

7 Keys to Salvation

Bible Study August 16, 2020 4:15 pm

7 Keys 

Matthew 18



Key 1: Accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior

Matthew 18: 1-5

The **Greatest** in the Kingdom of Heaven

18 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

² He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.



Key 2: Stay humble

Jesus begins this chapter with a powerful instruction.

Humility, like children is the key to eternal life and holy living and being a Christian.

Jesus' disciples were concerned about their place in heaven-

Hierarchy and caste have been around for centuries.

Humans need to know who is in charge. This world is flawed when we constantly think about "who is the greatest" we miss out on the opportunity of a life of peace, love, freedom, and everlasting life.



Key 3: Check yourself for stumbling blocks; worry about yourself

Matthew 18: 6

Causing to Stumble

⁶“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. ⁷ Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! ⁸ If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.



Key 4: Stay Connected to other believers

Key 5: Let God do God things

Key 6: Rejoice when someone comes back to the flock

Matthew 18: 10-

The Parable of the Wandering Sheep

¹⁰ “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. ^[11] ^[a]

¹² “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. ¹⁴ In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

Matthew 18:10- Do not DESPISE those that need more attention to come back to the fellowship of believers.



Let Jesus do the work- stay humble, pray, love, and worry about your own salvations:

Philippians 2:12

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling

Matthew 18:15-19

[Key 2,4](#)

Dealing With Sin in the Church

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister^(b) sins,^(c) go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'^(d) ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ "Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be[Ⓜ] bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be[Ⓜ] loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ "Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

It is important to stay humble and love other believers when we sin. Not gossiping to others, not bringing up someone's sin as a "group prayer request", not using religion as a toll to oppress, manipulate, and control.



Key 7: Forgive one another, do not hold grudges

Matthew 18:21-

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.[Ⓦ]

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold[Ⓦ] was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.[Ⓦ] He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Matthew chapter 18: 21-35

Peter needs to know what exactly he is suppose to do to stay connected to Jesus. Peter is sold out (not perfect) for Jesus Christ. Jesus, in fact, stumbles- Peter denies Jesus (before Christ is crucified) just like the other disciples. I believe this is so significant to remember, because- Jesus told Peter he would build His church with Peter- but even Peter stumbled. So we MUST have mercy and grace and forgiveness for one another. GOD IS THE JUDGE yesterday, today, and forevermore.

This chapter provides a wonderful checklist to have eternal life and a pleasing life to God:

7 steps to staying saved:

1. Accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior
2. Stay humble
3. Check yourself for stumbling blocks (worry about yourself)
4. Stay connected to other believers
5. Let God do God things- you are not God
6. Rejoice when someone comes back to the flock
7. Forgive one another, do not hold grudges