



The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



P.O. Box 429 • 2070 Old Highway 27 • Trion, GA 30753 • 706.734.2722 • pleasantgrovecoc.org

Jesus Saves! Jesus Saves!

David Sproule

In 1882, Priscilla J. Owens penned these opening words of a familiar hymn: "We have heard the joyful sound: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!" What could be a more "joyful sound" than that? In fact, if you were looking for a simple two-word summary of the whole Bible, you could not find one better than "Jesus saves!" Let us think about this exciting subject!

Jesus saves by the grace of God! The Scripture plainly teaches, "For by grace have you been saved..." (Eph. 2:8). Salvation is not something that we deserve or can earn—it is "the gift of [the grace of] God." What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves by His own blood! "Through His blood" we can have "the forgiveness of sins" (Eph. 1:7), for "without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" (Heb. 9:22). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves those who obey Him! We must be "doers of the word" (Jas. 1:22), who do "the will" of the Father and "obey" Christ, that we might "enter" into "eternal salvation" (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:9). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves those who believe in Him! We must "believe...that God raised Him from the dead" (Rom. 10:9) and that He is "the Son of God" (John 20:31), in order to be saved from our sins (John 8:24). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves those who repent of their sins! Sin violates God's will (1 John 3:4) and separates us from God (Isa. 59:2). One must turn from those sins

in order to have them blotted out (Acts 2:38; 3:19). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves those who confess their faith in Him! We can only be "saved" if we will, "before men" (Matt. 10:32), "confess with [our] mouth the Lord Jesus" (Rom. 10:9). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves those who are immersed into Him! Just as essential as all of the previous acts of obedience, "baptism now saves us" (1 Pet. 3:21). Only then will the blood of Jesus "wash away your sins" (Acts 22:16), when we "believe" (Mark 16:16), "repent" and are "baptized for the forgiveness of sins" (Acts 2:38). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

Jesus saves those who serve Him faithfully! Once Jesus cleanses us of our past, we are "enlisted" by Him as "a soldier of Jesus Christ," and it is our responsibility to "please" him (2 Tim. 2:3-4). That involves a lifetime of "faithful" living (Rev. 2:10) and active service in His church (1 Cor. 15:58; Matt. 25:23). What a joyful sound: Jesus saves!

The last line of that beloved hymn shouts, "This our song of victory: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!" God "gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:57). Only those who comply with His will shall have eternal salvation!

September 21, 2025

If You Love Me

Sunday Morning
Opening Prayer Dan Logan
Closing Prayer Charles Logan

Scripture Reading Tim Hester

Sunday Evening
Opening Prayer Jordan Glaze
Closing Prayer Bo Eubanks

Remember in prayer:

Ron Erwin had surgery last week; he will have follow up surgery later.

Amanda Fletcher will have radiation treatments followed by oral chemotherapy.

Luke Keller, Jill Spears, Peggy Coppock, Suzanne Reaves' mother.
Wendy Booker, Joan Henry (Sally's sister), Larry Jones, Norene O'Kelly, Heidi Street, Don Duncan, Randall Glaze, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Stefan Hoglund.

Oak View Nursing Home: Betty Floyd.

Brothers Keepers Group Two will meet tonight.

Group Three will meet next Sunday night.

Please make plans to join us next Sunday, September 28th, at Oak View Nursing Home for our singing at 3:00 pm.

Record for the week of September 14, 2025

10 am	11 am	5 pm	Wed	Contribution
85	78	72	68	\$3821.22

A man by the name of Jimmy Brown told a story about the first girl who ever caught his eye. He was seven years old, in 2nd grade, and her name was Sherri. She was the cutest girl he had ever seen with little pigtails, a beautiful dress with a big teddy bear on it, and the prettiest smile, even with a middle tooth missing. Best of all, she could jump off of the swing further than anyone.

One day Sherri passed down a note which read, "Do you love me?" Jimmy didn't even know what love was, but he knew girls like being told these things, so he checked "yes" and passed it back. At recess she ran up to him with a big smile on her face and said, "Say it." "Say what?" Jimmy asked. "Say you love me," Sherri replied. While it was a little embarrassing, he went ahead and said, "I love you."

The next day Sherri came up to Jimmy and said, "Do you really love me?" "Yes," he replied. Unconvinced, Sherri asked, "Do you mean it? Because a lot of boys tell me they love me, but some of them don't mean it." Jimmy went ahead reassured her that his love was true. The next day though, Sherri came back again, "If you love me and you mean it, then why don't you show it?" Jimmy was now beginning to realize this "love" stuff was tricky. So, Jimmy decided to stop pulling her pigtails, spent the day with her at recess, sat with her at free time, and even gave her his special GI Joe eraser. From this point on, Jimmy learned some important lessons about love.

What a sweet story. In this life, the words "I love you" are common and often used flippantly. Jimmy Brown quickly learned that just saying the words were not enough. We even say them to the Lord, but do our words match our actions? Jesus said very bluntly in John 14:15, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." Our love for God must be displayed through our obedience. As Mark 12:30 puts it, we must love God with all of our "heart, soul, mind, and strength."

Do we love God? If so, our action must match.

Elders:

Steve Fletcher, Hugh Glaze, Dan Logan, Tim York
Deacons: Justin Glaze, Carter Logan, Adam Morgan, Jerry Reaves

Minister: Hugh Glaze

Song Leader: Adam Morgan