

3) Salvation: How Do We Live It?

We cannot understand God in order to make the right choices (obey Him) unless we:

- ◆ Receive His Spirit (be saved) - (1 Corinthians 2:14)
- ◆ Study and understand His Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- ◆ Correct our thinking: (see the lesson on “the battle field of the mind”)
 - ▷ Identify our wrong thinking (prayer, introspection - looking within ourselves, the counsel of wise believers and Scripture) (Matthew 22:29)
 - ▷ Learn and understand truth (study God’s Word) (Psalm 119:11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
 - ▷ Develop habits (practice godly behavior) that lead to Christ-like character. (1 John 3:7-10; Romans 5:3-5)

Obedience:

- A foundational truth: We cannot live the life of Christ unless we have the Spirit of Christ that gives us the Power to live the Christian life! We cannot do it on our power or means (which often leads to resentment or burnout) - (Romans 8:5-17)
- Our actions are based on what we believe to be true (see Jonah 3:1-10 as an example).
- What is the source of all truth? (John 14:6; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- We must therefor train our thought life (Philippians 4:8).

Because:

- ▷ Feelings are a **poor** guide for doing what is right. (an example in Ephesians 4:26-27)
- ▷ Feelings often follow, not precede, doing what is right. (John 15:10-11 - joy follows obedience)
- ▷ We must therefor feed the spirit and starve the demons (see the separate study on this).