

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.— John 1:14*

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. - Colossians 1:15*

*For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.— Colossians 2:9*

**B. Jesus Christ died on the cross as our Substitute**

*But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. - Isaiah 53:5-6*

**C. Jesus Christ rose from the dead.**

*And was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. - Romans 1:4*

*For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.—John 14:6*

**D. Jesus Christ is the only hope for salvation.**

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. - John 14:6*

*And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.— Acts 4:12*

**IV. THE GOSPEL PROCLAIMS THE CALL TO RESPOND.**

**A. Every person has a personal decision to make concerning the Gospel.**

*Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because He has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.— John 14:6*

**B. The Gospel calls for a response of faith.**

1. Biblical faith begins with knowledge.
2. Biblical faith is trust.
3. Biblical faith results in good works.

**Now What?**

- Admit to God that you are a guilty sinner, in need of forgiveness, who has no hope of earning it on your own.
- Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Forgiver of your sins and the Leader of your life.
- Continue in your profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
- Share the Good News.



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## Salvation

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” ~ John 3:16-17

# Salvation

## THERE ARE FOUR REQUIREMENTS FOR BECOMING A MEMBER OF ATHERTON BAPTIST CHURCH:

- A clear and credible profession of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation
- Submission to the Lord Jesus through water baptism
- Completion of our New Members' Class / Orientation
- Agreement with our Church Covenant

This pamphlet is an introduction to the biblical message of salvation through Jesus Christ.

*What is the gospel? The Gospel is the biblical message about what God has done to bring sinful people into right relationship with Himself through the divine Person and redemptive Work of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

The good news of Jesus Christ has four essential

### I. THE GOSPEL PROCLAIMS THE CHARACTER OF GOD.

The Gospel is primarily about God and his glory, not about man and his needs. There are three attributes of God that are central to the message of the Gospel:

#### A. God is holy.

*And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth*

*is full of his glory." - Isaiah 6:3*

*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. - 1 John 1:5*

#### B. God is just.

*Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead. - Acts 17:29-31*

#### C. God is love.

*But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved. - Ephesians 2:4-5*

### II. THE GOSPEL PROCLAIMS THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF MAN.

The spiritual condition of all human beings can be described in terms of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

#### A. The Good: Humanity is valuable to God.

*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.— Genesis 1:27*

*What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. - Psalm 8:4-5*

#### B. The Bad: Humanity is sinful.

*Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.— Psalm 51:5*

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.— Romans 3:23*

#### C. The Ugly: Humanity is spiritually helpless.

*We have all become like one who is unclean; and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.— Isaiah 64:6*

*As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; non one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." - Romans 3:10–12*

### III. THE GOSPEL PROCLAIMS THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

Christianity is Christ and Christ is God! Here are four realities about Christ that must be embraced in order to be saved:

#### A. Jesus Christ is God who became a man.

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.—John 1:1*