Faith Is First

Then A Living Faith Obeys God and Does Good Works

SUMMARY VERSE

1 John 4:19 *We love, because he first loved us.*

The source of salvation is the love of God

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. **17** For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Faith is trusting God's loving mercy rather than ourselves

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

Romans 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 3:21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from law, although the law and the prophets bear witness to it, **22** the righteousness of God **through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe … 23** since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24 they are justified by his grace as a gift**, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus, **25** whom God put forward as an expiation by his blood, **to be received by faith … 26** it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he **justifies him who has faith in Jesus**.

1 Peter 1:21 Through him you have confidence in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that **your faith and hope are in God**.

Faith is our first step in salvation, but true faith is never barren

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God— **9** not because of works, lest any man should boast. **10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Titus 3:5 he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, **6** which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life. **8** The saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men.

> **Color code:** **Green** = the beginning step of justification/salvation; **Turquoise** = subsequent steps for living the life of faith

Where should I turn in the Bible to find mercy if I really blow it?

Psalm 51 *Read all of this Psalm, written by a "man after God's own heart" who yet found himself guilty of adultery and murder. Read the Psalm aloud as a prayer to God and go to Confession.*

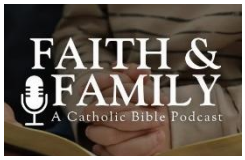
Psalm 103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name! **2** Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, **3** who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, **4** who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with mercy and compassion.

Psalm 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in mercy. **9** He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger for ever. **10** He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. **11** For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward those who fear him; **12** as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. **13** As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear him.

Psalm 32:1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. **2** Blessed is the man to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. **3** When I declared not my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. **4** For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah **5** I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; then you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah **6** Therefore let every one who is godly offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

Luke 18:10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11** The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. **12** I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' **13** But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' **14** I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **29** Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30** For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."



This handout is a supplement to **Steve Wood's Faith & Family Bible Studies Podcast, Episode 610**, available for listening at **BibleforCatholics.com**

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RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Bibles for Beginners

We don't recommend a five-pound hardback Bible for anyone, at any age, beginning to learn about the Scriptures. A good starting resource is a **New Testament in a readable and accurate translation.** A New Testament that also has the Psalms (or Psalms and Proverbs) is a valuable addition.



TOP PICK

The New Testament and Psalms

by Ignatius Press

Available in both paperback and a handsome leatherbound.



TOP PICK · POCKET-SIZED

ESV New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs

Comes in a good-looking imitation leather.

A recommended pocket-sized pick because it includes the book of Proverbs.



ECONOMICAL PICK

Good News Translation Compact Catholic New Testament

(GNT) An economical, easy-to-read New Testament.



OUR FAVORITE HIGHLIGHTER

Mr. Pen Yellow Gel Highlighter

Twist-up gel highlighter for Bible study. Use it to mark some (or all) of the scriptures in this handout in your New Testament so you can easily find them for reminders and assurances.

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