get to that and we would love for you to join us in that; just that we're all on the same page reading the gospels together.

In studying the gospel of John there is one verse that is a key verse in the book of John that sort of helps us begin this thought process. It's in John chapter 20, verse 31. If you have your Bibles, I would love for you to open it your Bibles. We're a church that opens up our Bibles and reads our Bibles and we think it's really helpful that when you bring them along and you start seeing them and write little notes—I write lots of little notes in my Bible. If you don't have a hard copy, we have hard copies. We give lots of free Bibles away and they have them at each of the little kiosks at the doors. If you just go ask them real nicely they'll give you one for free. If you don't ask them nicely, just tell them it's a place of grace. Accept me the way I am [*laughter*] and they will; they'll just give you a Bible for free if you don't own one. Or if you know someone who needs a Bible, just go and ask them. They'll make sure you have that. But there are apps on your computer and on your phone and on your tablet that you can look at it, so would love you to turn there, John chapter 20, verse 31. I would write beside that "key verse to the book of John" and I would underline it and I would highlight it. And I want to start out with that this morning as we look at that verse. John chapter 20, verse 31, listen to these words:

*<sup>31</sup> but these are written*

By the way, when you grab a verse like that just reading it you've got to figure out what's he mean when he says "these." If you look to the verse before it it says, <sup>30</sup> *Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples.* What he's saying is the signs that are recorded here in this book, I mean, Jesus did many more than those but the ones that are recorded in this book these are written, verse 31:

*so that you may believe*

— what is it that we should believe? —

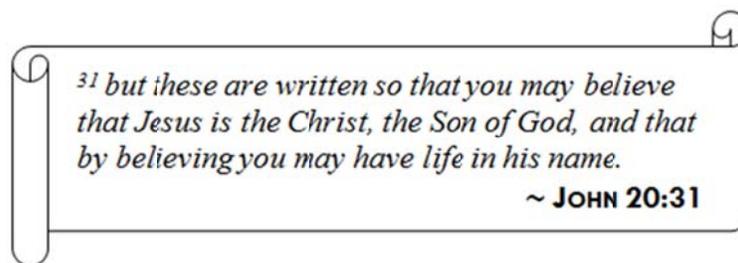
*that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

Now let me just unpack that really rapidly for you. When it says here that Jesus is the Christ, I wonder if we really know what the word "Christ" means. It's not Jesus' last name; it's Jesus, first name, last name Christ. Christ is actually the Greek translation of the word "Messiah" that's found over five hundred times in your Bible. It was way back in the beginning at The Fall when mankind fell to sin that God promised that He would send a Messiah. That word just specifically means "the anointed one" sent

by God. Now what's interesting about that when you think about the anointed one, throughout the Old Testament there were a number of offices that were filled that were anointed. A priest would be anointed, a prophet would be anointed, and a king would be anointed. What you're going to find here is that in the New Testament it tells us that Jesus is *the* Christ and that is what we need to believe in.

Now let me explain this, *the* Christ, *the* Messiah, *the* anointed one, sent from God and He is the only One Scripture will describe throughout—and it would take us too long to talk through this all—but Scripture describes how Jesus IS our priest, our prophet, and our king. He is our priest in that He is our Mediator between us and God. He is our prophet in that He is the only One that can bring a perfect sacrifice to bridge that gap between us and God. He is a prophet in that He came to reveal God to us. And He is our King in that He came to stomp out the enemy and overcome the enemy.

So let's keep on looking at this because that helps us understand a little bit when it says here are the things you need to believe. We need to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah, prophet, priest, and king, the Son of God. And I will tell you over and over that Jesus is God. In our mentality in the world in which we live, we wouldn't think of our son as being equal with us. In those times, they would have seen their son absolutely as an equal; one bearing the exact same name as the father. So when Jesus said, "I am the Son of God," that's when the religious leaders freaked out because they understood full well that that meant He was equating Himself with God and saying I am God. So again, looking at this:



