

Transform Fremantle

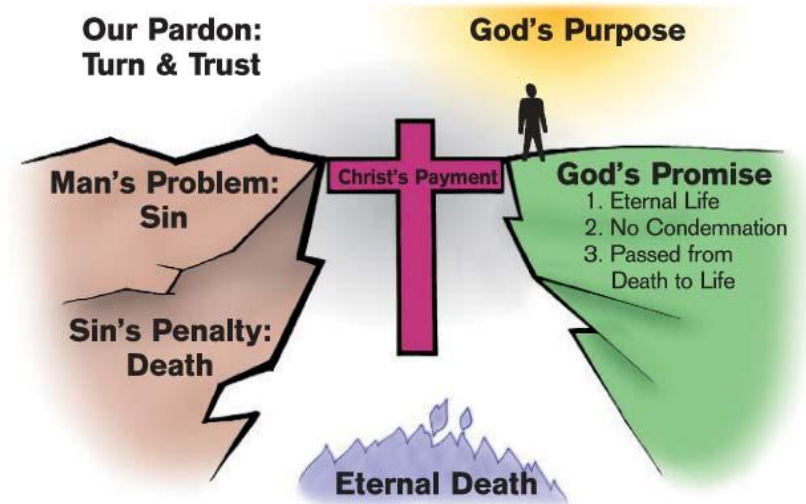
**What is salvation?
And what should I do next?**



SALVATION

What is salvation?

Salvation is the ultimate demonstration of God's love - a free gift we cannot earn. It means being rescued by God from the consequences of our sins (wrongdoing).



Do we really need salvation?

Yes. We are separated from God by our sins (*Isaiah 59:2*). We have all sinned (*Romans 3:23*). God is loving and just, and requires punishment of sin, which is death (*Romans 6:23*). Without Christ, although we are physically alive, we are spiritually dead and cannot connect with God of our own free will. We will spend eternity without Him in hell.

Receive salvation through faith in Jesus

We receive salvation through *repentance* and *faith* (*Acts 3:19*). *Repentance* means that we are genuinely sorry to God for our sins and commit to live according to His ways. *Faith* means to believe and confess that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died to bear the penalty of our sins, and rose to life again (*Romans 10:9*). When we repent and believe, we receive the Holy Spirit within us and become spiritually alive. We begin our relationship with God, and are given eternal life.

Now is the time to repent and believe

Coming to God for salvation is the single most important decision you will make in your lifetime. We encourage you to pray your own words of repentance and faith, but here is a prayer you may like to use.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your gift of salvation through the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ. I believe that Jesus was born and lived free of sin, died on the cross as a payment for my own sins, and rose to life three days later. Lord, I am sorry for my sins. I turn from my old way of life and commit to live according to your ways. Thank you for your forgiveness, mercy and love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

What happens when I sin again?

Despite our best intentions, God knows we will still sin. Remember, you are saved due to His unconditional love not your ability to be good. When you sin, confess it to God and He will forgive you (*1 John 1:9*). If guilty feelings continue, they are not from God. Reject them. You are forgiven.

BE BAPTISED

What is water baptism?

Water baptism involves being completely submerged into water and then lifted out of the water again. It is an outward act that reflects a believer's inward spiritual experience. It reflects that the believer identifies with Jesus' death, burial and resurrection for the salvation of our sins (*Colossians 2:12-13*).

By being submerged in water, we are identifying with Jesus' death on the cross and his burial. It symbolises the death and burial of our old sinful nature.

By being raised out of the water, we are identifying with Jesus' resurrection into the newness of life. It symbolises that we are a new creation in Jesus. Our sins have been washed away and we are spiritually alive.

Why is water baptism important?

We are instructed in the Bible to be baptised (*Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 2:38*).

Is water baptism a requirement for salvation?

No. We are saved when Jesus leads us to repent and believe in Him. Water baptism is an act of obedience that reflects our salvation.

Who should be water baptised?

Water baptism is for all who repent and believe. All who have come to faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

When should we be baptised?

