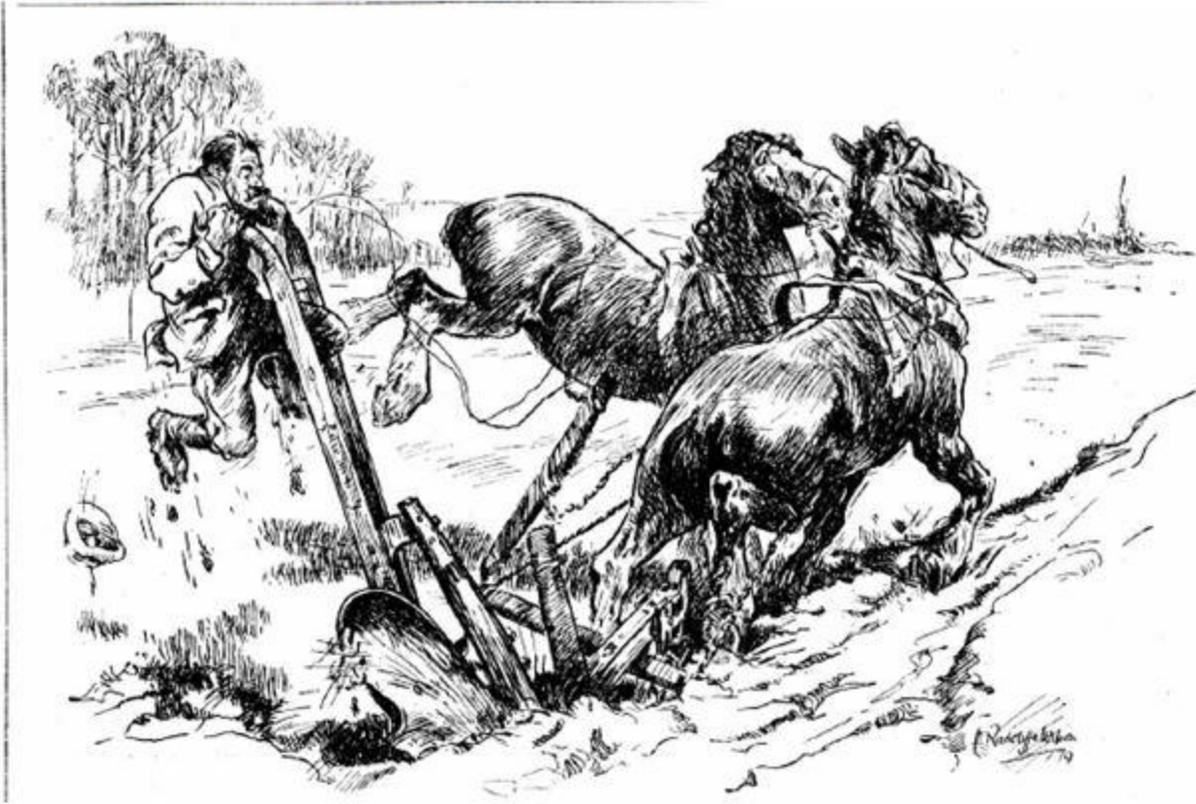


SHOR' NUFF



MESSAGES OF ASSURANCE

SHOR' Nuff Series:

- Adoption Papers = Inheritance
- I got "Saved" but then I Sinned: Now What?
- Because He said so!
- Actions Speak Louder than Words

Teen Wranglers: Ages 7th-12th Grades

Includes: Overview of Series/ Four Lessons/Worksheets



SHOR' Nuff Series:

Lesson One:

Adoption Papers = Inheritance

References: Romans 8:17a; Luke 12:23-32; Galatians 4: 1-7; Hebrews 1:14

To the Teachers/Preachers:

The Bible is the final authority. Therefore, a great deal of scripture is referenced in the lesson. Take the time to read the scripture to this age group, pausing along the way and further explaining the context. We cannot add any "stories" or "references" that would have any more power than the Word of God.

Chosen Ones:

Animal lovers use the term "adoption" to signify bringing a critter into the "family." Perhaps your family has adopted a pet from a shelter, for example. This sometimes entails simply paying a fee for their vaccinations.

Or perhaps your pet was purchased from a breeder and you might pay more for the pet because you are paying for the pedigree, which tells what the blood line of the animal consists of. For example, is your pup a full breed blue heeler or perhaps descends from an award winning lineage?

A pedigree would include the names of your animal's bloodline, his ancestors. This is especially important if there are "winners" and "champions" in the animal's heritage.

Horses' are commonly named with long elaborate names that you would never call them by. The names are sometimes a combination of the names of several of the ancestors, or the bloodline, of the animal so that you know what attributes are genetically attributed to your horse from his biological parents.

However, when people are adopted it's different altogether. Oh to be sure, money is involved as it costs money to file the legal papers and pay for court proceedings to legally adopt a child into a family. And the cost of raising a child, once adopted into the family, is expensive.

One thing for sure though, no one is checking for a pedigree or a blood line when they adopt a child.

Genetics don't matter all that much to people that want to be a parent to a child. Asian born children are commonly adopted by Caucasian Western families for example. One thing is for sure, the parents made a choice to adopt; therefore, it is a very special thing to be adopted.

Most of us know someone that is adopted. Someone that was not born naturally to both parents in the family is sometimes adopted to be part of the family legally by both parents in a household. Sometimes single people will adopt a child as well.