Okay, hold those thoughts for a moment. That is the reason that the book of John was written by John. The question that is before us—can I lose my salvation?—here's what I'm nervous about in answering that question. There are many people that I talk with, that I know you talk with every day, who if you say, "Are you going to Heaven when you die?" "Are you saved?" they would say, "Absolutely." And then if you probed a little bit more and asked them, "Well, why do you think you're going to Heaven?" And they would say something like this and it's almost always the same words, they would say, "I'm a good person. I can't imagine that God would, you know, see anything I've done as offensive or problematic. And in fact, I think, really, basically everyone is in that mode." And then they'll name for you two or three or four different types of people or names of people that they think probably deserve to go to Hell. And they'll mention those people and say, "I'm so different than those people, so I'm pretty good." They'll tell you that their friends say that they're good. Their mom says that they're good. That basically, and they'll say that, "Basically, I'm a good person. You know, what could God be too upset about? God should be pretty happy with that."

Now here's what my biggest concern is: Every week when I stand up here is that we will believe that lie from the pit of Hell because that is not the Gospel; that is not the Good News of Jesus Christ. That is not what the Bible teaches. The Bible teaches that it was sin that separated us from God. And in fact, that's why we even ask the question. Again, I told you, it's probably one of the most asked questions I get is: "Can I lose my salvation?" There is a real awareness in each of us that there is a separation between us and God; that there is a relational barrier between us and God. That's sin. We get that. We

feel that. We know that. That's why we're concerned about that. You talk to your friends; that's why they even bring it up all the time. I think we'll get there because they're a good person because there somehow if you repeat it often enough, everyone will agree with you. "Hmm... that's good." "Yeah, yeah, yeah." And they'll repeat it and in repeating that they assume that it's all, all just fine. What I'm very concerned about is that we do not understand the Gospel.

So here's the answer to the question, or maybe we should say the question that you should ask to determine whether you can lose your salvation. Are you ready for the question? This is going to be the core of the message so if you capture this, we'll be able to put the rest of it together quickly.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN KNOW IF YOU  
CAN LOSE YOUR SALVATION.

The question is this:

DID YOU SAVE YOU?  
OR DID GOD SAVE YOU?

And I'm going to tell you this:

IF YOU SAVED YOU,  
YOU CAN LOSE YOUR SALVATION.

In fact, you probably never had it.

IF GOD SAVED YOU,  
YOU CANNOT LOSE YOUR SALVATION.

Let me explain. All right?

So, that person that says, "I'm a pretty good person," they immediately start expressing that and it's normally expressed in those words, "I'm a pretty good person." I don't do much bad and, you know, what I do bad is, you know, it's not a biggie. Normally people aren't too bothered by that. "I'm a pretty good person." And we're all supposed to go, "Uh-hm. Yeah." [*He climbs up a step.*] Then they climb the steps because they want to get a little closer to God, because remember, we're trying to somehow reach God. We're trying to somehow get to God so we're climbing up a set of steps. So we go to the next step because in order to reach God we think that maybe that would include something religious, something



church oriented, and so we go to church. And after we go there for a while we decide, "Well, to try to reach up to God I'm going to get a little more involved and I'm going to do a few more good things. And I'm going to listen to all the things that the Pastor says to do and I'm going to try to do them." We think, "Wow, wow, I'm doing pretty good."

And then we get to a place where we go, "Well, wait a minute, [*he climbs up another step*] maybe I ought to give to, like, charitable causes and I'll just, you know, I'll help with my money. I just, I know that would be a good thing to do." And so we go, "Look at me, I'm getting closer to God." And then we're there for a while and we say, "Well, wait a minute. I've got an idea. [*He climbs another step.*] Maybe I ought to become like this massive people helper that when people look at me they say, 'Man, he's somewhere close to Mother Teresa. I mean, he just helps people and just—this person rocks.' And so every time I see a need, I meet the need. And every time I see someone that I can help, I'm helping them." And so every weekend I've brought a pickup truck to go help people move and I'm constantly taking food to people's homes and if there's anyone to help, I'm the helper. I'm there. And I'm starting to feel like I'm getting closer to God.