The best time to be baptised is as soon as we come to personal faith in Jesus as our Saviour. The Bible indicates that we can be baptised as soon as we believe (*Acts 8:36-38*), even on the same day (*Acts 2:41*), or the very same hour (*Acts 16:33*)!



Crucified
with Him



Buried
with Him



Raised
with Him

READ THE BIBLE

There is no book more loved, more popular, or more powerful than the Bible.

What is the Bible?

The Bible is a collection of 66 books written over a span of approximately 1,500 years by about 40 different authors. But it is more than a collection of books – it is the inspired words of God to us. It is our manual to knowing God and how He calls us to live.

Is the Bible trustworthy?

Yes, the Bible is trustworthy because of its:

1. Historical accuracy. It records historical events from the beginning of time and is widely recognised and verified by historians and archaeological findings.
2. Prophetic accuracy. About one-quarter of the Bible is prophecy (predications of the future), of which about half has been fulfilled. The rest is yet to come.
3. Internal consistency. Most books of the Bible were written by independent authors, but they confirm and support each other without contradiction. It has many authors but one story.
4. Ability to transform our lives. Research has shown that those who live by what the Bibles says experience significant reduction in loneliness, anger, bitterness, dependence on drugs/alcohol, and anti-social behaviour. It contains wisdom about all the things that give our life meaning.

Reasons to read the Bible

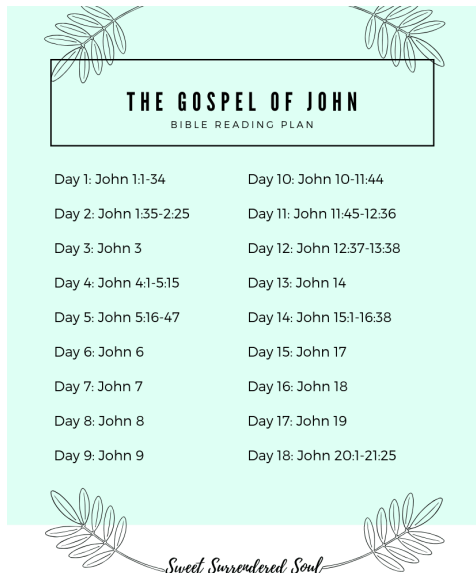
By reading the Bible we learn:

1. Who God is - His character.
2. How much He loves us.
3. How He cares for and relates to us.
4. How we can have a personal relationship with Him.
5. How He wants us to live our lives.
6. How to pray.
7. How to trust Him.
8. The answers for life's questions, big and small.

How to read the Bible

Reading the Bible front-to-back is not necessarily the best way, as it is a collection of books with different types of writings. Straight reading can be intimidating or confusing.

We suggest starting with the New Testament gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). You may like to find a reading plan or Bible study that focuses on themes that you are curious about. It is good to focus on short manageable sections.



PRAY

Prayer is simply talking with God. The exact words we use doesn't really matter. It is our heart attitude towards Him that matters (*Matthew 6:5-8*). He loves us and wants to have a relationship with us through prayer.

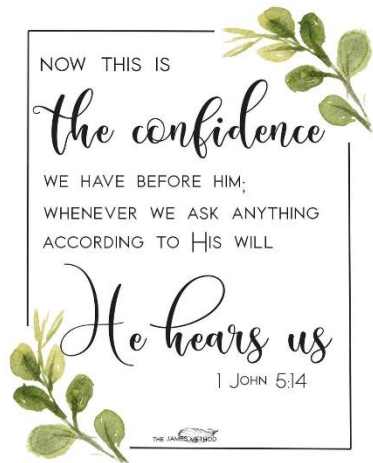
Pour out your heart to Him

Surrender (hand over control) to Him everything that causes you worry or anxiety, and He will fill you with a peace that is beyond understanding (*Philippians 4:6-7*).

