The Need for Clarity in the Key Idea of How One Is Saved

How we think about our salvation and how we talk about our salvation reveal how clear or unclear we understand what we "did" to be saved.

Much confusion has spread through teachers, writers, and curriculums which then further keeps us from being clear on what it took for us to be saved.

Our goal is not to discourage you from expressing your salvation. Our goal is to help you think clearly and talk accurately about your salvation. This will help to build a strong foundation on which to build your Christian walk, and to help others to think and speak clearly about salvation also.

1. *Our _____ Builds on Our _____:*

Col 2:6-7 As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, 7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

Col 3:1-4 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

2. *_____ -Thinking Causes _____:*

While we can understand how some of these phrases have come into our speech, though many very popular and often used, each is inaccurate, incomplete, or outright unbiblical. Using inaccurate, incomplete, or unbiblical phrases further influences us away from thinking, speaking, and living the truth.

A Brief Survey of Few Common and Misleading or Confusing Phrases:

- *Accept Jesus as my Savior.*
- *Ask Jesus into my heart.*
- *Open the door of my heart to Jesus.*
- *Ask Jesus (or God) to save me.*
- *Ask Jesus (or God) to forgive my sins.*
- *Give my life to Christ (or God).*
- *I surrendered my life to Christ (or God).*
- *I prayed the sinner's prayer.*

2 Cor 11:14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

Gal 1:8-9 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Eph 4:14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

1 Tim 6:3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness,

Tit 1:14 not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

Heb 3:12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;

Heb 13:9 Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

3. *_____ -Thinking Creates _____:*

Col 1:28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

2 Pet 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

4. *_____ Begins by _____ (in What Jesus Has Done for Us)*

Jn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

Jn 3:16-18 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Jn 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

Jn 5:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

Jn 6:47 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.

Jn 20:31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Rom 4:5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

1 Jn 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.