

THE DOCTRINE OF SOTERIOLOGY

STUDENT TOOLKIT

4-WEEK HERMENEUTICAL TEACHING SERIES



GOD INITIATES
His Plan



WE RESPOND
in Faith



WE GROW
in Grace



HE GLORIFIES
for His Glory

GOD'S GREAT PLAN OF SALVATION



PRIMARY TEXT:
Romans 8:28–30
Ephesians 2:8–10

THEME:

God's salvation is entirely
His gracious work from
beginning to end.

BIBLE FACILITATOR: *Rev. Shandra B. Matthews*

Week 1 – Introduction & Overview

Soteriology is the branch of Christian theology that studies the doctrine of salvation. The word *soteriology* comes from the Greek words **sōtēria** ("salvation" or "deliverance") and **logos** ("study" or "teaching"), meaning "**the study of salvation.**"

The doctrine of soteriology explains **how God saves sinners through the person and work of Jesus the Christ**. It reveals that salvation is entirely a work of God's grace, accomplished through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, and received by faith apart from human merit or works (Ephesians 2:8–9; Titus 3:5).

From eternity past to eternity future, God's plan of salvation includes His gracious calling, justification, sanctification, and ultimate glorification of every believer (Romans 8:28–30). Through the Holy Spirit, believers are transformed into the likeness of Christ as they grow in holiness and faithfully persevere in their walk with God.

Key Truth:

Salvation is God's gracious work from beginning to end—planned by the Father, accomplished by the Son, applied by the Holy Spirit, and completed in eternal glory.

Foundational Scriptures (NASB 1995):

- Romans 8:28–30
- Ephesians 2:8–10
- John 3:16–18
- Titus 3:4–7
- 1 Peter 1:3–5

Our Need for Salvation: The Problem of Sin

 Roman 3:23; 8:28-30; Ephesians 2:8-10; John 3:16; Genesis 3

Why Do We Need Salvation? | God Initiated Salvation| Salvation Is by Grace

Salvation Produces Transformation

 Ephesians 2:10

Week 2 – Justification: Declared Righteous Before God

Main Truth *God declares believing sinners righteous because of Christ's finished work.*

Justification Is by Grace

 **Romans 3:23–24, Galatians 2:16, and Romans 5:1**

Justification Is Through Faith Alone

 **Romans 3:28–30**

Christ took our place.

 **2 Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 53:5–6, and 1 Peter 3:18; Mark 10:45**

Justification Brings Peace

 **Romans 5:1–2, Titus 3:7**

Application Questions

How would your life change if you truly believed God has declared you righteous?

Why do Christians still struggle with guilt?

Week 3 – Sanctification: Growing in Christlikeness

Main Truth *Those whom God justifies, He continually transforms into Christ's image.*

Sanctification Begins at Conversion

 Locate New Testament Scriptures that supports this point and share during class.

Sanctification Is Progressive

 Locate New Testament Scriptures that supports this point and share during class.

The Holy Spirit Produces Holiness

 Galatians 5:16, 22-23; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2; Romans 8:13

Spiritual Disciplines Promote Growth

 Locate New Testament Scriptures that supports this point and share during class.

Application Questions

What spiritual discipline most strengthens your walk?

Where is God presently sanctifying your life?

Week 4 – Glorification: The Believer's Future Hope

Main Truth *Every believer will one day be “perfectly” conformed to the image of Christ forever.*

Glorification is Guaranteed

 Colossians 3:4; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 John 3:2

Believers Receive Glorified Bodies

 1 Corinthians 15:42-44; 1 John 3:2; Philippians 3:20-21

Sin is Forever Removed

 Psalm 103:12; Hebrews 10:17; Isaiah 43:25, Share additional verses during class time.

Christ is Our Eternal Joy

 John 15:11; Revelation 21

Application Questions:

How should eternity shape today's decisions?

What hope does glorification give during suffering?