

3. Does this sound too hard?

“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. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:8-10

1. We are saved by grace
2. We have no part in salvation
3. Good works we do are what we should do.
4. They are given by God and prepared by God
5. Can you give some examples of good works?
6. Your friends who listen to and obey God’s word—could you do good works for them?

DISCOVERING THE BIBLE

LESSON 8 CONVERSION

“Now a man came up to Jesus and asked,” Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life”

Matthew 19:16

1. Is that a question you have asked?
2. Why do you think he asks the question?

“In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”

John 3:3

1. You can only get into the Kingdom of heaven by being born again
2. The setting is different but the question has been the same. Is it possible to be born again?
3. What would happen to someone who has been born again? Would this be refreshing?

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”

Acts 3:19

1. Sin separates us from God. Repentance is turning back to God's way.
2. The result is refreshing
3. What is the source of all this?

"He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy."

Proverbs 28:13

1. How would hiding our sins hurt us?
2. What sort of confession is needed?

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"

1 John 1:9

1. If we confess our sins, Jesus will forgive them.
2. He will cleanse us from all unrighteousness

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2 Corinthians 5:17

1. We can become new creatures.
2. Old things pass away.
3. Is this the refreshing spoken of in the earlier texts?

"Those who obey his commands live in him, and He in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us."

1 John 3:24

1. Those who keep God's commandments live in Christ
2. We can know that Jesus lives in us because the Holy Spirit is given to us. **We shall look at the Holy Spirit in the next study**

"This is how you can recognise the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God ... We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognise the Spirit of truth and the Spirit of falsehood"

1 John 4:2,6

1. We recognise that God is at work in us when we recognise Jesus came in the flesh to earth
2. We can also recognise that this is so when people listen to Jesus' teachings
3. Do you know people outside of church who listen to Jesus' teachings?

"and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him"

Hebrews 5:9

1. An appropriate response to salvation is to obey
2. Jesus is the source of salvation