

PERSONAL ACTION

Plan

FOR BELIEVERS



Repeat after me, "I accept the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior." Now, there you have it, you are now saved." This view expresses, "only believe and you will be saved." There is a problem with this type of thinking. In the Bible there is a definite course of action to follow in the process of believing. Believing requires action.

Believing through... Hearing the Gospel.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..." (Romans 1:16).
"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said..." (John 7:38).

Believing through... Accepting that Jesus is the Savior

"...For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
"... (John 3:16) In John 3:15-18, words with the root word "believe" are used five different times.
"...If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24).
"...Through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43).

Believing by... Accepting that I am a sinner.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Psalm 51:5).

Believing by... Repenting of my bad ways (sins).

If we believe that Jesus is the Savior and we are a sinner, we will turn from sin towards God. The initial message of both Jesus Christ and John the Baptist was simple; "Repent"

(Matthew 3:2; 4:17). Jesus said, "...Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). The disciples were instructed to preach repentance. "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47).

Believing by... Being baptized in the name of Jesus.

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved..." (Mark 16:16). "But when they believed Philip preaching... concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized..." (Acts 8:12). (Did you notice what happened WHEN they believed?) "And Crispus... believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized." (Acts 18:8)

Paul explained the Holy Ghost was promised to them that believe in Christ Jesus. "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:5).

Paul (Saul) became a believer on the road to Damascus when he had a blinding encounter with the Lord. Yet, Ananias said, "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). It is at water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ that we call on the name of the Lord.

Believing by... Receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

"...He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)" (John 7:37-39).

"Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" (Acts 19:2). The literal translation of this question reads, "Having believed, did you receive the Holy Spirit?"

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