

Overseers

Dan Fuller.....685-4454
Paul Metzkes.....870-8042
Phil Porter575-4782
*Richard Watson.....307-2608

*Chairman for the Month of December

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins379-2325
David Sproule.....301-2230
Robert Lupo315-1411

Deacons

David Brown.....972-7608
Victor Colage.....719-1490
Lance Collier.....985-4407
Kirk Crews339-9283
Mike Erickson.....310-9916
Tim Fry373-9121
Jeff Goodale261-1188
Rick Hall622-5131
Dion Hayes214-533-5065
Gary Jenkins889-3585
Jeff Leslie.....744-3444
David Lord346-2228
Buzz Nelson.....385-1588
Lawrence Williams662-3419

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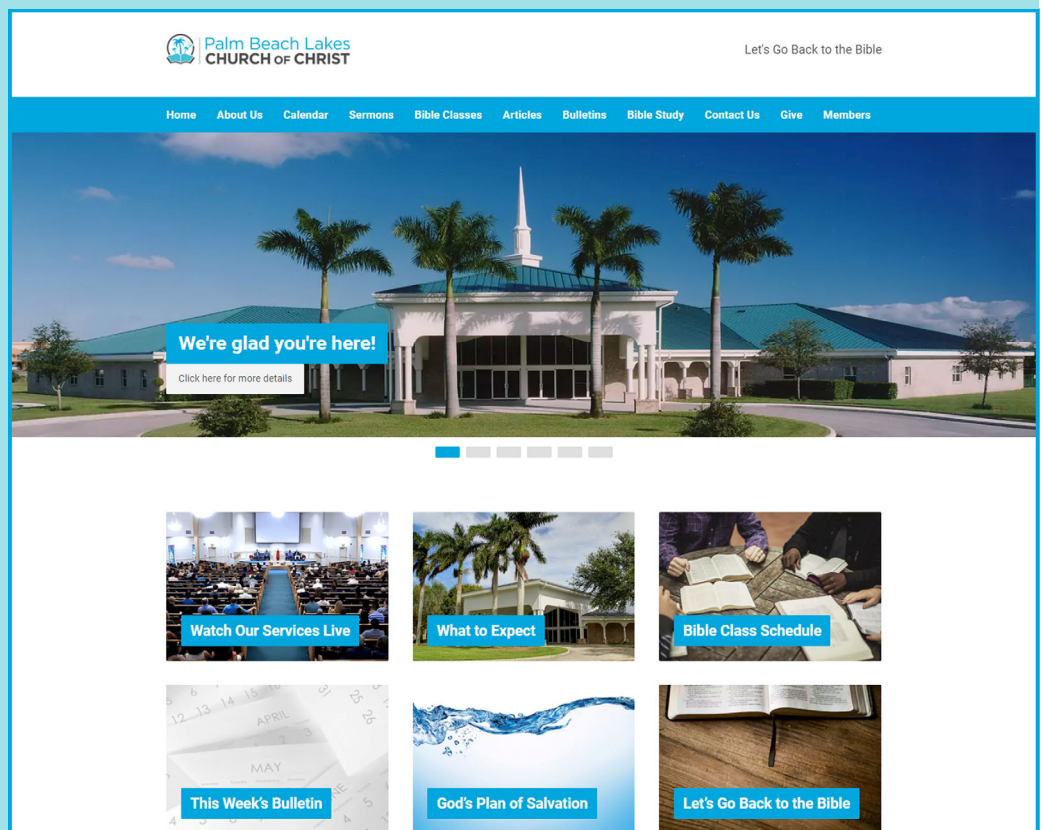


Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

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By Dan Jenkins

Unrealized Timelessness Truth

As we read the Bible, we sometimes are so focused on how a passage applies to our lives that we so easily lose sight of what was happening when a book was written. Truth is always truth! It cannot contradict itself and is timeless. The laws of God have changed in various dispensations, but the fundamental aspect of truth does not change. Our failure to understand this is the basis of the title for this article—unrealized timeless truth.

Psalm 138 is a good illustration of this. It is described as a “Psalm of David” and the opening verses reflect the heart of the great king. David praises God with his whole heart; he sings praises to God; he worships God toward His temple; he praised God for His lovingkindness and truth, and he magnified what God had said.

