

Question #1. “Salvation”

New members are normally asked to stand before the congregation and answer a few questions as an expression of their public commitment to follow Jesus Christ.

1. Do you trust Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord?

2. Do you seek to turn away from evil in the world, and turn toward God’s goodness?
3. Will you continue to grow in your faith-- in worship, Christian education, fellowship with God’s people in the Church, and service to others?

The first question has to do with the Christian Gospel of Salvation.

Someone may ask you, “Are you saved?” or said differently, “Are you Born Again?” or perhaps the direct inquiry, “Are you a Christian?”

Your answer reveals your understanding of God’s work for our salvation, and also our acceptance of God’s mercy and grace. This Christian message about God’s offer of salvation and invitation to our personal response of faith and obedience is often called “The Gospel.” This “good news” about Jesus’ death as a substitute for us is God’s awesome gift of forgiveness. The story of Jesus’ resurrection to new life shows God’s power to bring the dead to life, and gives us reason to hope in God’s promises of eternal life.

Many Bible passages describe God’s offer of salvation through Jesus Christ. Are you familiar enough with one of them so that you can comfortably explain this wonderful message of hope to others?

- The “A,B,C’s of Salvation”- Admit, Believe, Confess, Decide
- The Roman Road to Salvation: Romans 1:16-17, 3:23, 5:8-10, 6:23, 10:8-10, 13
- John 3:16- “The Most Famous Verse in the Bible”
- Romans 6:23- “The Gospel Illustrated in One Verse”

When in your life have you made a decision to trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior? (or prayed the “Sinner’s Prayer,” went forward for the “altar call” after hearing an evangelistic sermon, joined the church in confirmation, received Christian baptism as an outward sign of your inner change of heart, etc.)

Have you been baptized? If so, when and where? What do you remember about the experience? What happened? Was it a spiritually significant occasion for you? Why or why not?

(A separate Bible Study is available to explore the meaning and importance of baptism for those who have not been baptized into Christian faith.)