

For Our Information

Vickie McNeas is recovering from her recent hand surgery.

Joyce Venable is doing some better but is having some pain.

Phyllis Ragsdale is feeling better.

Brenda Keisler has been dealing with some fever this weekend.

Theresa LaValla has been in South Haven, MS with her daughter. She should be back later today.

Remember one another as we pray to the Father each day

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

what Christ taught (**Acts 4:20; 9:22**). Where in the Scriptures does Christ teach men to pray a "sinner's prayer" in order to be saved?

The "sinner's prayer" is the old denominational doctrine of "praying through" to God. The only difference is that in the past, "praying through" meant one might pray one prayer after another, but not "get through" on the first try. This version of "praying through" promises you'll "get through" on the first try! Our responsibility is to follow Christ's word "as is," and not be caught up in the feel-good, free, no cost, nothing to do, and nothing to lose salvation that the world is promising. The "sinner's prayer" promises something it cannot provide (i.e., salvation). Let us do the will of God, and follow His word all the days of our lives (**Acts 2:36-38; Acts 22:16; 2Peter 1:5-11; Revelation 2:10; 1Corinthians. 15:58**).

Seeking His Righteousness

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The Sinner's Prayer?

Jarrood Jacobs

I received a sample packet of tracts from "The Tract League" (a.k.a., "Faith, Prayer, & Tract League") out of Grand Rapids, MI not long ago. Nearly every tract encouraged people to say a "sinner's prayer" and then join a church, be baptized, etc.

Some Examples of Their "Prayers"

"Jesus, I believe and I need the salvation you have provided. Come into my heart, rule my life today, and show me how to live. Amen" - From: "The Plain Gospel"



Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

John 3:5



Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

TannerSt.com

“Jesus, I believe that you are the holy Son of God. I believe that you died on the cross for my sins and that you rose from the dead. You are my salvation. Please wash all my sins away and make me a child of God. I give my life to you today. Amen” - From: “What Is Meant By Salvation?”

“Jesus, I need your salvation. I open my heart to you. I confess that you are God’s own son, and that you died on the cross to save me from my sin. Help me to turn from my ways and follow you. Make me ready for your return and show me how to live in the days ahead. Amen.” - From: “Jesus Is Coming Again”

“Jesus, I am sorry for the things I do and say that are wrong. Make me your child, take care of me and help me from now on to follow you. Amen.” - From: “Here’s A Treat For You And Some Good News.”

All of us have seen prayers like these. Unfortunately, some may be deceived into saying a similar prayer, and think that they are saved. What does the Bible say about such prayers?

The Bible Never Mentions Such A Thing As A “Sinner’s Prayer.”

What verse might one use to prove that one can pray a “sinner’s prayer” in order to be saved? Some might use **Luke 18:13**. The problem with this is that the men mentioned in the text (Pharisee and publican) were both Jews! They were children of God and allowed to enter the Temple; but no *“stranger, uncircumcised in heart, nor ... in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary”* (**Ezekiel 44:9**). Therefore, the publican’s prayer of *“God be merciful to me a sinner”* would not be applicable to one outside of Christ

Store In My Heart

Acts 5:29

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

In response to an order to stop teaching Christ, the apostles told the religious leaders of the day that they had no authority to make laws regarding serving God! Study of the writings of the apostles will show that even they did not claim such authority. They understood that all authority came from God. They merely taught what God commanded.

Are you following the teaching of man or God? The teaching of God is found in His revealed Word. If what you are doing is not taught in Scripture as from God, it is the teaching of man and you need to leave that practice and obey God.

today. Which New Testament passage teaches us to say a “sinner’s prayer” where, at that moment, one is saved? *“We know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth”* (**John 9:31**).

Each Of The Prayers Mentioned Are Different.

Notice that the “prayers” recorded above are all different. Two prayers do not even mention faith! (I wonder if our denominational friends would consider one saved if he tried to join them and said he had prayed one of the two prayers that doesn’t even mention faith in Christ?) Why bring this up? It is because in the New Testament, those God considered saved did the same thing in order to be saved. Each one heard God’s word (**Romans 10:17; Acts 8:5,35; 16:13; 2:22**), they believed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (**Acts 2:36; 8:12; 16:31; Mark 16:16**), repented of their sins (**Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 17:31**), confessed their faith in Christ (**Matthew 10:32; Acts 8:37**), and were baptized for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12-13; 16:15,33; 22:16**). Each case of conversion in the Bible is consistent.

These Prayers Offer Another Way To Be Saved.

The “sinner’s prayer” is nothing more than a veiled attempt by man at circumventing God’s law by providing an alternate way to be saved. Christ said, *“He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, ... the same is a thief and a robber”* (**John 10:1**). Who is the door? Christ! (**John 10:7,9**) He is the way (**John 14:6**)! People such as Philip (**Acts 8:5,12,35-39**), Paul (**Acts 17:3; 18:8**), and Peter (**Acts 2:22,36-38; 3:19**) pointed people to Christ. They did this by teaching