In verse four, he turned his attention and states that all the kings of the earth would magnify God. This was not true of the kings in David’s day, but he looked to future happenings. The unrealized truth is found by carefully reading all of the verse. All the kings of the earth would hear the words of God’s mouth. Pay special attention to the fact that “words” is plural. The voice of God had spoken directly to man at Mt. Sinai, and it *still* would speak to kings. How is this? Was He about to

speak from heaven to those kings? Obviously not. They were to hear the same messages His mouth spoke because the very words God used are eternal! Truth is eternal and this emphasizes that when we read the Bible, we too are hearing the words from the mouth of God.

Another illustration of this principle is found in the words spoken at the burning bush. To whom were these words spoken? The obvious answer is Moses (Luke 20:37), but they were also spoken to others. Hear the words of Jesus describing this event (I will capitalize one word to emphasize truth). “Have you not read what was spoken to YOU by God, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham...’” (Matt. 22:31). God’s exact words spoken at the bush were spoken to the Jews of Jesus’ day! By implication they are spoken to us! This is an unrealized, timeless truth.

Finally, realize what will happen at the final judgment. All mankind will be judged by the precise words written in the books of the Bible. “And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and the books were opened...and the dead were judged according to their works, by the things where were written in the books” (Rev. 20:12-13). Truth is truth. Truth is eternal. The words of truth are spoken to all mankind of every age. Remember this as you read the Bible. Read it carefully for truth is spoken to YOU!

**Every time you
read the Bible,
realize timeless
truth is spoken
to YOU!**



By David Sproule

Greet One Another

There may be certain parts of Scripture that we think only applied to first-century Christians and we just skip over them. But, perhaps we should take a closer look. Consider for a moment the numerous times that Christians were directed to “Greet one another.” That still applies today.

First, think about the word, “Greet.” The Greek word literally means, “to draw to oneself.” It is defined as, “to engage in hospitable recognition of another through word or gesture, welcome, express good wishes, treat with affection.” This generally involved embracing or kissing, and the term is used repeatedly in the epistles as an imperative verb, indicating a command of God that is not optional. Do you greet?

Second, think about the object of the action, “Greet one another.” The reflexive, reciprocal pronoun “one another” involves all brethren doing this to all other brethren (Rom. 16:16; 2 Cor. 13:12). Just as we are to love one another, encourage one another and serve one another (mutual responsibilities of every Christian for every other Christian), we are to greet one another. Paul says, “Greet all the brethren” (1 Thess. 5:26), and John says, “Greet the friends by name” (3 John 14). Do you greet your brethren regularly?

Third, think about the method, “Greet one another

with a holy kiss.” The Lord was not demanding a kiss in all generations and all cultures, but He was taking a common practice of that day and regulating it among the Christians. First-century greetings often included the kiss of friendship, not a passionate kiss. In modern culture, it usually is a handshake or a friendly hug—some kind of gesture that (remember the literal definition) would draw another to oneself in a welcoming, friendly way.

Fourth, think about the regulation of the greeting, “Greet one another with a HOLY kiss.” The emphasis in the text is on the word “holy.” The Lord took the common greeting of the day and ensured that it was done out of Christian affection. It is to be “holy,” meaning “set apart, sincere, unhypocritical.” You need to mean it when you greet your brethren and you need to keep it Christ-like. Peter said, “Greet one another with a kiss of love” (1 Pet. 5:14). Agape love is to color every action of a Christian.

Fifth, consider that our holy greetings are to be extended beyond our brethren. Jesus said, “If you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others?” (Matt. 5:47). When you are at a church service, spend time greeting your brethren warmly, but make it a priority to seek out guests and give them a genuine, friendly Christian welcome. Our guests should feel like they are wanted in our family.

**Agape love
is to color
every action of
a Christian.**



By Robert Lupo

Who Is a Christian?

How do you identify a Christian? In the Bible, the first time the term “Christian” is used is found in Acts 11:26. Here, we see that it is the disciples of Jesus who were given this title. A disciple is a student or follower of another. So, a Christian is someone who follows the teachings of Christ.

