

Introduction

? Have you ever lost something that was very valuable or even irreplaceable to you?

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? How did you lose it? How did you feel once you knew that it was gone for good?

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1. Believers and Receivers (John 1:12)

? What kinds of people were contrasted with those who did not recognize Christ? What two verbs did John use?

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? How would you describe the difference between believing and receiving?

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? Application Question: If someone were able to read your thoughts, hear all your words, review your budget, and look over your calendar, do you think they would deduce that you have both believed and received Christ? Why or why not?

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2. He Gave the Right (John 1:12)

? How is God able to adopt His enemies and transgressors of His law into His own family?

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? Why was it necessary for Jesus to be fully God and fully man in order to redeem sinful man?


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? Why was the shedding of blood required? And, how did this sacrifice actually help us?

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 Application Question: What does the fact that Christ has not only canceled the Christian's sin-debt, but has also credited the Christian's account with His righteousness have to do with how he or she lives before the face of God now?

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### 3. By God's Will (John 1:13)

 What do Christians contribute to their own salvation? Why is this important to continually remember?


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 Why do you think John used the language of birth here? In what sense have Christians been "reborn"?

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 Application Question: How does this reality change the way you view salvation? How should God's work on a person's behalf affect the way they approach the Christian life? If you are a Christian, what are some ways you might be guilty of taking credit for your own salvation?

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### Conclusion

 How does today's teaching challenge the way you have thought about salvation in the past? How should it impact the way you live in the future?


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 How should the reality that people can't take credit for their salvation impact the way we interact with others in the church? Those outside the church?

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 How does this reality give hope that anyone can come to know Christ? How does this make it clear that no one is "too far gone"? How should this give us boldness in sharing the gospel with others?

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### Daily Readings

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| - Monday - John 3:16           | - Thursday - Colossians 1:21-22 |
| - Tuesday - 2 Corinthians 5:21 | - Friday - Romans 3:24-26       |
| - Wednesday - Ephesians 2:1-10 | - Saturday - Galatians 3:13     |