

The Next Step - 06/23/19

TEXT –Psa 37:23-24 *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.*

INTRO – Eph 2:8-10 *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

I. The Step of Salvation

A. Hearing the Word of God

B. You must ask for salvation

2 things you must believe to settle our salvation

1. The sufficiency of Christ's death

Isa 53:11 *He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.*

1 Jn 4:10 *Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

2. The veracity of the Bible

Believe that Jesus is God - Rom 10:9 *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

1 Pe 1:23 *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

II. The Step of Identification

A. Baptism – The first step of obedience

B. Church membership - Acts 2:47 . . . *And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

C. Crucifixion

Gal 2:20 *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

III. The Step of Sanctification

A. Reading the Bible

Heb 4:12 *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

2 Tim. 2:15 *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

B. Walking in the Spirit

Gal 5:16-17 *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

IV. The Step of Dedication

A. Service

Years ago, the Salvation Army was holding an international convention and their founder, Gen. William Booth, could not attend because of physical weakness. He cabled his convention message to them. It was one word: "OTHERS."

There are many ways to get involved in Christian service.

B. Prayer – Much prayer much power, Little prayer little power.

Luke 18:1 *And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;*

C. Giving

1 Cor. 16:2 *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

D. Witnessing

Act 1:8 *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

Mat 28:20 *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: . . .*

V. The Step of Glorification

Rom 8:30 *Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.*

Only those that are justified will be glorified

CONCL – Fanny Crosby owes much of her fame to Ira D. Sankey, who put many of her hymns to music and sang them in his missions with D. L. Moody. Mr. Sankey himself lost his sight towards the end of his life, and often visited his blind friend after he retired from active service. Think of these two servants of God talking together of mercies past and joys to come, while they waited for that day when they, now blind, would see the King in His beauty, of Whom they had written and sung so much on earth. Fanny Crosby, in her advancing years, composed "Some Day the Silver Cord Will Break,"

Some Day the Silver Cord Will Break

Some day the silver cord will break,
And I no more as now shall sing,
But, O, the joy when I awake
Within the palace of the King.
And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story saved by grace.

Some day my earthly house will fall,
I cannot tell how soon 'twill be,
But this I know, my All in All
Has now a place in heaven for me.
And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story saved by grace.

Some day, when fades the golden sun
Beneath the rosy-tinted West,
My blessed Lord will say, "Well done!"
And I shall enter into rest.
And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story saved by grace.

Some day— till then I'll watch and wait,
My lamp all trimmed and burning bright,
That when my Saviour opes the gate,
My soul to Him may take its flight.
And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story saved by grace.