Now, here's the problem with that. What happens when all of a sudden you're running late for work some day and you've got to cross the street from that parking lot you parked in to get over to the office and as you're crossing the street you see a little old lady with a walker, you know, trying to get over that curb and coming back and forth and she's tottering? And you realize, "I've got to be a helper because I've got to stay on this step because I'm trying to get closer to God, but [*he looks at this watch*] I'm going to be late and boy, every time I'm late they hit the fan. I'm not doing that. I'm running in." And you realize, "Uh-oh. Uh-oh. [*He descends a step.*] I'm off that step now. Oh, man! Okay, lunch time. I'll look for some lady to help. Maybe I can get back. [*He climbs up a step.*]"

Well, you get in there and the boss tells you, you know, "No bonus this year." You hit the fan because it's the bonus you've been using to help needs financially and so you realize, "I just can't do that. I'm subscribed with the rest of my salary and—" OOPS! [*He descends another step.*] You're bumped down. Well, then you walk into the next office and the boss says, "Listen, we need you to leave on Saturday night for that business trip to Chicago." And you're like, "I can't believe this. I'm not going to be able to go to church and I'm not going to be able to do the things that I do there. Oh, no." [*He descends another step.*] And you're bumped down. "But I'm a pretty good person! Right?"

Oh, wow. Talk about being yanked up and down, up and down. The question I asked a moment ago is who saved you. The people that tell me, "I'm a pretty good person," they want me to believe that they can save themselves. Let me read to you from the book of Romans, and if you have your Bible I would turn there, Romans chapter 3. You have to be aware of this passage. Romans chapter 3, verse 10, and this passage is speaking to those who have not trusted in Jesus yet. This passage is speaking to those who do not have the Spirit of God in their life yet. Listen to what it says:

<sup>10</sup> *as it is written:*

*"None is righteous, no, not one;*

Verse 11:

*no one understands;  
no one seeks for God.*

Stop! Stop! Stop! Stop! I'm not sure if I don't like the fact that I'm not righteous, but maybe if I've sinned even once it might say that, but this whole idea no one seeks God—I meet people all the time and they're seeking God. Well, I ask you this question: Why are they seeking God? Maybe to make them

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feel better, to get something they want, to get out of a tight spot? Are we sure that they're seeking God because they love God and they want to know God and they want to follow God? It says the person that has not put their trust in Christ yet, they're not seeking God. Keep reading.

<sup>12</sup> *All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.*"

— ROMANS 3:10-12

In other words, if I read that right, **I can't save myself**. Because what the Bible will teach us is that God is holy; that means He's separate from sin. You cannot pollute God with sin. And so we as an unholy people of sinners cannot connect with God because of that, that's why there's that huge separation. One sin would be enough to separate us from God. The person standing here says [*he descends several steps*], "I don't buy that. I'm a pretty good person." And then they end the statement with, "Right?" Because somehow they want *you* to verify that they're a pretty good person. When I stand before God on the Judgment Day I will not be standing before *you* to get that, "Right?" "Oh, yeah." I'll be standing before a Holy God.

"B-but-but, wait a minute. I lived a pretty good life. I'm doing most of the things right. I've got it dialed in. I've got it more dialed in. I've got it more—"

Let me come at this a different way for a moment. We have a saying around our house that my wife is such a great housekeeper—and by the way, forgive me for saying that because everyone will get mad at her for being a great housekeeper and this kind of stuff, and sorry for saying that in advance. Don't get mad at my wife because she's a great housekeeper. She can't help herself. It's a sickness. [*Laughter.*] She's going to some group that will deal with it, but [*laughter*] we have a saying in our house that our bathrooms are cleaner than most dishes coming out of most dishwashers. Right, Noelle? [*He looks at Noelle sitting in the audience.*] We say that, don't we? We believe that. In fact, my wife did not know I was going to do this illustration today and I got up this morning—this was not true when I went to bed last night—I got up this morning in the middle of the night, you know, like you do? I went into the bathroom and I'm like, *I cannot believe this*. It smelled like chlorine. From the time we laid our heads on the pillow to the time I went in there in the middle of the night, she had gotten up, snuck in there and cleaned it again. [*Laughter.*] I must have been the last one to use it and she felt a need and couldn't sleep without it being clean. I smelled Clorox<sup>®</sup> in that room. That's a smell of beauty to my wife. [*Laughter.*] I don't need to buy her expensive perfume; just a bottle of Clorox<sup>®</sup> and she's happy. [*Laughter.*]

So, I invite you over to my house to have some dinner. Invite you over, that's good news that she's clean, you're probably not going to get some sort of food poisoning and that kind of thing. That's positive. And you arrive and we sit down for dinner and I grab some water and I say, "Hey, by the way, just full disclosure, I don't know what happened but before you came this evening I guess the city turned off the water. There's no water. But don't worry; I didn't want it to mess up our dinner. I pulled it out of the toilet [*laughter*] but I just wanted to give you full disclosure of that up front. But, but, please, don't even worry about it. We have a saying in our house [*laughter*]." [Dinner guest response] "Yeah, sure. Right." "So the water coming out of my wife's toilet because it's so clean should be fine."



