

Plan of Salvation Step 2: Believe in the Word of God

Key Scripture: Hebrews 11:6

Lesson Objective:

By the end of this lesson, you will understand what it truly means to **believe in God and Christ Jesus**, why belief is essential for salvation, and how genuine belief requires **faith in action** through obedience.

Opening Discussion (5 mins):

- What does it mean to **believe in something or someone**?
 - How can you tell if someone truly believes in something or what they say?
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Lesson Scripture:

Hebrews 11:6

- **(KJV)** *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”*
- **(AMP)** *“But without faith it is impossible to [walk with God and] please Him, for whoever comes [near] to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He rewards those who [earnestly and diligently] seek Him.”*

Key Word Study:

The word "**believe**" in this verse comes from the Greek word "**pisteuō**"

- pis – like "piss"
- tyoo – like "stew"
- o – like the long "o" in "go"

(Strong's G4100), which means:

- To **be persuaded** or **convinced** of the truth.
 - To **place confidence** or **trust** in something.
 - To **commit yourself fully** based on that trust.
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Why is Belief Important? (10 mins)

1. It is Required to Please God – Without faith, we cannot have a relationship with God.

- Hebrews 11:6
- John 8:24:
 - (KJV) *“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”*
 - (AMP) *“That is why I told you that you will die [unforgiven and condemned] in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am the One [I claim to be], you will die in your sins.”*

2. Belief Leads to Salvation – But belief **MUST** be followed by action.

- Mark 16:16
 - (KJV) *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”*
 - (AMP) *“He who has believed [in Me] and has been baptized will be saved [from the penalty of God’s wrath and judgment]; but he who has not believed will be condemned.”*
 - Romans 10:9-10
 - (KJV) *“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. 10. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*
 - (AMP) *“9. because if you acknowledge and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord [recognizing His power, authority, and majesty as God], and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10. For with the heart a person believes [in Christ as Savior] resulting in his justification [that is, being made righteous—being freed of the guilt of sin and made acceptable to God]; and with the mouth he acknowledges and confesses [his faith openly], resulting in and confirming [his] salvation.”*
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Examples of Belief in Action (15 mins)

Example	Scripture	How They Showed Belief
Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:37-41	Believed, Repented, Baptized
Ethiopian Eunuch	Acts 8:36-39	Believed, Confessed and Baptized
Cornelius and His Household	Acts 10:43-48	Believed, Baptized
Philippian Jailer	Acts 16:30-34	Believed, Baptized
Saul (Paul)	Acts 9:1-18	Believed, Baptized

What Belief Requires (10 mins):

Believing in God and Christ Jesus requires:

- Hearing the Word of God (**Romans 10:17**)
 - Believing that Jesus is the Son of God (**John 3:16, John 8:24**)
 - Repenting from sin (**Acts 17:30**)
 - Confessing Christ (**Romans 10:9-10**)
 - Being Baptized (**Acts 2:38, Mark 16:16**)
 - Living a Faithful Life (**Revelation 2:10**)
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Wrap-Up Discussion (5 mins):

- Is simply saying you believe in God enough?
- What actions can you take to demonstrate your belief?

Remember based on the Word of God as seen through the examples in this lesson; **true belief is always followed by obedience**. True belief is **trusting God, obeying His Word, and living according to His commands**.

James 2:26

- (KJV) *“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”*
- (AMP) *“For just as the [human] body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works [of obedience] is also dead.”*

Note: Read John 3:1-21 and write down three things Nicodemus learned about **believing in Jesus**.