

Lesson Notes:

Living According to God's Plan

God has a plan for us and part of that plan is freeing us from sin to live an abundant life. In order to live a life pleasing to God and to live a spiritually abundant life we must bury the old sinful nature and embrace the truth of Jesus. Following is God's desire for our lives.

Scriptural Principles

- 1) **Out with the Old** – In **Romans 8:5** Paul says that if we are in the flesh we care for the things of the flesh. If we are in the Spirit we care for the things of the Spirit. In **Galatians 5:19-21** Paul tells us that if we live in the flesh we shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. Paul tells us in **Romans 8:6-8** that to be carnally minded is to be dead.
- 2) **Result of Sin - Romans 6:23** tells us that without Christ's atonement for our sins we are fully separated from God.
- 3) **In with the New** - Jesus tells us in **John 10:10** that he has come so that we may live life more abundantly. And in **John 3:16-17** Jesus came so that we might be saved from sin.
- 4) **Steps for Salvation include:**
 - a) **Step 1 – Recognize that you are a sinner** – In **Romans 3:23** Paul tells us that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of the Lord.
 - b) **Step 2 – Abandon self effort and recognize that it is only through Grace that we are saved** – In **Romans 3:24** Paul tells us that it is through grace that we are saved. Paul tells Titus in **Titus 3:5** that we are saved not by our works but through the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. He repeats this advice to the Ephesians in **Ephesians 2:8-9**
 - c) **Step 3 - Believe in your heart that Christ has died for you** – Paul tells us that Christ has died for our sins in **Romans 5:8** and **Romans 10:9**. John tells us the same in **1 John 1:7**.
 - d) **Step 4 – Accept him as your savior**- Paul tells the jailor in **Acts 16:31** to believe in Christ and he will be saved. Peter tells the church elders in **Acts 4:12** that if they believe in Christ Jesus they shall be saved.
- 5) **Jesus Wonderful Promise – He turns no one away** – Jesus promises us in **John 6:37** and **John 1:12** that he will turn no one away.
- 6) **What happens when we recognize Christ as our Lord and Saviour – The Holy Spirit actually comes and dwells within us** – Jesus promises this to his disciples just prior to his arrest, crucifixion and resurrection in **John 14:16-17**

7) **By having the Holy Spirit within us we have the promise of eternal life.** – Paul promises this to us in **Romans 8:11.**