

INDIVIDUAL: "THIS IS MY STORY"

Write out your own personal salvation testimony below, as an aid for worshipping and witnessing. To help organize your story, use the four points that Paul shares in his personal salvation testimony in Acts 22:1-16 and 26:9-23.

- What I was like before trusting Christ as my Savior
- How I realized my need to trust Christ as my Savior
- How I trusted Christ as my Savior
- How my life is meaningful now that I am trusting Christ as my Savior



THE STORY WE ALL SHARE IN OUR OWN UNIQUE STORYLINE

Tonight's service will weave together meditations on the gospel story that all believers share and testimonies of unique salvation storylines.

INTRODUCTION

- **Scripture Reading** — Romans 2:13; 3:9-26 (Caleb Hoag)
- **Explanation of Theme**
- **Congregational Song** — #463: *Blessed Assurance*
- **Testimony** — Justin Stano (*Life in Focus* video)

REDEMPTION: "ransomed from slavery"

- **Congregational Song** — PPT: *I Will Glory in My Redeemer*
- **Devotional** — *Redemption* (Daniel Phelps)
- **Testimony** — Joy Spink

PROPITIATION: "wrath appeased"

- **Devotional** — *Propitiation* (Caleb Williams)
- **Congregational Song** — PPT: *My Jesus, Fair*
- **Testimony** — Alicia Gomez

JUSTIFICATION: "declared righteous"

- **Offertory** (Johnny Smith)
- **Devotional** — *Justification* (Pastor Keith)
- **Special Music** — *Not What My Hands Have Done* (Ruth & Cameron Rankin)
- **Testimony** — Liz Marcello

ADOPTION: "enemies made family"

- **Devotional** — *Adoption* (Brett Stowe)
- **Congregational Song** — PPT: *Let us Love and Sing and Wonder*
- **Single Focus Choir** — *Chosen As His Children*

A/V Techs: Josh Reynolds, Zach Reynolds, Nick Reynolds

Musicians: Sarah Bennett, Sarah Tepner, Sara Katter, Havelah Miller

COLLECTIVE: "THIS IS OUR STORY"

Theoretical Plan of Salvation (Romans 2:13)

Life of perfect obedience to the Scriptures

...would result in...

Declaration by God that the individual is righteous ("justification"); i.e., eternal life

NONE of us fits in this category.

Reality of Man's Inability to Save Himself (Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:9-20; Galatians 2:16; 3:10-11)

Life of disobedience to the Scriptures (i.e., sin)

...results in...

God's Wrath (John 3:36; Romans 6:23): i.e., eternal punishment in hell separated from God

ALL of us fit in this category—"in Adam."

Christ's Ministry on Earth

Christ's life of perfect obedience to the Scriptures (Matthew 5:17)
Substitution—He lived obediently for us (Matthew 3:15).

...resulted in...

Proof that He is perfectly righteous ("justification"; Philippians 2:8; Hebrews 2:10; 4:15; 5:8-9)

Death of Christ, who is now "sin" and separated from God (Matthew 27:46)
Substitution—He died in our place (1 Peter 3:18), and our sins were imputed (i.e., transferred) to Christ (Isaiah 53:6, 11-12; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24).

...resulted in...

Propitiation
 Christ's taking upon Himself and fully appeasing God's Wrath—i.e., He fully paid the penalty for all sin (1 John 2:2)

Redemption
 (Romans 3:24; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:12) [i.e. everything within the dotted rectangle—His death]

Process of Salvation

When a person has **Faith** (Romans 3:22, 26; 5:1; Galatians 2:16), there is a...

1. **Imputation** (i.e., transfer) of Christ's righteousness to the individual and **justification**—a declaration from God that the individual is therefore righteous (Romans 3:21-22; 5:18-19; 8:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21)

2. **Removal** of God's wrath from the individual (John 3:36; 5:24; Romans 3:25)

FAITH

= knowledge, agreement, and action/trust (e.g., clinging—illustration: a drowning person's response to a lifeguard)

BELIEVER

Results:
Forgiveness
Reconciliation
Adoption

Conclusion

So, not only did Christ live a perfect life (which we should have done, but did not do), but in His death He also appeased God's wrath towards sin by paying the penalty for the sins we committed (again, which we should have done). Therefore, both perfect righteousness (from His life) and the removal of wrath (from His death) are given to the one who believes in Jesus.