

“A Mature Understanding of Salvation:
The Relationship Between Salvation and Serving God”

Hebrews 6: 7-12

Why did God save you?

What does salvation mean to you now?

If someone asked you how you serve God, what would be your answer?

Hebrews 6 is addressing the issue of Christians who have started to drift, doubt, become dull of hearing and lazy in their relationship with God. When this happens, assurance of salvation is lost. The believer needs to stop, examine his/her relationship with God, seek the face of God for repentance and renew fellowship with God. A Christian who does not have assurance of salvation most likely will not serve God in a meaningful way.

If you plant a seed in your garden, water it, cultivate it and protect it, what will happen?

When salvation takes root in a person's life, what should we see growing out of that person?

Confessions of faith through the years contain a statement like this: The chief end of man is know God, glorify Him and enjoy Him forever.

Read John 15: 8. What glorifies God?

What kind of fruit does God expect us to bear? Take a look at Matthew 28: 19-20.

According to John 15: 5, what is required for bearing fruit?

What is the greatest commandment according to Jesus in Matthew 22: 37?

The result of loving God is found in Matthew 22: 39?

These passages show us that bearing fruit is making disciples. Our love for God is directly bound to our love for others. Our love for others should be intentionally

connected to the goal of making disciples. Often, Christians do a lot of good works that do not result in making disciples. I'm not suggesting everyone we share the gospel of salvation with will become a disciple of Christ. I'm suggesting that if we stop short of telling the Good News of salvation, we miss the point of loving them.

A maturing disciple of Christ has a desire to bear fruit. Here are some verses to consider that will encourage you:

Matthew 28: 20

Philippians 2: 3-4

Acts 1: 8

Hebrews 6: 11

Romans 12: 1-2

1 Peter 1: 3

Philippians 2: 5-11