

# Personal Evangelism

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# **Unit 1: First Five Doctrines of Salvation**

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## **Unit Introduction**

During the first portion of this course we will explore the doctrines of the presentation of the Gospel today. In Lesson 1 we will explore the need for a clear gospel. The gospel is so simple yet man errs by finding ways to complicate it. In connection with the gospel, we will look at three reasons for soul winning:

- We will first look at the need for soul winning.
- Then we will look at God's commands to testify.
- Third, we will see that we are privileged by God to be soul winners.

Then, starting in the last topic of Lesson 1 and going through Lesson 3, we will start looking at the Seven Doctrines of Salvation. We will cover five of them in this unit and these doctrines are as follows:

- Everyone is a Sinner: Less Perfect than God
- The Wages of Sin is Death
- No Sin can Enter Heaven
- Man's Imperfection and Helplessness
- Christ's Perfect Payment and Righteousness

As we study, please keep the following in mind. Notice God's provision in salvation and also man's responsibility in the same.

## **Unit Outline**

### **Unit 1: Presenting the Gospel**

Lesson 1: A Clear Gospel

Lesson 2: Dead in Sin

Lesson 3: Christ's Perfection and Man's Helplessness

# Lesson 1: A Clear Gospel

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## Lesson Introduction

Even for secular communications, good communication is characterized by certain traits. For example, if the communication is written, it reads smoothly. It makes the message clear without wasting words. Even if the message is not simple, it uses the simplest terms to communicate. Therefore we get the message the first time we read it.

These same principles apply to communicating spiritual truths. The most important spiritual truth we communicate is the gospel. We must get this gospel message across clearly in the simplest terms that everyone can understand. Though providing salvation was complicated and costly for God, the gospel message itself is simple and clear. The reason it is simple is because of God's complete provision in Christ and because it is by grace. Christ paid the full redemption price for our sin which totally satisfied God's righteous wrath toward our sin (John 19:30; Rom 3:25). Therefore we use the same simple terms the Bible uses to communicate the conditions necessary for the new birth. So we use the term believe to explain the appropriate human response to the gospel.

## Lesson Outline

### Lesson 1: A Clear Gospel

Topic 1: The Clarity and Simplicity of the Gospel

Topic 2: First Reason for Soul Winning: The Need

Topic 3: Second Reason for Soul Winning: God Commands It

Topic 4: Third Reason for Soul Winning: It's Our Privilege

Sacred Trust

Power of the Gospel

Topic 5: First Doctrine of Salvation: Everyone is a Sinner

All Are Sinners

All Fall Short

Clarifying Your Gospel

## Topic 1: The Clarity and Simplicity of the Gospel

Many of us have, at one time in our lives, played the telephone game. Usually for this game people sit in a circle and pass a message on to the next person. Then that person passes it on to the next. By the time the message is given to the last person, the original message, with sometimes comic results, has become unrecognizable.

Often something similar happens with the gospel. The gospel message is so simple that people often miss it. Sometimes it happens with good intentions. After all, much that is often added to the gospel is good in and of itself. Baptism, good works, obedience to God's commands, and self sacrifice are all examples of common good things added to the gospel message. But, they are all wrong additions to the gospel of

salvation. They are all works! The true gospel message is one of simple, pure grace “that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:31).