Your answer is [*he descends a few steps*], "Right?" "Right." You're looking at it going, "Right," and then I do the unimaginable. I pour it. [*He pours the water into a glass.*] Your eyes get big [*laughter*] and I go, "Oh, don't worry. Don't worry. After I got it out of the toilet, just in case, I got some

cheesecloth and I had filtered it through the cheesecloth in case there were any particles. [Laughter.] Look at it [he holds the glass up]. Pretty good."

So we eat and we're having dinner together, having some nice conversation, and then I decide to get uncomfortable with you. I say, "I notice you haven't had anything to drink yet." [Laughter.]

[You, the guest, put your hand out and say] "I-I'm just not sure if I feel comfortable drinking that." I go, "What do you mean you don't feel comfortable drinking that? I'm sort of offended by that. Are you looking down on my wife's cleaning abilities? Seriously, did you look at it? [He holds the glass up.] There's no particles left in here." And you look back and you go, "Again, it's okay. I'll be fine without it." I say, "No. No. I don't understand why you won't drink my water." And you go, "Well, you know, not to get scientific on you, but there are bacteria and this kind of thing that can still be in there that you can't see. Just because it looks clean doesn't mean it's clean." And I look back at you and say, "Oh, come on. Get over it a while. Do you know what the water is like that comes through our public water systems and you just drink right out of the sink? Are you kidding me? This is much cleaner than that. I can guarantee you that." "Uh, yeah, that's not a risk I'm willing to take." "Hey, listen, other people in other countries, they drink water much dirtier than this all the time. You'll be just fine." "Yeah, that's not a risk I'm willing to take." And you don't drink it.



[He descends a few steps.] Can you believe that we would not drink that water that looks perfectly clean, that's had particles removed from it, but we would have the gall to say to God, "I'm a pretty good person"? A Holy God. "I've had the particles removed. There's nothing big. There's no particles here. I'm fine."

Here's why I ask you the question: Did God save you, or did you save you? If you saved you, it's never going to be enough and you have every reason to be fearful about what's going to happen in eternity. And that is why God promised from the moment we had this problem that He would send a Messiah, Jesus the Christ. One who would be our prophet who would reveal God to us. One who would be our King to stamp out evil. One who would be our priest, who would be our sacrifice on our behalf and ultimately our Mediator between us and God. We couldn't make it up to God, so God came to us in the person of Jesus. And He went to the cross and sacrificed Himself on the cross so that we could receive the righteousness of God so that God would see us as righteous. And He took on Himself our sin. Phenomenal exchange. Right? His righteousness—my sin. And here's what Jesus says about this, and I want you to hear the exact words of Jesus. If you're looking at this in a hard copy Bible many of them, if you paid a couple bucks extra, have the little red letters in them; that means Jesus spoke these words.



So let's start with one that you're all very familiar with and I'm just going to move through a bunch of them. Let's start with John chapter 3, verse 16, you'll read these words, these words that say this:

<sup>16</sup> *"For God so loved the world,*

— don't miss the love of God —

Somehow we think that it's unloving that God won't accept this [*he descends a couple steps*]. But we miss the love [*he climbs the steps*] that God would send His Son to me. It would have been a whole lot easier to stay separate. It shows a whole lot more love to come and be among us. John says no greater love than this than one lay down his life for a friend.<sup>1</sup> So I'm going to read this again:

<sup>16</sup> *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,*

— remember, Son = God. He is God. —

*that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

— JOHN 3:16

Let me remind us of this: That word "perish" indicates that everyone does not automatically go to life; that there are some who go to death. That there is a place called Hell. You know where this is most evident or seen in our society, this whole idea that there's this mentality that just everyone goes to Heaven and we're all okay and all fine is in all these books that are written and people making tons of money on it that they died and went to Heaven and they come back to write a book and make lots of money on it and tell you about it. You never hear any of those people say they died and they went to Hell. The message that the enemy is trying to get across is everyone goes to Heaven. You know why I know that doesn't happen? I'll tell you why it doesn't happen. The Bible says it's appointed unto man once to die and then the judgment.<sup>2</sup> You don't get to come back. You don't get to re-do it. You don't get a second chance. You're living your one chance.