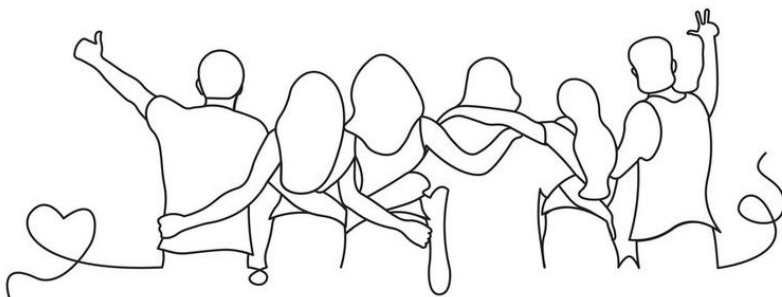
How to start?

If you don't know how to start praying, you can consider:

- **Praise** – Express your admiration of God to Him
- **Sorry** – Confess anything you have done wrong
- **Please** – Bring Him all your concerns and ask for help
- **Thank you** – Express your gratitude for all He has done and will do
- **Listen** – Stop and listen to His voice. Prayer is a two-way conversation
- **Love** – Let Him fill you with His love. Ask Him for it: “Lord, help me experience your love for me.”



JOIN A BIBLE-BELIEVING CHURCH



Fellowship with other believers is essential for our spiritual growth, to help us strengthen relationships, fulfill our God-given purposes and where we can care for and encourage others.

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another (Hebrews 10:24-25)

There are many different churches with many different styles of worship. Find one where you feel loved and inspired. Make sure it is a church that sincerely believes and teaches the message of salvation, the Bible as the word of God, and is energetic and alive in its desire to love God, love one another, and see others come to know Jesus.

BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Bible commands us to “be filled with the Holy Spirit” (*Ephesians 5:18*). What does this mean?

Experiences with the Holy Spirit

At salvation, we receive the Holy Spirit within us. We are born again and the Holy Spirit makes everything new in us (*2 Corinthians 5:17*). But there is a separate filling of the Holy Spirit that gives us power for ministry.

Are we filled with the Holy Spirit at salvation or water baptism?

We can be filled with the Holy Spirit at salvation or at water baptism, but not necessarily. Generally they are separate experiences.

Examples from the Bible

The apostles were first filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (*Acts 2:1-4*).

The people of Samaria received the Holy Spirit at salvation through the ministry of Philip (*Acts 8:5-6*) and were later filled with the Holy Spirit through the ministry of Peter and John (*Acts 8:14-17*).

Similarly, the people of Ephesus received the Holy Spirit at salvation and were subsequently filled with the Holy Spirit through the ministry of Paul (*Acts 19:1-6*).

Why be filled with the Holy Spirit?

It is the filling of the Holy Spirit that gives us the power for ministry. Jesus told His followers to wait in Jerusalem until they received power from on high (*Luke 24:49*). When they received that power at Pentecost, Peter (who had previously denied Jesus three times) had the boldness to preach His first message and 3,000 people came to salvation (*Acts 2:41*).

What happens when we are filled with the Holy Spirit?

After being filled with the Holy Spirit, we experience a significant step up in our walk with God, our ability to hear from Him, to pray, to talk about Him and minister to others. Some people start to speak in tongues (which is God speaking to or through us in another language) and/or prophecy (which is God speaking to or through us in our language) (*Acts 19:6*).

How to be filled with the Holy Spirit

We are filled with the Holy Spirit when we long for it and give up control to Him. You can simply ask God to come and fill you with His Holy Spirit (*John 7:37-39*). Or you can ask a Spirit-filled believer to lay hands on you and pray for you to be filled (*Acts 8:17*). We should then continually ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit.



ABOUT US

Transform Fremantle is a group of Christians from different churches who are praying for the transformation of the City of Fremantle.

Transform Fremantle Vision:

That Fremantle be a peaceful city where multitudes find Jesus, transform their lives, and go on to serve Christ.

Transform Fremantle Statement of Faith: We share the core beliefs of the Bible as outlined in the Apostles Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; He descended to hell, and on the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

For more information – Especially when and where we are meeting to pray: transformfreo.com,
Insta: @transformfreo

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