You know what amazes me, you know we try to be clear on everything that we do but the thing that's most important is clarity of the Gospel and it is messed up today almost universally. The Gospel, the clarity is just not there and we need men and women to dedicate themselves to making a clear Gospel. Let me say that I, we, have all these years, Sunday after Sunday after Sunday, Wednesdays, all through the week, we have tried to make a clear Gospel that people can be understanding of the Gospel. You've got to be simple and clear and what we need today with the Gospel is clarity. Clarity. People can understand you. II Corinthians 3:12 now these verses are the verses that are going to help you in witnessing, "Seeing then that we have such hope we use great plainness of speech." Then I Corinthians 14:8 and 9 "If the trumpet give an uncertain sound who shall prepare himself for battle, so likewise except you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how shall it be known what is spoken, for you shall speak into the air." What does it mean to speak in the air? Speak where no one understands you. This is why we're having trouble today in Christendom, because people do not understand the Gospel. Christ said to feed my sheep, he didn't say to feed my giraffes. And one of the problems that we seem to have is people put it up there so high that nobody understands it. How many of you heard an unclear message just recently? OK a person following the Old Testament dietary law. Listen, if you're going to follow the Old Testament as a dietary law, boy you'd better be going to follow a lot of things and I hope you like the things you don't ordinarily eat, because yeah, they had a lot of things they couldn't eat but they had a lot of things they did eat that you wouldn't eat. The Gospel is for everybody and there's nobody that can't be saved. A lot of people, most people, won't get saved but there's not anybody that can't get saved. I tell you, I hate that doctrine. I remember one time a person stood up and not stood up but met in actual churches The They said, Boy, you're awful strong on that doctrine of predestination. You shouldn't be that strong on it. See that's the problem. No one's clear on what they mean. So that way nobody understands what's being said. And though we hear so many unclear gospels. Now how many times even when you're dealing with young children, do they have an unclear message and they don't understand. How many times have you heard people say before they went to church or before they were saved they went to church regularly they heard terms like born-a redemption, justification, propitiation. They didn't understand it. Now listen, those are all precious terms. Those are all terms that mean a lot to me. But they did not understand those terms. You know even born-again today You know born-again has become a political term. It's a shame! I tell you the the media is just knocking, knocking what they call fundamentalists. How many times do we understand that people do not understand the Gospel? What a tragic thing it is. You know sometimes people try to exhibit their vocabulary but people just do not understand. You know if you are not colorblind and you see a red light, the red light means to stop the red light doesn't mean to go. And some people that are colorblind and and if they reversed the light they wouldn't know what it was you wouldn't register what was meant even though it's red if they can't interpret that red then it does no good. And that's what we seem to be having today. People do not understand they do not interpret they just hear and they don't know what's being said. And what a tragic thing that is. Now I want to bring up three reasons why we should witness. You know any course on soul winning and that's what we're talking about, and I'm going to go over all aspects of soul winning. Listen some of you should not miss this, not miss one week of this because we're going to talk about how to soul win to all the different denominations, how to soul win to the Jewish people. And we want you to be a soul winner. The greatest joy in all the earth is when you win people to Christ. It's a wonderful thing.

## **QUESTION 1**

To effectively communicate the Gospel, you must keep it \_\_\_\_\_ and clear.

## QUESTION 2

The best verses to use for the gospel are the ones that are simple and \_\_\_\_\_.

## QUESTION 3

The gospel message people present today is almost \_\_\_\_\_ messed up.

## QUESTION 4

Most Christians today do not \_\_\_\_\_ what the gospel message is.

## QUESTION 5

People will not understand an \_\_\_\_\_ message.

## QUESTION 6

The greatest \_\_\_\_\_ in all the earth is when you win people to Christ.

## Topic 2: First Reason for Soul Winning: The Need

Three Reasons for Soul Winning
<b>The Need</b>
The realities of heaven and hell should keep us on the alert for the spiritual health and eternal destiny of others.
God Commands it
It's Our Privilege

hell is in a burning building for all of eternity.

The realities of heaven and hell should keep us on alert for their spiritual health and eternal destiny.

Now first of all, one of the three reasons is the need. There's a need to be a soul winner. Why? 'Cause God's real. Heaven's real. Hell's real. I don't think people believe that anymore in America. I believe America does not believe that. I believe America believes that when they die they're just gonna kinda float out there. Or they're just gonna kinda die. Heaven's real, hell's real, and God's real. And the people that don't trust in Christ as Savior go spend an eternity in hell. Listen. We needed the terrible destiny of the unsaved. In 2 Corinthians 5:11 it says, "knowing therefore the terror of the Lord we persuade men. The terror of the Lord. You know people today say "Oh the Lord is just love." Well, listen He is a God of love, but He is a God of terror. And we better know the terror of God. Oh, but you say but he's never done anything to me. Well you don't know if He has or not. You say, "but I cannot understand how any person who really knows the Gospel would be so selfish as not to want to tell it to other people." The issue in soul winning is always grace versus works. What if you knew someone in a building, and the building was on fire and the people were going to burn up. What would you do? Would you say, well, I don't want to offend them. The building's on fire people are going to burn up and you go, well listen, I'd like to tell you this, but I don't want to do that right now 'cause I might offend you and you know we're pretty close. No. No. What would you do? You'd say Get out of here! The building's on fire! And so you get out quick. Well, we ought to be concerned. You know people say well, I have a real burden for souls. But it's