For God so loved the world, He came to us so that we wouldn't go to punishment. [*He descends a few steps.*] "That's not fair. I don't know why God would do that." Come on. God came to you. He loves you.

Let's go to the next verse. John chapter 3, verse 36, clear:

<sup>36</sup> *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life;*

It would seem to me that if there was an option here that maybe if this life wasn't going to last eternally forever, that there'd be an option here that would say unless he receives temporary life; unless something comes up that messes that up, eternal life.

<sup>36</sup> *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life,*

— and here it is again —

*but the wrath of God remains on him.*

— JOHN 3:36

We're warned. We're pre-warned. We've got the information. We know. We're like, "I got it. I got it. I want to respond to Jesus. I don't have to do it my way. This is easier, in fact." But so many resist it and reject it.

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<sup>1</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. — JOHN 15:13

<sup>2</sup> And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, — HEBREWS 9:27

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John 5:24 starts "Truly, truly." You remember when we said as we've gone through the book of John that those words "truly, truly" are meant to get our attention; something is about to be said that follows that we need to listen up, hear this, hear this clearly.

<sup>24</sup> *Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has*

— anyone reading along? What's it say? —

*eternal life.*

— and then it says it again. And by the way, these are Jesus' words. —

*He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death*

— meaning that until we have put our trust in Jesus we are living in death; he has passed from death —

*to life.*

— JOHN 5:24

But you gotta hear John 6:37:

<sup>37</sup> *All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will*

— what's it say? —

*never cast out.*

— JOHN 6:37

Do you know what that word "never" means? What do you think? Never. [*Laughter.*] Or as my kids used to say, "Never, ever, ever."

Come to Jesus. He will not cast you out. That's what HE says. That's HIS promise. That's God Himself saying that to you. That's the One who came as God's Anointed One, sent from God, as prophet, priest, and king saying, "I will never cast you out."

John 6:39:

<sup>39</sup> *And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.*

— JOHN 6:39

That was the message that we spoke of last week; that because Jesus rose from the grave it validates that He, too, can bring us to Him on that last day, that we will rise, that we will not remain dead. Again, that's Jesus speaking. And one more, John 10:28:

<sup>28</sup> *"I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand."*

— JOHN 10:28

"*I give them eternal life.*" By the way, I always used to picture eternal life as something that happens the moment I die and goes on into eternity. Jesus says I give you eternal life. When you put your trust in Jesus, that eternal life begins right now. Oh, that is something that each of us wants! And once you have that eternal life, it can't turn into temporary life. It is life and it is eternal life, and here's what we

know: Good News is that Jesus died, that He was buried, and that He rose so that we, too, can rise with Him so that our sins can be forgiven. The Scripture calls that Good News in 1 Corinthians chapter 15 the Gospel. Here's what know about news: News can never be worked for; News is something you just receive and when you receive it, you either accept it or you reject it. You have received here today the best News ever given to mankind; that this problem of separation between us and God has been solved because Jesus has come to us. The Bible calls that Good News. You can't work for News—you either receive it and say, "I want that," or you reject it. If you receive it, Jesus says, "It will never be taken away from you."

As we wrap up here today, we're going to go into the many more questions over the next few weeks on this subject because you have a whole bunch of questions floating through your head right now. You gotta come back next week because we're going to keep on answering those questions. Next week we're going to answer the question: Well, if I've done this, is there something else I have to do? Is there more? Okay? That's what we're going to answer next week, but what I want you to hear this morning—Can I lose my salvation?—Answer: Did I save me, or did Jesus save me? If you've been until now seeking me to save me, I'll just ask you: Would you turn it over to Jesus right now?

