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- There are no shortcuts to being a Christian, growing spiritually, and getting to heaven.
- You can't just "give it a try" and expect to become righteous, holy and godly. You have to commit all - give all - surrender all - and truly put God first.

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Examples (Error):

- Sinners prayer?
- Ask Jesus to come into your heart?
- Faith only?
- Have a religious experience?

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- Admit...** *fess up that you messed up . . . Rom. 3:23*
- Believe...** *in somebody who loved you ... - John 3:16*
- Confess...** *give God a shout out for handling the business of your redemption ... - Rom 10:9-10*
- It's that simple...** *Admit, Believe, and Confess. . . you can be sure that you are saved from sin and spiritual death.*

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And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me **cannot** be My disciple. 33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has **cannot** be My disciple. **me, and there are few who find it.**

- Truth is contrary to human wisdom – Isa. 55:8**
- The way of salvation is straight, narrow & difficult – Matt. 7:13-14**
- Requires complete submission & surrender – Lk. 14:27,33**

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We ALL Need To Be Saved

- Rom. 10:17**
- John 8:24; Heb 11:6**
- Lk. 13:3; Acts 17:30**
- Matt. 10:32-33**
- Acts 2:38; 1 Pet 3:21**

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We ALL Need To Be Saved

- ◆ These steps, when truly experienced, result in **CONVERSION**
- ◆ Not merely a checklist – (The danger of trivializing)
- ◆ The need for **sacrificial service!**

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But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants. And he arose and came to his father...'

Remission without Repentance:

- ◆ "Except you repent, you shall all likewise perish" - (Lk. 13:3; cf. Acts 17:30)
- ◆ Hardest command – requires a change of mind that results in a change of behavior - (Lk. 15:17-20)

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For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered...

Righteousness Without Obedience:

- ◆ Obedience of faith is **UNTO righteousness** – (Rom. 6:16-18; Gal 3:26-27)
- ◆ Jesus is "the author of eternal salvation" to "all who obey Him" - (Heb. 5:9)
- ◆ Claiming to know God without keeping His commands makes us a liar! - (1 Jn. 2:3-4; 5:3)

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The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts...

Godliness Without Self Discipline:

- ◆ We live in a society that follows the mantra – "if it feels good **DO IT**" (Tit. 2:11-12)
- ◆ Paul said he had to "discipline" his "body and bring it into subjection" (1 Cor. 9:24-27)

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giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love...10 for if you do these things you will never stumble.

Growth Without Diligence:

- ◆ Many Christians remain spiritual "babies" - (Heb. 5:12-14)
- ◆ We must "give all diligence" to "add" to our faith - (2 Pet. 1:5-10)

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Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Knowledge Without Study:

- ◆ "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." (Hos. 4:6)
- ◆ We need to be diligent students of God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15)
- ◆ The **ONLY** source of saving faith & spiritual growth – (Rom 10:17)


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Salvation Without Sacrifice:

- ◆ **Take up our cross and follow Me – (Lk. 9:23)**
- ◆ **Giving up sinful pleasures and selfish desires – (Heb. 11:24-27)**
- ◆ **Surrender worldly pursuits and pleasures to pursue the kingdom – (Matt. 6:19-34)**

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What Must I Do To Be Saved

- ◆ **Rom. 10:17**
- ◆ **John 8:24; Heb 11:6**
- ◆ **Lk. 13:3; Acts 17:30**
- ◆ **Matt. 10:32-33**
- ◆ **Acts 2:38; 1 Pet 3:21**