hard to keep that burden kindled. Well we need to keep it kindled, and we need to think about the realities of heaven and hell. I know a lady once, and she said, "I used to have a real burden for souls. But it doesn't bother me anymore." Listen, I know a guy that I went to college with, this boy had more potential than anybody I had ever seen, for Christ and the last time he was with me he was in this church. He said, "I could not stand living under that kind of pressure." And that's why he became a Calvinist. In other words, "I believe some were born to go to Hell and some were born to go to Heaven." And I said, "You know all you did was cop out." You couldn't live under that pressure. Listen. We better keep it in our thoughts. We better continually keep it in our thoughts. Because that's the honest and the truth. When we stand before God let me let me tell you something. There's not gonna be one person ever say to God, "I was one of those that was damned to go to hell and I was just born wrong." Listen. God died for the sins of the world. There was no blood clot on that cross. Boy I tell you, when people say things like that, it bothers me. Someone says, "when should I witness?" You better witness right now. Later is going to be too late. I was just talking to one of our Navy families, I won't say which name, and he was talking about some chaplains and he says, very few chaplains ever really give the Gospel. Some of them do. He asked one good chaplain. He said this was a great chaplain. And he said to this chaplain, he said, "Are you allowed to, to how do you witness to people." He said, We're not allowed to ask them where they're going when they die." It's against regulations. He said, "but one time a machine fell upon this man. It was an awful accident. He said I got to lead him to Christ and dictate a letter to his wife before he died. And you think about that. We're not allowed to talk about the things that really count in America today. It will be too late. It will be too late.

### **QUESTION 7**

The reality of heaven and \_\_\_\_\_ should drive us to be a soul winner.

### **QUESTION 8**

In Luke 16:27-31, the rich man in hell was concerned with winning his \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ.

### **QUESTION 9**

Even in the New Testament believers should feel the \_\_\_\_\_ or terror of the Lord.

### **QUESTION 10**

Grace vs works is always the \_\_\_\_\_ in giving the gospel.

### **QUESTION 11**

The devil loves to add works to God's message of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **QUESTION 12**

No one will be able say to God, I was \_\_\_\_\_ to go to hell and did not have a choice.

## Topic 3: Second Reason for Soul Winning: God Commands It

A Christian should not only witness out of concern for the eternal destiny of unbelievers, but for any obedient Christian the issue of witnessing should be settled for a different reason. For witnessing is a command from God and not a suggestion. It is possible to obey God's command or disobey it, but your orders are still to witness. So really, for any Christian determined to please God, their goal will be to witness at every opportunity.

Three Reasons for Soul Winning
The Need
<b>God Commands it</b>
For any obedient Christian the fact that God commands it should lead them to witness at every opportunity
It's Our Privilege

### Assignment

- Please memorize Proverbs 11:30.

