



Now What? - Day 1

What Does It Mean to Be Saved?

Introduction:

Congratulations on your decision to follow Jesus! Your decision is, without a doubt, the most important and exciting decision that you can make. This one decision changes everything in this life and the next.

We realize you may have some questions. Over the past 20 years, Northway Church has journeyed with hundreds of people just like you who have made the decision to follow Jesus—and over time, many of those new believers have asked similar questions. So, over the next 7 days we want to share a few of those questions to help you as you begin your journey of following Jesus.

When Christians talk about someone being "saved," it means that they have begun a personal relationship with Jesus. It means that person is actively turning away from their sin, the things that separate us from God, and turning to Jesus for forgiveness. When Jesus - who was perfect - gave His life on the cross and died in our place, He took on the punishment for our sin. He rose again three days later, conquering sin, death, and grave. When we confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead, scripture says we will be saved - meaning that we are free from the penalty of sin and that our relationship with Jesus secures our eternity in heaven with God. At the moment of salvation, the Holy Spirit of God begins to live in us, and He empowers us to begin to live a life that honors God. Through our words and actions, we can now point others to the abundant and everlasting life that only comes from Jesus.

Here are some scriptures you can read that help us understand what it means to be saved:

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins." - Romans 3:23-24 NLT

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." - Romans 6:23 NLT

"For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ." - 2 Corinthians 5:21 NLT

Takeaway: One great step to start you on your journey with Jesus is to get a bible. If you didn't get one at our guest kiosk, you can download one on your smartphone by searching for the YouVersion Bible App, and it's free!

Tomorrow we're going to talk about what the Bible means to you.