CHURCHES INTHE SHAPE OF SCRIPTURE



Special Sermon Series at Crosstown



Acts 2:38-41, 47

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2:38-41, 47

With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

• The Significance of Pentecost

- -What conditions did those three thousand converts on the Day of Pentecost have to meet before God saved?
- -What do we have to do before God will save us and add us to His church?

- Our answer to these questions reveals the most important difference between churches of Christ and most evangelical groups
 - -It begins with a confessed belief
 - -It continues in repentance
 - -Is completed in baptism

David Jeremiah – Becoming a Christian

- 1. Because of our sin, we are separated from God Romans 3:23
- 2. The Penalty for our sin is death–Romans 6:2
- 3. The penalty for our sin was paid by Jesus Christ Romans 5:8
- 4. If we repent of our sin, then confess and trust Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we will be saved from our sins Romans 10:9, 10-13

To receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, pray this prayer:

Lord Jesus, I'm like everyone else - I can't make it through life on my own. I'm imperfect. I'm prone to sin. I have come to realize that there's nothing in the world I can do to make myself acceptable to You. But I know that You have loved me so much that You were willing to submit to the cross and die on my behalf. That's a grace so amazing I cannot understand it; I can only accept it. And I do. I accept Your free gift, and I know that from this moment on, I am saved. I am a child of God. And I give the rest of my life to serving You and experiencing the joy that only You can offer. Fill me now, dear Lord, and raise me to walk in the newness of life. I thank You and praise You! Amen.

www.davidjeremiah.org/site/about/becoming_a_christian

Southern Baptist Convention – How to Become a Christian

Here's a Suggested Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and I do not deserve eternal life. But, I believe You died and rose from the grave to make me a new creation and to prepare me to dwell in your presence forever. Jesus, come into my life, take control of my life, forgive my sins and save me. I am now placing my trust in You alone for my salvation and I accept your free gift of eternal life."

http://www.sbc.net/knowjesus/theplan

• The "Pick Your Battles" Challenge

- If God has joined baptism and salvation together, we cannot allow them to be separated
- -Matthew 7:21-23

Matthew 7:21-24

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!"



-You can actually believe you're saved, but in reality be lost

• Obedience to God is Serious

- -Matthew 7:24-27 wise and foolish builders
- -Joshua 6:1-5 walls of Jericho
- -2 Kings 5:10, 14 Naaman

• Obedience to God is Serious

- It is critical to meet every condition that God attaches to a promise
- This is not a sign of legalism....it is a sign of faith
- -Hebrews 11:30 "by faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days."

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