The second reason for witnessing is it's a command of God. God has given us a command. He says we are to be going in all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. "Go ye into all the world." You can obey God's command or you can disobey it. But your orders are still to witness. You know so many people say, "Well, I only go after leadings. No, the witnessing is a command it's not a leading. I hear these people say, well, I'm not led." You know there are some people that are not led to get out of bed to go to church. If God leads me, I'll get out of bed." What a bunch of people! And they never do anything. Listen. God leads those that are truly obeying His command Listen. God does lead but you've got to be under the command before God'll lead. People that aren't under the command aren't going to be led. Because it's a command. Obey God's command, Go! How many of you, you know people do stupid things. But when you run out of wiper fluid, you don't sell your car, right? I tell you, my car, I'm about ready to sell it, it talks to me. "You're wiper fluid is low, you know.." It don't get upset about gasoline but, wiper fluid, it has a real phobia. Okay God's command it says, preach the Word be instant in season and out of season. Always be ready to preach the word, 2 Timothy 4:1-2, for though I preach the gospel. I have nothing to glory of for necessity is laid upon me. Yea, woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel." How many of us ever thought about that verse right there? for though I preach the gospel. I have nothing to glory of for necessity is laid upon me." Woe unto me if I'd not not the Gospel Man! See we are commanded. Listen. You say, "But you are saved by God's grace." That's right. You are saved from any works. That's right. You don't have to have any works to be saved. But once you are saved, as a disciple, you have a command and that command is to witness. You know one of the greatest joys that I ever had as a father was when my son got old enough to mow the grass. Now he's too old to mow the grass. And I use another son of one of you people mow my grass. That was a real thrill. My son always liked to mow the grass. And he never did rebel against mowing the grass. He always liked it. And as a child, I tell you, I loved to mow grass I really did. I we used to make money mowing grass and anybody let me mow their yard, I just thought it was the greatest joy I really meant it. I loved to mow grass. Some of you think you're crazy. No, I did. I loved every every penny I made in it, you know. I don't guess I loved mowing grass, but I loved that green stuff afterwards, you know. But you know if a father says, "Son I want you to mow the grass," and he says, "Oh holy father I love you so much, but I don't feel led to mow the grass." Well, you know we have ways to make our son feel more persuaded to mow the grass. Isn't that about the way some people are in life? They say, "God, I love you and I'll do anything for you," and they never witness. They never witness to anyone. They've never won a soul. To Christ. Listen. There is not any of us sometimes couldn't have a few neighbor kids in and win them to Christ. Let's say you say, "but I couldn't tackle some big person." You might be surprised who you can tackle. You might be surprised. You know some of those people with big names are the most lonely people in the world. And no one will talk to them about anything important. And they wish that someone would talk to them about it. So, it's a command! It's a command. I got to tell you my old soldier story about during the Civil War and they were having a terrible battle. And one of the old soldiers, they said, Retreat retreat! Retreat! An old Joe just kept marching. He didn't hear. He couldn't hear real well, and everybody else retreated, and man, they were all, finally got back together after they they ran enough and got away from the enemy

and they got back together they said, "isn't it a shame about old Joe. Then about three hours later Old Joe came back and had all the enemy rounded up and brought them in. What'd you guys do? I had to catch them by myself! Listen. When God tells you to do something you be a good soldier. You know it's hard. You know you try to witness to a lot, and you try to win a lot of people You try to build the church although lately our churches are pretty dead. But you try and do these things, but I remember when I was at Florida Bible College, I remember Dr. Stanford said he said you keep throwing enough mud on the wall, some of it's going to stick just keep throwing it! He said, "If God says 'throw hay in the barn' you keep throwing hay in the barn until He says don't throw hay in the barn." This is how you do what God wants you to do. When he says witness we're supposed to witness. We're supposed to do what God wants us to do.

**QUESTION 13**

We need to witness because God \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**QUESTION 14**

Witnessing is not a \_\_\_\_\_, it is God’s command.

**QUESTION 15**

The Apostle Paul felt \_\_\_\_\_ to preach the Gospel.

**QUESTION 16**

Once you are saved, as a disciple, you have a command and that command is to \_\_\_\_\_.

**QUESTION 17**

If God says to witness, keep witnessing until He says to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Topic 4: Third Reason for Soul Winning: It’s Our Privilege**

Three Reasons for Soul Winning
The Need
God Commands It
<b>It's Our Privilege</b>
Instead of assigning this task of evangelizing the world to angels, God has assigned it to you and me as if he were making his plea through us.

The entire unreached members of humanity, at all corners of the globe, must be reached with the gospel. God could have entrusted this assignment to angels and they likely would have completed the assignment in a brief amount of time. But, instead of the angels being in charge of proclaiming the gospel, God asked them to be servants to his human children who would bring the message. Hebrews 1:14 says, “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”

So instead of assigning angels, God has assigned the task of evangelizing the world to Christians like you and me. He did not leave us without a leader, for we are simply continuing Jesus’ work. He has been given all authority and based on that He has sent us on our mission, to fulfill the great commission (Mt 28:18-20). It is our privilege to be “ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His plea through us. We plead with you on Christ’s behalf, “Be ye reconciled to God!” (2 Cor 5:20).

## Topic 4: Third Reason for Soul Winning: It's Our Privilege

### A Sacred Trust

#### Assignment

- Memorize 1 Thessalonians 2:4.
- Memorize Romans 10:17.

