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# BIBLE TALK

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This week we continue our discussion of this question: **What should you look for when choosing a church?**

Last time we discussed that people should be concerned about choosing a church that goes strictly by the Bible. This week we want to point out that people should choose a church that teaches the correct plan of salvation.

## PLAN OF SALVATION

What good is it to go to a church, give your money to a church, and recommend a church to your friends and family if that church isn't teaching the correct plan of salvation? The point is, after you have gone to all the services, listened to all the sermons, sang all the songs, prayed all the prayers, given all your money, you have not been taught the correct way to be saved and you're still lost.

My friend, God has a plan for every person to obey to be saved. That plan is simple, but it requires that you **do** something (Mt. 7:21). Salvation is not by faith only (Ja. 2:24). Salvation requires that people obey what God has said (Heb. 5:9). What are the things required of every person (according to the scriptures) in order that men might be saved today?

There are five steps to remember – easy steps to remember, because we have five fingers on one hand and there are five steps:

- 1) **HEAR the word of God.** No man was ever saved without hearing the word of God preached (Rom. 10:14). The words and opinions of men will not save (Mt. 15:9).
- 2) **BELIEVE that Jesus is the Son of God.** Men must believe that Jesus is the only begotten Son of God (Jn. 3:16). Mormons, for example, teach that Jesus is one son out of many sons that God has. This is false and it will condemn anyone who believes this dangerous doctrine. Jesus is God's only son. But belief only will not save (Ja. 2:17).
- 3) **REPENT of your past sins.** This means change your ways. Stop doing the things you know are wrong and begin doing what you know is right. Unless you do this, you will perish (Lk. 13:3).

- 4) **CONFESS your faith in Christ with your mouth.** This is a verbal confession (Rom. 10:10) which simply says, "I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37).
- 5) **BAPTISM in water for the remission of sins.** This is an immersion (Acts 8:38) in water (Acts 10:47) for the purpose of washing away your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16).

This last step is the step that most churches refuse to teach. For example, the Baptist Church, the local Community Churches around town, the Methodist Church – in fact, this is the one thing which most churches refuse to teach. Only when someone has been immersed in water for the remission of sins is he "born again." Listen to Jesus Himself:

### **John 3:5**

5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

My friend, don't waste your life and resources on a church that is not teaching what the Lord taught about salvation.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Well ... thanks for listening to our message this week. We invite you to visit our web site [www.WillOfTheLord.com](http://www.WillOfTheLord.com). There you may download the notes and the audio file of the message you just listened to.

Call again next week when we consider a new subject on ***Bible Talk***.