
Next Steps

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INTRODUCTION

Hello!

We are excited that you are looking to strengthen your relationship with God. We fully support you on this journey and are here to help you every step of the way.

We hope this booklet helps you understand the true meaning of salvation, baptism, and discipleship. Even if you've heard these terms often in church, you might still be unsure of their importance. So, let us simplify these terms for you. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us.

Step 1

What is Salvation?

We can view Salvation through three P's:
Positional, Progressive, & Perfected (Glorification).

1) **Positional** (Justification) is when you have been placed in right standing before God. You have been positioned from death to life. This is when you first believe and place your faith and trust in Jesus Christ. (Rom 5:1-2; Col 1:13; Eph 2:5)

2) **Progressive** (Sanctification) is when you've been positioned by God (saved), and you begin a new journey, walking with the Lord through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit with the goal of growing and becoming more like Jesus. (2nd Cor 3:18; Col 3:10; Phil 1:6)

3) **Perfected** (Glorification) is the day the Lord comes back and takes us with him. (Phil 3:21; 1st Cor 15:35-49; Tit 2:13)

Salvation is a gift from God, it is only by grace through faith.



Have you given your entire life to The Lord?
Are you striving to live a Life for Jesus and His Kingdom?

Step 2

What is Baptism?



Once you have placed your faith and trust in God, you will likely feel a strong urge to share with the world what God has done in your life.

Baptism represents the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Being submerged in the water represents death to sin, and emerging from the water represents the cleansed, holy life that follows salvation.

It's important to know that baptism is not a means to achieve salvation; rather, it is a natural result of it. It's an act of obedience.

Again, Baptism cannot save you. Instead, it is a public declaration of the work God has done in your life.

Baptism illustrates our death to sin and new life in Christ.
(Rom 6:1-11)

Baptism serves as an outward testimony of the inward
change that occurs in a believer's life.

“For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized.
And with him you were raised to new life because you
trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the
dead.” - Colossians 2:12 NLT

“For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And
just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious
power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.” -
Romans 6:4 NLT



Are you ready to make that public declaration?

Step 3:

What is Discipleship?

Once you have placed your trust in Christ alone and publicly demonstrated your internal transformation through baptism, a desire to be like Jesus should stir up inside of you. Discipleship involves being a learner, an apprentice—someone who aspires to be like Jesus, live like Him, love like Him, and learn from Him. While we recognize that perfection is unattainable, the Lord equips us with everything necessary to move toward a life that honors and reflects Him.

Christian discipleship is the journey through which followers grow in their relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit to face the challenges and trials of life while becoming increasingly Christlike.

The Path of Discipleship:

1. Putting Jesus First in everything (Mark 8:34–38)
2. Following Jesus' teachings (John 8:31–32)
3. Producing fruit (John 15:5–8)
4. Discipling others (Matthew 28:18–20).

At the HUB Downtown, we provide one-on-one discipleship opportunities. If you're interested in learning more, please contact our student ministry staff by emailing hub-downtown@houstonsfirst.org or feel free to find us on a Sunday morning.

The Next Steps

We hope you now have a better understanding of salvation, baptism, and discipleship. As you think about your next steps, don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

If you feel confident in your understanding of salvation, baptism, please let us know so we can start preparing you for baptism.

We will set up a meeting to make sure you have a solid understanding of the material in this booklet and to hear your testimony. Afterward, you'll send us your written testimony, and we will work with you and your family to schedule your baptism date.

Once your baptism is complete, we can explore the various discipleship opportunities available to help you on your journey with Christ.

Scripture Reference

What is Salvation, Page 4:

Positional Salvation:

Romans 5:1-2

Colossians 1:13

Ephesians 2:5

Progressive Salvation:

2nd Corinthians 3:18

Colossians 3:10

Philippians 1:6

Perfected Salvation:

Philippians 3:21

1st Corinthians 15:35-49

Titus 2:13

What is Baptism, page 6:

Romans 6:1-11

Colossians 2:12

Romans 6:4

What is Discipleship, page 7:

Mark 8:34-38

John 8:31-32

John 15:5-8

Matthew 28:18-20

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