

Survey on Beliefs about Salvation

1. Have you ever attended church regularly? / what kind? _____
2. Do you believe in the God of the Bible? _____
3. Do you consider yourself a Christian? / denomination? _____
4. When did you become a Christian? _____
5. How did you become a Christian?
6. How would you explain to someone else how to become a Christian?
7. What do you think will happen to you when you die? _____
8. What entitles a person to go to Heaven?
9. Do you believe in the Bible? _____
10. Have you read the Bible? / how much of it? _____
11. The New Testament of the Bible talks repeatedly of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Do you know what the gospel says?
12. In the Bible, Jesus said it was important that he die on the cross and be raised from the dead, can you explain why?

13. In the very beginning of the Bible, it talks about God acting like a father to the people he created. God's intention for us is that we be intimate with him. Sadly, we are separated from God because he is holy and pure while we are tainted with sin. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard." Would you agree that in some way you have fallen short of perfection, that you have done something wrong at some point in your life?
14. To some degree we are all aware of this separation from God, and we try to bridge it ourselves by being good, such as attending church and doing good deeds for others. Unfortunately, none of the things we try accomplishes a reconciliation with God. Proverbs 14:12 says, "There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death." The problem is that while the things we do might be good, they can never make us pure again, and so they can never reconcile us with God. [Give milk illustration.] Does that make sense to you?
15. The Bible states this conclusively in Romans 3:20, which says, "For no one can ever be made right in God's sight by doing what his law commands. For the more we know God's law, the clearer it becomes that we aren't obeying it." Do you understand that you cannot make yourself pure enough to be intimate with God?
16. It gets even worse. Romans 6:23 begins, "For the wages of sin is death..." The penalty – or the wages we have earned – for our sin is death. Because of sin, we have spiritual death – the separation from God that we talked about earlier – and we experience physical death. Because we cannot reconcile with God, at physical death we will be eternally separated from God, which is Hell. Any question about that?
17. The "Good News" is that God was willing to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. The whole of Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." God came here in the form of a man, Jesus, the promised Messiah or Christ. Jesus' death was sacrificial: it paid the price for sin for all time. Jesus had lived a holy human life, making him a worthy sacrifice for mankind, and he was capable of making the sacrifice because he was God. Romans 5:8 says, "But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." A couple of days after Jesus' death on the cross, God resurrected Jesus from the dead – at which time he appeared to hundreds of people – to prove his identity as the Son of God, to prove the acceptance of his sacrifice, and to prove his conquering of death and sin. Based on Jesus' sacrifice, God offers us forgiveness, reconciles us to him, saves us from eternal death, and attributes to us the righteousness of the Messiah with whom we identify ourselves. Does that make sense to you?
18. We accept this gift of grace simply by believing it to be true. Romans 10:9-10 says, "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved." Do you believe Jesus was who he said he was: the Son of God?
19. Do you believe that he accomplished what he said he would: paid the price for your sins in his death so that you could have forgiveness, reconciliation with God, and eternal life, and then rose again from the grave?
20. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it." Do you trust in God to save you through his gift of grace alone, not putting any trust in anything you can do, such as pray, attend church, get baptized, take communion, or do good deeds?