

Celebration - Soccer Camps [PICTURE](#) – VBS - [Provide High Impact opportunities of biblical expression](#)
[We plant – We water – God brings the growth](#) | [Summer opportunities to plant & water...Trust God](#)

‘Standing Orders’ - Definition: [An Order or Ruling that is Retained Irrespective of Changing Conditions](#)

[SBI - Fixed Responses in Fluid Environments](#) | [Bridge Footings & Cofferdam](#) | Titus 3:3-7

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Context – Last week...clear directions – Responses to the Gospel (LOOK BACK) – Practiced at all time

- As the culture continues split the seams of our moral fabric...gap = wider and feel like losing
- Paul reminds A. Not surprised...we were tearing fabric | B. Do Not Lose Hope – Victory

[March = Russian...Surrendering – Sabotaging – Not Fighting or Following Orders = Lose](#) | [So do we](#)

[Big Idea – We Follow Standing Orders Because God Assures Victory](#)

[Fall in line – Follow Orders – Because God assures a victory – Three Truths of God’s Victory](#)

1. [Recued us When We Were Lost \(3\)](#)

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

Paul transitions ‘Reminders of Christian Behaviors’ ⇒ ‘Reminding them of their previous state’

- ‘For we ourselves were once...’ **LIST of things** – Unregenerate...we were that...RESCUED FROM IT
[Remember our former condition](#) – Really?!?! Was I that bad? [COLLEGE](#) | [MORAL VS. REDEEMED](#)
- ‘Once’ – Oh...once isn’t too bad | [I just hope you don’t know about that one](#)
 - Imperfect Tense = Over and over again... | [Just glad there wasn’t a camera everywhere](#)

[List of vices that characterize the unsaved...we once had](#)

- [‘Foolish’ – Muffled minds...Psalm 14:1 – Fool Says... | Takes the evidence and mutes it](#)
 - [‘Disobedient’ – Hardened Hearts](#) – Disobedient the authority of God | [I’m my own God](#)
 - [‘Led Astray or Deceived’ – Seared Conscience](#) – Cruellest Satan = Deception | [Genesis 3 Right – Wrong | Awake – Asleep | Free – Slave | Cool – Hot | Alive – Dead](#)
- ‘wandering’ – wrong path – One Lie...no Judgment | [ROB. FROST](#) | [MATT. 7 – Gate narrow | Road](#)
 - d) [‘Slaves to Various Passions and Pleasures, Depraved desires](#)
 - Various – many kinds = [Made a list...Bible would be a lot longer](#) - Satisfaction in Sin = Hedonism
[Misuse of the good things God provides or the use of things that are intrinsically evil | Influence](#)
 - e) [‘Passing our days in malice and envy, Hated by others and hating one another’ – Wicked Will](#)
 - [‘Passing our Days’](#) – Pass through time...spending our time in | Malice – Envy – Hate
 - [‘Malice’](#) = vicious character | Depravity | Vice or Baseness | Spitefulness
 - [‘Envy’ = Hunger](#) | Cannot be satisfied...will always crave more | [Self-defeating](#)

[Hatred...Often has no rational reason – Hatred spreads like a virus...anti-god...unchristian](#)

[STEP BACK AND LOOK - Are we not benefactors of infinite mercy? | RESCUED WHEN WE WERE LOST!](#)

- [If other people are foolish, we ought to bear with them](#) | Evangelism Plea...
[We cannot help but being dismayed when we see evil flourishing...but not be surprised](#)
Our past should be a powerful motive for gentleness and consideration towards the unsaved
[‘No man here has any idea of how bad he really is. You do not know how good the grace of God can make you, nor how bad you are by nature, nor how bad you might become if that nature were left to itself’ – Spurgeon](#)

[There should be moral difference – Moral difference isn’t the issue - Cross is what makes difference](#)

[We Follow Standing Orders - God Has Assured Victory by Rescuing Us When We Were Lost...How?](#)

2. [Renews Us by His Spirit \(4-6\)](#)

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior

[This section could be mined forever and plunder all its Truth – Beauty of the Bible](#)

- [‘But when’](#) – Breaks dismal picture of our hopelessness in the preceding section | [Light](#)
 - [Nick of time conjunctions – Big ‘But’s’ in the Bible – God’s roadblocks on man’s way to hell](#)