Today, there are many people who claim to be followers of Jesus but teach many different things. Are they all Christians? Before Jesus went to the cross, He prayed this about those who would believe in Him, “...that they all may be one as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me” (John 17:21). Here, we learn two things. The disciples of Jesus must be united, and that unity must be in Christ Jesus.

What does it mean to be “in Christ”? According to Romans 8:1, being in Christ Jesus means you have “no condemnation.” In Romans 12:5, being in Christ means that you are part of the “one body.” In Ephesians 2:13, if you are in Christ Jesus, then you “...have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” So, someone who is “in Christ” is someone who is saved from condemnation, is a member of the one body (or church), and has gained admittance by the blood of Jesus. “For

**In order to be
“in Christ” you
must be brought
into Christ.**

in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power” (Col. 2:9-10).

This next question is very important. How, then, do we get in Him? Look at the next two verses in Colossians 2. “In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands...” How? “...by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh...” How? “...by the circumcision of Christ...” What is that? “...buried with Him in baptism...” How does baptism do that? “...in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead” (Col. 2:11-12).

In order to be “in Christ,” you must be brought into Christ. This passage shows us that this only happens in baptism. Throughout the New Testament, we are commanded to be baptized (cf. Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; John 3:5; 1 Pet. 3:21). It is not a work of man, but as Colossians shows us, it is the working of God.

So, who is a Christian? If you were never baptized into Christ, then you cannot be in Christ. If you are not in Christ, then you were never saved, and you cannot be a member of His church because you never gained admittance by the blood of Jesus. Your salvation is incomplete. A Christian is a disciple of Christ. That means that you follow His teachings. Have you followed Christ into the saving waters of baptism?

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Do you complain?

One of the most challenging and compelling verses in the Bible is Philippians 2:14 – “Do all things without complaining.” That verse was not written (only) to children. That verse was not written (only) to husbands and wives. That verse was written to Christians! In fact, it was written to mature Christians, along with elders and deacons (1:1). It was written to remind Christians of one distinct way that they are to “shine as lights” (2:15).

Do you complain? I’ve known of preachers who complained about their work as preachers. That’s shameful! But, I’ve also known of Christian servants in some places who complained about their volunteer efforts in the church. Is that any less shameful? Keep reading into verse 15, where it implies that those who do complain are at fault in the eyes of God, worthy of blame and guilt for not distinguishing themselves as children of God apart from the crooked world.

Complaining is not becoming of Jesus or His followers! Let’s do “all things” for “His good pleasure” (2:13-14)! – DS



Letting your kids decide

Did you hear about the parent whose child had a curable illness that simply required a regular prescription medication, but the parent let the young child decide each day whether to take the medicine or not? Oh, you didn’t? Did you hear about the parent whose child didn’t like going to school, so that parent decided to not make the child go to school, lest the child turn away from education altogether and never want to learn anything ever again? Oh, you didn’t?

As parents, we raise our kids to have the best opportunities to succeed in life, and we make the big decisions for them, when they are young, since they are not equipped to understand the long-term need for certain things or the ramifications of choosing to neglect something vital to their life. We do that with medications, with school, and those things we have determined to be essentials. So, here’s the question: Why do parents let their children decide whether they want to go to church, or go to Bible class, or go to church youth events, or participate in worship or church activities, or have family devotionals, or all sorts of things that make an eternal difference? Why are those optional? – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Linda Coe	total knee replacement surgery on January 16
Eva Fulton	recovering from oral surgery
Ophelia Holmes	undergoing more tests on her lungs on December 19
Lynne Jorgensen	recovering from an outpatient procedure
Bettye King	recovering from a stroke
Verdell March	dealing with severe knee pain
Joyce Parker	Jupiter Rehab (room 403A), congestive heart failure
Evetta Wilson	recent hospitalization & rehab, now at home, improving

Ongoing Health Issues

Judy Carmack	chronic health issues
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues
Henry Williams	dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Kasandra Jones
Zula Garrett	Joyce Parker
Dick Haines	Leigh Puckett
Margie Hardin	Maurine Reed
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Sharon Banks	Derrick & Jimmie's sister, triple bypass surgery
John Lord	David Lord's father, stage 4 prostate cancer treatments
Diana MacArthur	Maxine McCoy's mother, pacemaker surgery
Chuck Reeves, Sr.	Chuck Reeves, Jr.'s father, chemo/radiation treatments
Greg Ryan	Lynne Jorgensen's son, cancer, continues to improve

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker

Africa
Nnanna Aforji
Tamuka Arunashe

Bahamas
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

United States
Apologetics Press
Robert C. Lupo
Mauricio & Kayla Yegros

Answering Macedonian Calls
Josh & Cara Blackmer



Church Family Calendar of Events

Monday, December 16

- ♦ **No Monday Night Bible Study.** Class will resume in January 2025.