The third reason we should witness. Because it's our privilege. You know, I was so excited to be able to come out here this morning to preach. I couldn't wait, I said I thought... God, how could I be so privileged to be able to preach. It's a privilege to be a soul winner. You know, God could've chosen angels to carry the message of salvation. God gave every Christian the privilege and responsibility of the gospel, but as we were allowed of God be put in trust with the Gospel even so we speak not as pleasing men but God which tries our hearts. 1 Thessalonians 2:4 we're to preach. Not to please men but to please God. It's another problem we have some days. In our churches that's one of our big problems. People are not preaching to please God but to please man. Now, if God could love me enough to pay for my sins I'm not going to be ashamed of him. How many people are really ashamed? Of God. How many people really are ashamed for them to know that you are a Christian. How many people are ashamed for someone to see you carry a Bible? Now listen, don't go red flaggin it, okay? Don't go and you know make it embarrassing for people. If you want to witness, listen, I'm not afraid to carry my Bible, but sometimes there's better ways to win people to Christ. But listen, don't be afraid, don't be ashamed. People today are ashamed of Christ! and yet you see and you heard I think one of our men, I think it was Bob, last Sunday night and he said "you know men will wear earrings and they are not ashamed." And I saw a person had these looked like a guy had these huge earrings on. I mean, they were monstrous! And it did turn out to be a woman and I said, "Linda, look at that man wearing those big, huge earrings! That's not a man, it's a woman! Her hair was cut so much and I couldn't tell you know. Anyway Are people ashamed? You know, they're not ashamed. and yet Christians are kind of ashamed. Well I tell you, we see the end coming as we think we see there's going to be times coming that the we're going to have to take our stand. Romans 10:17 says that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word God.

#### QUESTION 18

God gave every Christian the \_\_\_\_\_ and responsibility of the gospel.

#### QUESTION 19

It is possible for Christians to be so \_\_\_\_\_ of God and His message that they will not testify for Him.

#### QUESTION 20

Faith comes by \_\_\_\_\_ and hearing by the word God.

## Topic 4: Third Reason for Soul Winning: It's Our Privilege

### The Power of the Gospel

I am not ashamed of the Gospel for it is the power of God to salvation to every one that believeth. Romans 1:16 that word, power, is the same word that we get dynamite. You know when we think about dynamite, we think of something powerful, don't you? This word, dynamite, is talking about explosion. The power of God and to salvation to everyone that believes, I'm not ashamed. It's the Gospel. If you would use the gospel, you'd be a lot more successful in your soul winning. If you would ever explain the gospel to somebody, and if we would make it clear to people, we would have people getting saved and if we could have a way to follow those people up we'd see those people getting in church. The Gospel is the power, it's the dynamite. You don't know how powerful it is. It's the greatest power that we can have today. You know you ask someone how'd you feel first time they witnessed and I asked a college student how do you feel when you witness? And they said, "Boy, the first time I was really nervous, but after you win some one to Christ you feel such a power! And it is, it's a tremendous power. You don't know Christians who claim inability to witness because the Bible says in Acts 1:8 It says that, "You shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria and the uttermost parts of the earth." Isn't that kind of amazing? First, it's Jerusalem. Then Judea. In other words, the head of the Jewish nation then Judea the next part of the Jewish nation, then Samaria, which was half Jew and then to the uttermost part the world. Listen. You can do it, you've got the ability to do it, but you don't know you can do it yet. I wouldn't tell someone that if I didn't really believe they could do it. A lot more important when you find out that you can know that you can do something. Some people got the power and yet they don't do it. And that they would just sit down and witness to a neighbor, to a friend someone that you're working with. How important it is Now, Proverbs 11:30, Daniel 12:3 and 1 Thess. 2:19 it talks about witnessing and shining the brights of the firmament and he that winneth souls is wise. God never calls anybody wise but a soul winner in the whole Bible. You want to be wise, you become a soul winner. I'll tell you, yes we're living in the last days. Yes, things are tough. Yes it's not easy right now. Yes, it's hard. Dear friends, we're living in exciting ages. A very exciting age. Listen, I don't know what is going to happen with all this going on. All I know is the Bible says there'll be a one world government and that's all they're pointing to right now, is a one world government. The Bible says in the end every nation's going to be coming upon Israel. John 15:8. Herein is my father glorified that you bear much fruit so shall you be my disciples.

#### QUESTION 21

The Greek word translated power in Romans 1:16 is the same word from which we get our English word \_\_\_\_\_.

#### QUESTION 22

The Gospel is the \_\_\_\_\_ or dynamite of our witnessing.

#### QUESTION 23

The only people God calls "wise" are \_\_\_\_\_.