Let's bow your head and just in your heart right now just say, *Jesus, come into my life. I want You to save me. I want You to forgive me. I want You in my life. And He promises He'll come in. I believe that you're the Messiah, the Christ sent from God. I believe that You forgive me of my sin. I believe You are God. Come into my life and save me, please. Just invite Him in right now.*

*Lord God,*

*I pray that You would bring a clarity to each one of us that we'd stop striving to save ourselves; that we would depend on You for that salvation and that that would become the best news that we have ever heard. That it would become viral; that we just let everyone that we know hear about it because we just moved from death to life.*

*We love you, Jesus. It's in Your Name we pray. Amen. Amen.*

Now, I believe we have the kids coming back in. [Lee turns to the Worship Pastor Brandon and asks] Are the kids coming back in? [Brandon] "They are." I don't see kids. Are the kids outside that door? They're there? They're going to help us worship. Isn't it wonderful? They're they come. Yes! Yes! Let's hear it for our kids. [Applause.]

Now, while they're getting set up, we're going to give you an opportunity to give your gifts and your offerings and your tithes back to the Lord. We do so joyfully here, not to add something else to our salvation but because we love Jesus. At the end of each of the rows on this side and on this side and on that side are offering buckets and if you'd just grab one of those offering buckets and pass it across your row and give to the Lord. I know some of you are doing that on your phones and your tablets and your computers, pushing that, thank you for when you do that. Thank you for your giving. It makes it possible to do ministry here and to continue ministering these guys.



Lee: [To the children on stage] Was your class good?

Children: Yeah.

Lee: Did you go to class?

Children: No.

[*Laughter.*]

Lee: Well, which is it? Did you just go hang out somewhere and have fun?

Children: Yes! Playground!

Lee: You went to the playground?!

[Children talking.]

Lee: Did they have food out there?

Children: No.

Lee: Oh, I'm sorry.

[Offering and Worship Break]

Don't children just make that so much better? Let's say thank you to our kids [*applause*] and their leader, Woo! Well done, well done. Thank you.

Hey, listen, just two things real, or three things real fast. I have a couple things I want to mention to you. In early October we're going to be taking two different trips with two different teams to two different countries to help other people hear the message that we talked about today. One is going to be going to Moldova and in Moldova we have the opportunity to help an orphanage with children that are in a state-run orphanage. I would love for you to be able to come to this. This is an unprecedented open door that we have to go to a place that they never get the Gospel and no one ever goes to them. And you can go to them and touch their lives. It's going to be the first two weeks of October.

The second one is for you men. We're going to be going to Mexico in the first two weeks of October. We're going to be building some spring boxes which is water purification systems coming out of the ground. Then we actually go out to the people in the villages and take them filters and share the Gospel with them while we do so so they can filter that water, which is probably appropriate on the morning that we're talking about.

Listen, over the next three months we're going to have a meeting each month and you wouldn't have to attend all of them, you just need to attend one of them, to find out more information and decide if you want to get dialed in on this. I would like to ask you to consider this and here's why: Nothing is going to take you to the next level of your spiritual growth faster than caring for the needs of some of these people. This is big stuff. This is awesome. We're going to have a meeting right now, right after the service, for these two groups. Moldova is going to be meeting in Seminar 1 which is right out that door there [*he points to his right*] right across the hall, and Mexico is going to be meeting in Conference 2 which is sort of like if you could go through the wall right there [*he points*], so go out there and you'll figure it out.

One other thing, tomorrow at 7 o'clock, from 7 to 9, we're going to have Financial Peace Seminar downstairs in the basement of the church. I would highly recommend this. Many of you are familiar with Dave Ramsey and if you're struggling financially or you can't get along in your marriage over finances, you can't figure out who's to do what or whatever, you can't seem to get out of debt or you're trying to dial in how you're going to spend the money that you are getting, this—I think this is one of the things all of us at some point in our life need to go through, you ought to bring your teenager come

through it—there's a \$90 workbook that comes with that, other than that it's free. I would highly, highly recommend. It starts tomorrow night at 7 o'clock.

Children, we love you, thanks for being wonderful. They're awesome. [*Applause.*] Parents, you're doing a good job, but please take them home with you.

God bless you. Have a wonderful Sunday. Thanks for being here.

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/214397115>

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/KROEbsFU6TQ>

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