Tuesday, December 17

- ♦ **No Tuesday Morning Bible Study.** Class will resume in January 2025.

Wednesday, December 25

- ♦ **No Midweek Services.**

Saturday, January 4

- ♦ **MOM Group Dinner & Devotional** at 6:30 p.m. at Traci Sproule's home. This is for all PBL moms of children from birth to 18.

Sunday, January 5

- ♦ **Every Member Present Sunday** for Bible Class and Worship. New plans for the new year will be presented, and every member is urged to be in attendance. Let's start the new year together!
- ♦ **Meeting of All PBL Men** at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Monday, January 6

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Sunday, January 12

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room.
- ♦ **Josh Blackmer Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults will meet in the Auditorium.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Saturday, January 18

- ♦ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

Sunday, January 19

- ♦ **New Member's Orientation Class** at 9:00 a.m.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Monday, January 6

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils.

Saturday, January 11

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of David & Traci Sproule. See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday, January 31

- ♦ **Young Adult Game Night** at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD. See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday-Sunday, February 14-16

- ♦ **PBL Family Camping Trip.** Location TBD. All members are encouraged to enjoy this time of fellowship and camping. See Ivan Villard for details. See Ivan Villard for details.

Saturday, March 1

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Tuesday, December 31

- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Lock-in** from 10:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. Bring \$5 for food. Chaperones are needed. See Robert Lupo for details.

Monday, January 6

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

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- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Men's Worship Service Assignments - January 2025

January 5 ^(A)

January 12 ^(A)

January 19 ^(L)

January 26 ^(A)

Morning Worship Service				
Song Leader	Robert Lupo	Dion Hayes	Robert Lupo	Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer	Tim Cox	Freddie Gadson	Ivan Villard	Taylor Reeves
Scripture Reader	Orlando Lolo	Dirk Summerlot	Jeff Leslie	Orlando Lolo
Presiding at Table	Stephen Beliech	Dan Fuller	Jimmie Banks	Philip Porter
Serving at Table	Ryan Hankins Namdidie Ikon Steward Lynch Tim Mahlbacher Robert Mariano Taylor Reeves Nahum Villard Richard Weinstein	Ed Buonadonna Addison Collins Gorman Ericksen Ed Gager Bill Ingram, Jr. Dan McLeod Chuck Reeves, Jr. Daniel Swayne	Casey Crews Connor Goodale Jeff Goodale Graysen Hayes Michael Menendez Islay Rodriguez Joseph Snyder Marty Williams	Troy Alberga Ryan Hankins Namdidie Ikon Todd Juckett Steward Lynch Tim Mahlbacher Nicholas Pietro Tyler Williams
Closing Prayer	Philip Porter	David Holaday	Eugene Williams	Richard Watson

Evening Worship Service				
Song Leader	Dion Hayes	Graysen Hayes	Dion Hayes	Stephen Beliech
Opening Prayer	Richard Watson	Paul Metzkes	Kane Campbell	Ricky Smith
Scripture Reader	Trevin Roman	Darin Summerlot	Jim Rogers	Joe Maloney
Presiding at Table	Tim Fry	David Lord	John Hoelzer	Victor Colage
Serving at Table	Troy Alberga Sylvester Jackson	David Perez Daniel Wagner	Jack Holoman Vincent Rogers	Trevin Roman Richard Weinstein
Closing Prayer	Joe Maloney	Douglas Alvarenga	Mike Archer	Tim Fry

Technical Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)				
Audio	Ricky Smith	David Brown	James Green	David Brown
Computer	Buzz Nelson	Israel Cuevas	Buzz Nelson	Ivan Villard
Video	Ed Gager	Scott Studer	Ed Gager	Scott Studer

Service Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)				
Safety	Rick Hall	Andres Fernandez	Kirk Crews	Nahum Villard
Usher	Victor Colage Tom Garrison	Mike Damron Gary Jenkins	Lance Collier John Patrick	Rick Hall Robert Mariano

Service Coordinator (Sunday Morning & Evening)				
	Rick Hall	Eugene Williams	Mike Damron	Tim Cox

Please consider this opportunity to serve as special and dress accordingly.

