



MINISTÈRE DU PASTEUR CLÉMENT SALOMON · BIBLE STUDY #4

# Saved by Grace

*The one gift you could never earn — and never have to*

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Picture a man drowning, too far out, too tired to swim back. He can't save himself — and he knows it. Then a hand reaches down and pulls him up onto the boat. Here's the question that changes everything: did that man *earn* his rescue? Or did he simply have to **take the hand**?

That is the whole story of how God saves people. And most of us get it backwards.

## The bad news first (it makes the good news shine)

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The Bible is honest about something we already feel deep down:

*"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."*

**Romans 3:23 (KJV)**

Every single one of us. No exceptions. We've all said things, done things, become things we're not proud of. And no amount of trying harder can undo the past or make a broken heart new. We are the drowning man. That's the bad news. But hold on — it's exactly why grace is so beautiful.

## The gift — while we were still a mess

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Here's the most stunning sentence in the Bible. Read it slowly:

*"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

### Romans 5:8 (KJV)

God didn't wait for you to clean yourself up first. He didn't say, "Become good enough, then I'll love you." He reached down **while we were still drowning**. Jesus took our place — paid a debt we could never pay — because He loves you that much.

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son... that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

**John 3:16 (KJV)**

## You can't buy a gift

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Now the part people miss. If salvation is a gift, then it cannot be a paycheck:

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast."*

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)**

You don't earn a gift — you **receive** it. You don't pay God back for the cross; you simply say yes, and take His hand. Being "good" doesn't save you (Titus 3:5). Jesus saves you. Then His love makes you good — from the inside out.

This is freedom. You can stop performing for God's love. You already have it. The hand is already reaching for you.

## What grace does to a heart

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Some worry: "If it's free, won't people just keep sinning?" But that's not how love works. When you truly understand that God rescued you while you were at your worst, it doesn't make you careless — it melts you. God says:

*"Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."*

**Isaiah 1:18 (KJV)**

Grace doesn't just forgive your past; it changes your future. The man pulled from the water doesn't jump back in — he hugs the One who saved him, and lives differently because he's loved.

## One question before you go

The hand is reaching toward you right now. Will you take it? You don't have to be good enough first — you just have to say yes to Jesus. We would be honored to pray with you or open the Bible with you today.

**Would you like to know more about Jesus, study the Bible, or go deeper on grace?** Reach us:

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Leave a comment, send us a direct message, and **subscribe + follow** on YouTube and Facebook so the next study finds you.

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SHARE THIS WITH SOMEONE WHO FEELS NOT GOOD ENOUGH

# Viewer Handout

*Saved by Grace — pocket version*

## 5 truths to remember

1. We've all sinned and can't save ourselves (Romans 3:23).
2. God loved and rescued us while we were still sinners (Romans 5:8; John 3:16).
3. Salvation is a free gift by grace through faith — not earned (Ephesians 2:8-9).
4. Being good doesn't save us; Jesus does, then changes us (Titus 3:5).
5. Grace makes scarlet sins white as snow (Isaiah 1:18).

## Memory verse

*"By grace are ye saved through faith... it is the gift of God."*

**Ephesians 2:8 (KJV)**

## Think & pray about it

- Have I been trying to earn what God wants to give me for free?
- What would change if I truly believed God loves me as I am?
- Will I take His hand and say yes to Jesus today?

## Presenter Bullet Sheet

- **Open with the drowning-man story** — ask: "Could he earn the rescue, or just take the hand?"
- **Point 1 — The need:** Romans 3:23. All have sinned; we can't self-rescue.
- **Point 2 — The gift:** Romans 5:8; John 3:16. God loved us first, at our worst.
- **Point 3 — Not earned:** Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5. Receive, don't earn.
- **Point 4 — Grace transforms:** Isaiah 1:18. Forgiven and changed.
- **Appeal:** Invite a personal "yes" to Jesus; offer prayer and Bible study.
- **Close:** Memory verse + tease next topic ("Who Is Jesus, Really?").

# 10 Myths vs. Facts

Myth	Fact (with Bible)
1. I must become good enough before God accepts me.	God loved and saved us "while we were yet sinners" (Romans 5:8).
2. Salvation is earned by good works.	"By grace are ye saved through faith... not of works" (Ephesians 2:8-9).
3. My sins are too big to be forgiven.	"Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18).
4. Grace means God ignores sin.	Sin was fully paid for at the cross; grace cost Jesus everything (Romans 3:24-25).
5. If salvation is free, obedience doesn't matter.	Grace changes the heart, leading to a transformed life (Titus 2:11-12).
6. I can never be sure I'm saved.	We can know: "he that hath the Son hath life" (1 John 5:11-13).
7. Some people are too far gone for God.	"Whosoever believeth in him should not perish" (John 3:16) — no one excluded.
8. Faith is just believing facts.	Faith is trusting Jesus and receiving His gift personally (John 1:12).
9. God saves us because we deserve it.	"Not by works of righteousness... but according to his mercy he saved us" (Titus 3:5).
10. Once forgiven, nothing changes.	In Christ we become "a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

## Where this comes from (Sources)

This study is built on the Bible and reflects the published beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Verify everything for yourself:

- The Bible — salvation passages: Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:23-24; 5:8; John 3:16; Titus 3:5; Isaiah 1:18; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 5:11-13 (King James Version, public domain).
- Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, "Salvation" & "Experience of Salvation": <https://adventist.org/beliefs>
- General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: <https://gc.adventist.org/>
- Ellen G. White, *Steps to Christ* (public domain) — a classic on grace and salvation: <https://whiteestate.org/> / <https://m.egwwritings.org/>

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**Ministère du Pasteur Clément Salomon** — Proclaiming Jesus until He returns.

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