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, Saved US - God’s Love: Unparalleled | Uncompromising | Unfathomable | Oxymor = Simply Profound

- Basic & Beautiful Truth = God loves us. His goodness & love have made an appearance - **JC**
- [‘kindness’](#) – God’s beneficial provision that meets the need of sinful people
 - Tender concern of God, providing for the helpless - hapless couldn’t provide for themselves
[Not an apathetic response to sin, but a deliberate act to bring the sinner back...He saved us!](#)
*****HOW EXTRADORNARY – THIS TEXT COMES RIGHT AFTER HORRIFIC DESCRIPTORS*** - JOKE**

[Saved Us = Jesus Christ - Salvation – Deliverance – Rescue...REGENERATES & RENEWS US – Changes Us](#)

- [How does that happen?](#) First how it didn’t happen...
⁵[not because of works done by us in righteousness](#) – Not Earned – [but according to his own mercy by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, Not cleaning up your old nature...it’s by receiving your new nature!](#)
 - Regeneration – Born Again – Born Once into Sin...and then Born Again into Salvation | [TIME](#)
- [Baptism of the Holy Spirit - Washing of...regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit = New Birth](#)
- Places believers into right standing with God and union with other believers...**at conversion**

[BHS - Not second spiritual experience accompanied by signs | Apostolic Age](#)

The apostolic age is the initial formation, growth, and development stage of the early church.

It is directly tied to the leadership of the twelve apostles.

The apostolic age was characterized by great signs that validated the message of the apostles

The apostolic age began at Pentecost...replicated...& closed with the death of the Apostle John – ACTS

[Saved, we were cleansed of our sin, the decay and filth that is produced by spiritual deadness](#)

⁶[whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior](#)

[‘God our Savior’](#) – You can pronounce Him as your savior | [Endearing plea...NEW LIFE](#)

[We Follow Standing Orders - God Has Assured Victory by Renewing Us by His Spirit](#)

3. [Reveals Our Eternal Inheritance \(7\)](#)

[so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.](#)

[We cannot help but being dismayed when we see evil flourishing...not be surprised...not lose hope](#)

- [‘Justified by His grace’](#) – synonym for salvation
- [‘Heirs’](#) – Obtains a lot or portion | Benefactor | Legal transmission of property after death
[Grandfather dies leaves you in will | Jesus dies and he has left us an inheritance](#)

[Jesus ⇒ way...Holy Spirit ⇒ down payment...Place ⇒ Father dwells unapproachable light = Heaven \(1 Peter 1:4\) to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you](#)

[Imperishable | Undefiled | Unfading | Preserved...protected...kept](#)

[So look out a window. Take a walk. Talk with your friend. Use your God-given skills to paint or draw or build a shed or write a book. But imagine it – all of it – in its original condition. The happy dog with the wagging tail, not the snarling beast, beaten and starved. The flowers unwilted, the grass undying, the blue sky without pollution. People smiling and joyful, not angry, depressed, and empty. If you’re not in a particularly beautiful place, close your eyes and envision the most beautiful place you’ve ever been – complete with palm trees, raging rivers, jagged mountains, waterfalls, or snow drifts.](#)

[Think of friends or family members who loved Jesus and are with him now. Picture them with you, walking together in this place. All of you have powerful bodies, stronger than those of an Olympic decathlete. You are laughing, playing, talking and reminiscing. You reach up to a tree to pick an apple or orange. You take a bite. It’s so sweet that it’s startling. You’ve never tasted anything so good. Now you see someone coming towards you. It’s Jesus, with a big smile on his face. You fall to your knees in worship. He pulls you up and embraces you.](#)

[At last, you’re with the person you were made for, in the place you were made to be. Everywhere you go there will be new people and places to enjoy, new things to discover. What’s that you smell? A feast. And you’re invited. There’s exploration and work to be done – and you can’t wait to get started.](#)

- [‘Hope of eternal life’](#) – Expectation of good - Existing all times, perpetual & unlimited duration of time.
[This is how Paul ties our works as behaviors that flow from the gospel](#)
[Not Russian soldiers surrendering – We continue to fight...follow orders...because God assures victory](#)