

What is Salvation?

How do I know I'm saved? What is salvation?

Questions that many kids will ask and here's how I will answer my children.

1. Salvation is a term used to describe the gift that God gives us when we believe in Jesus and follow him.
2. Salvation can only come from God and is never from anyone or anything else. (John 6:44, NASB, *"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."*)
3. Salvation is something that you cannot earn on your own. (Ephesians 2:8-9, NASB, *"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."*)
4. Salvation is not on the other side of a magic prayer. It is a process of doing Gods perfect will. (Matthew 7:20-23, NASB, *"So then, you will know them by their fruits. Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'"*)
5. Salvation cannot be taken from you. God's power is above all other power for all of time and beyond. (Ephesians 1:18-21, NASB, *"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be* enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come."*)
6. Salvation should be shared by the saved. They are witnesses and lights in a dark world. (2 Timothy 1:8-11, NASB, *"Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher."*) (Matthew 5:14-16, NASB, *"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."*)

* Literally translated "may be enlightened" as "being enlightened"