## Topic 5: First Doctrine of Salvation: Everyone Is a Sinner

Seven Doctrines of Salvation
(1) Everyone is a Sinner Less Perfect than God <i>Before people can understand the need for salvation, they need to understand that they are lost and born in sin.</i>
(2) The Wages of Sin is Death
(3) No Sin Can Enter Heaven
(4) Man's Imperfection and Helplessness
(5) Christ's Perfect Payment and Righteousness
(6) All Man must do to be Saved is Believe
(7) Man can know that He has Eternal Life

Having covered three reasons for soul winning, in the last three topics, we will now look at seven doctrines of salvation. We will only cover one in this lesson while going on to look at the rest in the next five lessons.

The first we will look at is the fact that everyone is a sinner, less perfect than God. Before people can understand the need for salvation, they need to understand why they need it. They need it because they are lost and born in sin.

## Topic 5: First Doctrine of Salvation: Everyone Is a Sinner

### All Are Sinners

Now, what I want to do is get to at least one of the doctrines of the presentation of the Gospel today. Just one of them. I've given you the reasons we're to witness. Now what is God's plan of salvation? Let me give you this. The only thing they need to understand to be saved is the plan of salvation. Why. First Corinthians 2:14 says that the natural man receives not the things the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him, and neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned. This is why sometimes when I am not ashamed of the gospel. I'm not ashamed to witness to people. But when I hear Christians are sitting at tables and they're talking about stuff that the unsaved world cannot possibly understand, and they're not even sensitive to what other people think they are saying and, they're talking about stuff the unsaved man cannot understand. And all they're doing is driving people farther and farther away from the Gospel. Listen, Christians. Be careful when you're talking in public, and when you're talking to the unsaved. You need to learn to give them the Gospel, 'cause, they don't have the Holy Spirit to spiritually discern. See, God wants the unsaved to trust Christ. And then when they understand the verses, wait until the person is saved before you start talking about service or deeper truth. Now this will help you a lot. You know there's differences in people's religious upbringing and and different things and these points were gonna give you you're going to have to emphasize different points to different people that you're witnessing to. The first the doctrine is this the seven points we want to cover, I'm only going to cover one tonight. Everyone is a sinner less perfect than God. You hear me do that every Sunday. Romans 3:23, For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Everyone is a sinner and less perfect than God. Okay, for all have sinned. Who does that mean for all have sinned? That means the preacher. Does that mean this preacher? Yes. Does that mean the Pope? Yes. Does that mean everyone on the earth except Jesus who's the only one who didn't sin? All have sinned. The Virgin Mary, she sinned. We are all sinners, "for there is not a just man upon the earth that doeth good and sinneth not," Ecclesiastes 7:20. For we are all as an unclean thing. All our righteousness is as filthy rags and we do fade as a lead and our iniquities like the wind and have taken us away, Isaiah 64:6. If you compare our lives with those around us, we might think we're going to make it. But to go to Heaven, you gotta be absolutely perfect.

### Assignment

- Memorize Isaiah 64:6.

## QUESTION 24

The first doctrine that must be understood about the gospel is that everyone is a \_\_\_\_\_, less perfect than God.

## QUESTION 25

Don't mix deep spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ with the Gospel.

