

Growth Track 3 — Foundations

Phone-Friendly Handout

In a world full of voices, our starting point is simple: Jesus has the words of eternal life.

This lesson is about discovering truth in Scripture and understanding the New Testament pattern of salvation.

Key Scriptures

- John 6:68 — “Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.”
- Jeremiah 29:13 — “Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”

1. Why the Bible Matters

- The Bible is trustworthy, unified, and centered on God’s plan to redeem humanity through Jesus Christ.
- It contains 66 books, written by more than 40 authors over roughly 1,600 years, across 3 continents and 3 languages.
- This is why we do not build our lives on trends, opinions, or religious noise. We build on the Word of God.

2. What Is the Gospel?

The gospel means good news, and the Bible defines it clearly in 1 Corinthians 15:1–4.

Gospel	The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
Power	The gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16)
Message	What Jesus did
Response	How we obey what Jesus did

Salvation is not just knowing the facts of the gospel. Salvation is the gospel applied to your life.

3. The Apostolic Response — Acts 2:38

When the people asked, “What shall we do?” Peter gave a clear answer in Acts 2:38:

Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 2:38 gives the New Testament response to the gospel:

1. Repentance
2. Water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins
3. Receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost

4. How the Gospel Is Applied

Jesus	My Response	Meaning
Died	Repent	I die to my old life
Was buried	Be baptized	I am buried with Him in water baptism
Rose again	Receive the Holy Ghost	I receive resurrection life and power

5. Three Essential Responses

Repentance — Dying to the Old Life

- Repentance is more than emotion. It is a change of mind that produces a change of direction.
- It means turning from sin, self-rule, and resistance to God.
- Repentance is where pride breaks and surrender begins.

Water Baptism — Being Buried with Christ

- In the New Testament, baptism is directly connected to salvation.
- It is done by immersion because burial is not sprinkling—it is putting the old life in the grave.
- Baptism in Jesus' name declares His authority, His covenant, and His saving work over your life.

The Holy Ghost — Resurrection Life

- The Holy Ghost is not just emotion or church membership. It is God's Spirit dwelling in the believer.
- The book of Acts presents this as a real experience, not a mere symbol.
- This promise is for all whom the Lord calls.

6. Putting It Together

- The gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Salvation is the application of that gospel to your life.
- Acts 2:38 gives the apostolic response: repentance, baptism in Jesus' name, and receiving the Holy Ghost.
- This is New Testament salvation—not built on opinion, but on what the apostles preached when the Church began.

7. Personal Reflection

- Have I responded to Jesus with full obedience, or only partial agreement?
- Have I truly repented, or only felt sorry?
- Have I been baptized biblically in the name of Jesus Christ?
- Have I received the gift of the Holy Ghost?
- What step of obedience is God calling me to take now?

8. Next Step

The goal of this lesson is not to win an argument. The goal is to obey Jesus. If you are ready to take a step, our church is here to help you respond in faith, not pressure you, not embarrass you—help you.

Acts 2:38 is not a barrier. It is a doorway.