



# Questions We Ask

## What does it mean to be saved?

4 But God had so much loving-kindness. He loved us with such a great love. 5 Even when we were dead because of our sins, He made us alive by what Christ did for us.

Ephesians 2:4-5

"Jesus saves" is a popular slogan on bumper stickers, signs at athletic events, and even banners being pulled across the sky by small airplanes.

But what does it mean?

The Bible says that Jesus came to "seek and save the lost."  
Luke 19:10

Have you ever been lost? How did you feel? Describe a situation and your feelings of being lost.

What did it feel like to be found?

In everyday language, "to be saved" means to be spared or rescued from something undesirable. One might be saved from drowning by being rescued from a body of water. A person can be saved from a burning building by a firefighter. Someone could be saved from death by the successful medical treatment of an injury or disease.

To be saved means turning away from a life that is without God, that is focused solely upon ourselves. Being saved from also means being saved from destructive patterns of life -- things that destroy us instead of build us up.

On our own, we are in a desperate situation because our sin renders us utterly hopeless and entirely incapable of saving ourselves. Even our best works are like filthy rags before God (Isaiah 64:6).

God did not leave us to die in our sins! He sent His Son to die to take our punishment for sin. "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (1 Corinthians 5:21).

Take time to read Ephesians 2:1-8

What does Paul say are we saved from? for? to?

Salvation is far more than "fire insurance" to keep us from eternal punishment. We are saved not only from the wrath of God but also from bondage to sin. Therefore, "having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life" (Romans 6:22).

But being saved from sin means that we are saved to a life that is the exact opposite. Such a life says that the will of God and living this faith daily is a greater priority than our own will.

Most people who are rescued begin to evaluate their lives, take stock, and find ways to improve their lives.

Paul tells us in I Corinthians 15 how the grace/love of God came to him. His life was changed/transformed. He had a testimony.

You might want to share your testimony... the moment in time when God "rescued" or "saved" you. What does it mean to you? Does it cause you to praise God?



At one time you were far away from God. Now you have been brought close to Him. Christ did this for you when He gave His blood on the cross. We have peace because of Christ.