# Topic 5: First Doctrine of Salvation: Everyone is a Sinner

## All Fall Short

Sin is a word in the the Greek "hamartia" it means to miss the mark. It's like you know when a lot of people have been using a bow and arrow up at camp and shooting a bow and arrow that makes it kind of a better thing than any other thing you think of and you're aiming at the mark and when you see and you miss the mark. Now how if there was a target on the moon and you had to take you're bow and arrow and you had to shoot it up to the moon you'd say it's impossible! Why even the moon would be easier than trying to work your way to Heaven. Sin is to miss the mark of God's eternity, of God's perfection. Now be very careful in presenting this. When you are telling people, you know, all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, don't say "You're a sinner." 'Cause if you say you're a sinner, they're going to swing at you and you're going to have a fight on your hands. Don't go and say, "You know you're a sinner." There's a man up in Bemidji. God bless his soul, I mean he's trying, but I think he's doing more harm than good. And every day he's out there, "Repent, and turn to God!" Or "Trust Jesus!" He's got a big sign and he's trying to tell people Jesus is coming. God bless him. He's probably as sincere as any man that ever walked upon the earth, but what a tragedy because people aren't understanding what he's saying. You know, don't tell people, "listen you're a sinner." You know how I do it? Say, "you know, I'm a sinner, and you're a sinner." If you say, "I'm a sinner and you're a sinner" you're gonna get a lot farther, aren't you? You say, "Boy you know, I used to think that I could get to heaven by my good works. Listen, all of us has sinned. Boy, I know I have sinned. You sin. And you know to go to heaven we've got to be. See if you just say "you know I'm a sinner"—see they think most Christians—they think that they're so good and they're so right. Listen, Christians don't think they're so good. Christians just think they've been saved. There's nothing good in any of us. But see, people don't understand what Christians really are. See when you use the word, sinner, they think you're saying, "You're a vile criminal." I am not! My family came over on the Mayflower. We are not criminals! We've got class. We've got the family tree. And man there is dark skeletons in our family tree. There's nothing in our closet that we--you know that people don't want to say that. So you've got to be very careful. It means even good people. Because good people are still not perfect and see this is why again the issue is always grace versus works. Grace versus works. Everybody sins. One time there was a Methodist preacher that my dad knew and he had claimed he had been sanctified. Now listen all Christians are sanctified. You get sanctified when you trust Christ but there is a progressive sanctification while you're still living. As you live, you should be getting better and better and better. But there's also a positional sanctification that the minute you're saved, you are positionally sanctified, but there's a progressive sanctification as you--this man was teaching that he was perfect. Right now. And the I said, If you're perfect right now I said the church you go to teaches you can lose your salvation. So if you're perfect now it means you can never sin then how could you lose your salvation? And then he got so mad he is started getting a look on his face and he looked at me and I said, "Wait a minute, if you're sanctified, there's no way you can get mad." Now this is the truth, dear people. He says, "Oh, dear brother" he just changed instantly. Now listen, all of us are sinners. We've all sinned. And we

need to be very careful that we say like I used to be a sinner. You still are a sinner. But your sins have been covered by the blood of Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:8 says, If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Then there's other people that feel like they're too bad they're too great a sinner to be saved. You know a good statement to say is God cannot save a good person. Listen they need to understand there's no one that that can't be saved through Jesus Christ. No one. And here's another thing, always keep the issue between them-them and the Bible not you and them. Make them see it in the Bible. I was witnessing to a man in my office. This man happened to be an atheist. I know the power of God. I know the power of the Bible. I know the power that's there. And whenever I'd have a verse, I'd hand it over to him and say read that to me, and I'd make him read it. I didn't want him to go out of there and say, that pastor, he thinks that he knows everything. And I don't believe what he said. He's gonna go out of there and say, I don't believe that Bible. That's a little harder to say, isn't it? Keep the issue between the Bible. You say, "but you said, don't carry a Bible." Listen, get one of these little Bibles in your pocket I got one that zips up man I love that thing. It's the whole Bible and fits in your pocket and nobody can even see it. And then you can pull it out, you know. That's your sword you know a sword that can't be seen is more dangerous than a sword that's seen. Did you get that? Think on it. This is your sword. The Word of God. It's sharper than a two edge sword. And we need to keep the issue between the people that we're witnessing to and the Bible. And I tell you, I always when I counsel people I want them to see it in the Bible. I don't want them to get my opinion. I want them to get the word of God. But remember this is the way to witness. Let them see it. But you say, I don't have a Bible. then take our Heaven tracts. And let them read it. Let them see that it is the Word of God. Listen, you could take all these verses right here and reference them in your Bible. You know start with Romans 3:23 and then mark right next to it Isaiah 64:6. And then Romans 6:23 and I tell you what, you could put these all over your Bible. Man you could show people your Bible and it would be a tremendous thing. You could be able to win people to Christ. These verses ought to get you so excited you can hardly stand it. A tremendous thing. A tremendous thing, and we need to be able to give them that so avoid referring to your opinion or that of this preacher or this denomination. Point out what the Bible says. Don't try to even prove their denomination wrong just point out what the Bible says. I want to end at that point right now for this class.

### **QUESTION 26**

Hitting the moon with a bow and arrow would be \_\_\_\_\_ than trying to work your way to heaven.

### **QUESTION 27**

The best way to tell people they are sinners is to say, "You know, I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ and you're a sinner."