Sunday Morning - Meet in Grade 6-8 classroom at 9:45 AM. Sunday Evening - Meet at front of auditorium before 5:50 PM.

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

Technical, Safety and Usher assignments are for Sunday morning, evening and Wednesday.

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
December 8

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Young DiNetta; Mrs. Terietta Frazier; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mrs. Tangela Jackson; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; Mr. Jordan Marks; Mr. & Mrs. Rai & Ashley Masuda; Ms. Tiffany McIntosh; Ms. Suzette McQueen; Mr. & Mrs. Mike & Joyce Medina; Miss D.L. Moore; Mr. & Mrs. John & Andrea Phillip; Ms. Margaret Pujals; Mr. Joshua Tull; Mr. Trevor Wellington; & Ms. Breanna Wellington.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Gary & Angie Seames, Neosho, MO; and Mrs. Andrea Spradlin, Milton, FL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries
This Week

Wednesday, December 18th
Rick & Melinda Price (Ann.)

Friday, December 20th
Eugene Williams

Thursday, December 19th
Victor & Sandy Colage (Ann.)
Mary Quinn
Patricia Patterson

Saturday, December 21st
Islay Rodriguez, Sr.



A new event for PBL moms will begin in January 2025! The **Mission of Motherhood (MOM) Group Dinner & Devotional** will be on Saturday, January 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. All PBL moms of children from birth to 18 are encouraged to attend and enjoy this time of fellowship and Bible study. See Beth Fry, Misty Hayes or Traci Sproule for more details.

Those to Serve

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at **9:50 a.m.***

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at **5:50 p.m.***

Sunday Morning, December 15

Singing Gary Friedly
Lord's Supper Tim Cox
Singing
Opening Prayer Robert Mariano
Scripture Reading Richard Watson
Singing
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Taylor Reeves

Serve at Table:

Troy Alberga	Steward Lynch
Ryan Hankins	Tim Mahlbacher
Namdidie Ikon	Trevin Roman
Orlando Lolo	Tyler Williams

Sunday Evening, December 15

Singing Robert Lupo
Opening Prayer Tim Fry
Scripture Reading Phil Porter
Singing
Lord's Supper Ricky Smith
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Stephen Beliech

Serve at Table:

Todd Juckett Joe Maloney

Audio this week: James Green

Computer this week: Buzz Nelson

Video this week: Ed Gager

Wednesday Evening, December 18

Singing Jimmie Banks
Invitation Richard Watson
Family Prayer David Lord

Our Record

Attendance	Dec. 8	Nov. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	208	175
Sun. AM Worship	297	245
Sun. PM Worship	141	102
Wed. Bible Study	141	125
Contribution	\$17,938	\$17,280

2024 Weekly Budget: \$16,452

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$23,188

Service Coordinator:
Mike Damron

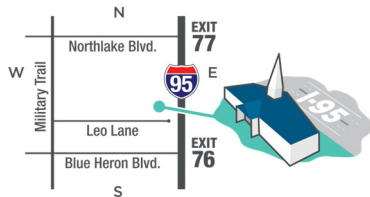
Ushers for this week: Rick Hall & Nahum Villard
Safety Team for this week: Victor Colage



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

*Speaking where the **Bible** speaks, Silent where the **Bible** is silent.*



Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 7:00 p.m.



Front Cover: **Tim & Susie Cox**

First-Century Christianity in the Twenty-First Century



Speaking where the Bible speaks



Silent where the Bible is silent



Calling Bible things by Bible names



Doing Bible things in Bible ways

CHURCH OF CHRIST

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

The Bible says...

1. Believe that Jesus is the Son of God

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

2. Repent of your sinful ways

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3. Confess your faith in Jesus

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).

4. Be immersed in water

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).

5. Commit to a lifetime of faithful service

"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).