

## Week Four: Salvation

### Scripture references:

*On the nature of salvation*

Genesis 4:10-14a & Psalm 51:11-12 & John 17:1-3

John 3:16 & Ephesians 2:1-10

Jonah 2:9 & Revelation 7:10

I Thessalonians 5:9

Hebrews, esp. chapter 2, & I Peter, esp. chapter 1

*On the qualities of salvation*

Psalms 13:5; 37:39; 98:1-3

Isaiah 30:15

2 Corinthians 7:1-11

Philippians 2:12-13



### Points to take away:

1. We all need salvation through grace.
2. Grace is both God's unearned, present and pressing love; and "God acting in our lives to accomplish what we cannot do on our own and do not deserve." (Dallas Willard)
3. Salvation is a transformed life lived in the kin(g)dom of God, based in forgiveness and restoration.
4. There are ~~three~~ **four** activities in salvation:
  - § Accepting that God in Christ loves you.
  - § Accepting God in Christ into your life.
  - § Accepting apprenticeship (*discipleship*).
5. Salvation is personal, communal, and global: God acts through us in community to bring about the kin(g)dom on earth as it is in heaven.

Accepting that you have a role in your own salvation.

### A very few resources for further exploration:

**The source:** Scripture. It is the story of God's salvation. That's the whole of it, told over and over, in different places, times and situations. One God; one plotline; 3000 years of inspired writing.

**A classic:** John Wesley, *The Scripture Way of Salvation* (Sermon, 1765). What salvation is; the miracle of God's grace working with our faith; and what to do about it.

**A couple of recent writers:** Phillip Yancey, *What's So Amazing About Grace* (Zondervan: 2002). His main contribution: to identify the life-transforming power of God's unmerited, unimaginable, and unconditional love. Dallas Willard, *The Spirit of the Disciplines* (HarperCollins: 1988). While focused on active discipleship — the daily living of salvation — Willard's main contribution is to clearly weld the moment of forgiveness and restoration to a full & transformed life lived now.

**Books Pastor Elane wants to read on the topic (preferably with others!):** Joel B. Green & Mark D. Baker, *Recovering the Scandal of the Cross* (InterVarsity Press: 2000); Kalen K. Fristad, *Destined for Salvation: God's Promise to Save Everyone* (Kalen K. Fristad: 2003)

