

“Be Saved, Stay Saved and See Others Saved!!”

By Bob Heirtzler

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A few weeks ago, when I found out that the theme of the month was “Living with purpose,” I started to think and pray about what is living with a purpose? What does it mean to me? And this came to my mind: “Be Saved, Stay Saved and See Others Saved.”

God reminded me about my first fish: In April 1971, I was 10 years old, and I was bugging my dad that I wanted to go fishing. He kept telling me to wait. I didn’t understand that he was trying to teach me to wait until the sun was right. See, there was a large pool, and there was a small waterfall that fed the pool. In the afternoon, the forest was dark, not much light penetrated the thick trees of the forest. The only part that the sun was shining on was right where the waterfall went into the pool; it was very clear water. Dad told me to cast above the waterfall and let the bait drop into the pool, my first cast was perfect: The worm fell into the water and out of the darkness the Brook Trout swam into the light and took the bait, and I caught it on my first cast.

God reminded me that He is that bright marvelous light that drew *me* into the light; He called me out of the darkness into his marvelous light....

1 Peter 2:9 ... who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

This was the point of time that I can remember that God was dealing with me. I joined the Sunday School, the choir, in search of God... I felt empty. When I was 18 years old, I asked God a question one night: “God, is there more to life than getting married, having kids and then dying?” God did answer the prayer ten months later...

That brings me to my message:

Three Points I am going to go over are

1. To Be Saved.
2. To Stay Saved.
3. To See Other Saved.

Be saved.... Being Saved – Baptism in Jesus name!!

I think all of us know that you have to be baptized in Jesus name to be saved, but:

Luke 24:45-48 ...repentance and remission of sins ... **beginning at Jerusalem...**

Mark 16:16 He that **believeth** and is **baptized** shall be **saved**...

Matthew 28:18-20 ... **baptizing** them in the **name** of the **Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost...**

Notice that the word “name” in that scripture is singular: One name. My father believed that there were three Gods. I told him over the phone that there was only one. I asked my dad. Are you a father? Are you a Son? Do you have a Spirit? Are you a Husband Cousin, Uncle, Brother, Pratt Whitney employee? He said “Yes” and then I asked how many dads do I have? “One.”

These Scriptures tell me that, if I believe and get baptized, I’ll be saved, and also that the first message will be taught in Jerusalem....

Acts 2:5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Acts 2:14 ...Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you...

So they were in Jerusalem, just as Jesus said the first message would be preached in Luke, and after Peter preached this message, the people wanted to know what they needed to do, and Peter told them:

Acts 2:37-47 ... Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...

And this message wasn't just for that day. It's still true for us, today. God answered my prayers in October, 1979.

LIVING WITH A PURPOSE – what is our purpose? Two weeks ago, Parrish shared about there are many things that people can do that are noble, edifying, and structurally sound. Things that are approved by society, appreciated by folks all around, things that will be remembered for years, and some things that people write books about. We all know who discovered electricity, who invented the light bulb, who was our first president, people that we consider heroes: World War I, World War II; heroes in sports, people who write songs that we just can't get enough of. There are the people who invented penicillin or the vaccine for polio or smallpox, people who save lives. If that's all you have then the reward you get is that of breaking records, saving lives, or starting a nation, and that's great for this life. You might make the history books, or even get a statue over your tombstone. God gave those people the ability to do those things. Please don't get me wrong, saints, the Bible says that all good and perfect gifts come from God (James 1:17), so, if a person isn't faithful with the talents that God has put in their lives, then God will hold them accountable for that. After all, to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin (James 4:17). But, if we allow our purpose to be solely about things of this life then that's all the reward we get. God us given us the ability to do great things, but people are not acknowledging that God or giving thanks to God for what he has done for us.....

Living with a purpose..... What is the purpose of these people? We have people in this church who are contractors, highway maintainers, truck drivers, letter carriers, kindergarten teachers, chefs, accountants... But that's not their main purpose.

Stay Saved - LIVING WITH A PURPOSE – what is our purpose?

I don't want to be a Casual Christians – the world is filled with this kind already. When I was a kid, I used to see people singing in church on Sunday morning that I knew had been out drinking on Friday night. My dad called them, "showboats."

Isaiah 4:1 ...only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.

We will eat our own bread, wear our apparel, only let us be called by thy name. We want to do our own thing, but say that we are Christian. We want to dip into the things of this world and still be called a Christian. Didn't Jesus say, "I never knew you?" (Matthew 25:34-46)

Acts 5:1-10 ... thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God...

God if you will help me with my test, my car, whatever it is that we need right then... I will serve you, I will give my heart to you, I will, I will Then God does, and we forget our promises that we made until the next time we are in a bind. Holding back what they told God that they wanted to do! Many people that they are doing something for God, to everyone all around them, even to the leaders and elders of the church. There are just show boats!! Parrish mentioned how we act sometimes when people of authority come around we wear a different face. We know when to raise our hands, but sometimes we're just exercising.

Real Christians

Paul was taking to the Church of Galatians. God wants us to produce fruits – George talked about this

Galatians 5:1, 7-8 ...Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? ...

Galatians 5: 16-26 ...Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh...
they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

We need to produce the Fruits of the Spirit in our lives.... I strive to be the woman each day that when my feet hit the floor the devil says, "Oh crud, she's up"!!!! (I loved this so I had to steal it from Sonya)

See Others Saved

2 Timothy 4:1-5 ...make full proof of thy ministry.

1 Peter 3:15 ...be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you ...

Remember this: Where were you when God sent someone to share the Word of God with you? Are you praying for doors to be open to share the Word of God? If so, God will send people to cross your path: at work, in stores, at parks, in restaurants ... I ask God daily – God open a door for me to share today!! Who do You want me to share with, what would you like for me to share... Maybe it's just a simple "Hello"

Can someone walk up and pluck a Fruit of the Spirit from your life to help them?

George gave us some homework last week: He told us to read these five Scriptures. I've read them every day this past week.

Psalms 23:1 The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalms 37:25 ...yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Matthew 7:7-11 ...how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

He won't always give you what you want, but he'll give you what you need. I didn't like vegetables when I was a kid, I would have rather eaten cake, but the vegetables were what I needed.

Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 5:6-7 ...Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Also:

Ecclesiastes 12:13 ... Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.