But one thing is common in most of all adoptions of people; that is, the adopted child gets the family name and the family inheritance in the same manner as the biological children.

It is the privileged individual that can say: I was chosen to be part of the family.

Heirs:

Hebrews 1:14

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

This scripture is referring to angels when speaking of “ministering spirits.” The Bible says that angels are sent to take care of those that are going to Heaven, that is, to take care of the born-again, saved, blood bought children of God. These are the “heirs of salvation.”

So if the Bible designates “heirs of salvation” there must also be an understanding that there is a different group out there as well: Those that are NOT “heirs of salvation.”

We can be very thankful that God made this clear in scripture. In fact He spends a great deal of the scriptures explaining to us that we, as born-again people, are about to receive an inheritance.

Romans 8:17a And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...

Luke 12:23-32 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

*32 **Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.***

What an encouraging portion of scripture! God takes care of the birds, the flowers, and just why would He not take care of you? What a comparison!

Someday when we as parents pass this life, then our children will get an inheritance if there is any money or property left without debts.

You may have had a relative pass away, like a grandparent, and perhaps your parent inherited a horse, or a car, or some money that was “left” to your parent. This is not unusual.

But it would be unusual for your grandparent to have “left” his goods or possessions to a stranger instead of to his/her child that is, to your parents, for example.

Truly, families from time to time have their “differences” of opinions; and sometimes they might even not spend a lot of time together because of these disagreements. But at the end of the road, one thing cannot change: Family is still your family. If you are born into a family or if you are adopted into a family, you are a member of that family and even if you choose not to spend time with them or even acknowledge [admit] you are kin, that will not change the fact, you are still family.

God uses the family experience to illustrate the relationship with Him.

Galatians 4: 1-7** Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. **And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

The question becomes: Are you in His Family?

Blessed Assurance

Read carefully [or listen carefully] to this next scripture passage. First of all, please notice WHO Peter is talking to: He is talking to those people that are already born-again, the ELECT [vs 2] to those already saved.

***1 Peter 1:1-5** Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,*

***2 Elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

There you have it.

If you are in the Family of God, you are **IN** the Family of God.

Now the thing is, not everyone is in the Family of God. This is where people get all mixed up! This is where people get confused.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his...

So are you in the Family of God? Or are you still in need of your adoption? This adoption was bought and paid for; the difference is YOU have the choice on whether or not to be adopted into the Family.

Have you made that choice yet?

Present Salvation Here.

Additional Optional Activity or Illustration to follow message:

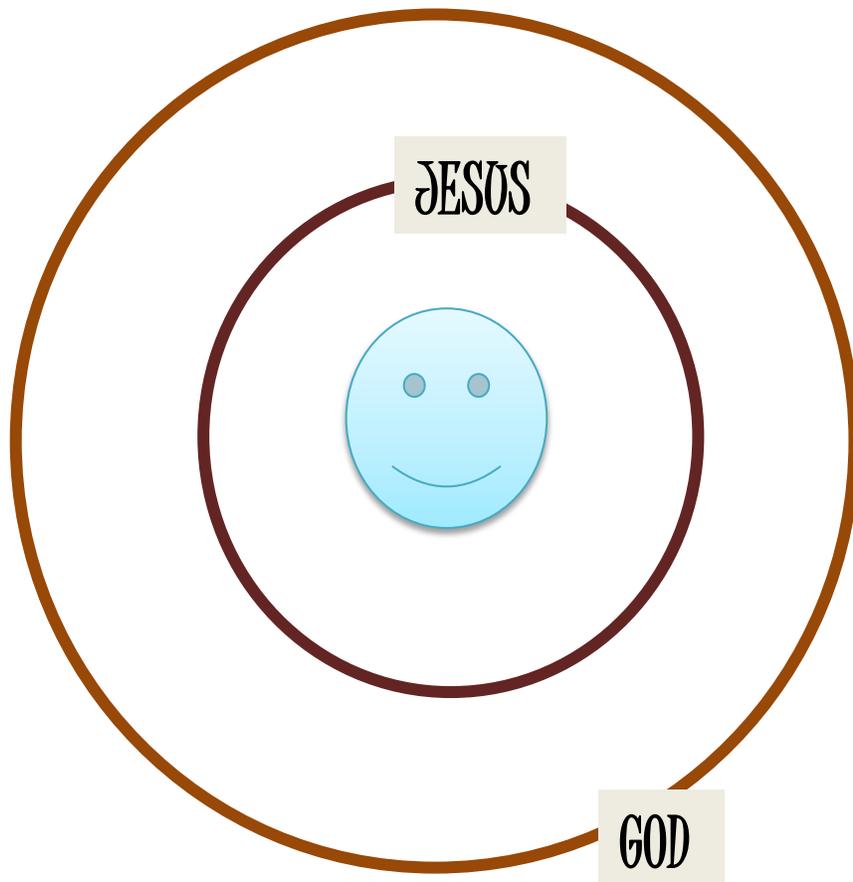
- Draw a stick figure picture of a person or a smiley face in the center of a white board.
- Read *John 10:28-29 (KJV)*

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

- Then draw a circle around figure. Read again verse 28 and explain. Once you are saved/ born-again you have eternal life and can never perish. Then Jesus went on to say that you are **IN HIS HAND**. You don't have a grip on Him, but rather **He** has a grip on YOU.
- Now write on that circle "JESUS."

- Draw a second circle that encircles the first circle. Read verse 29 again. Explain that not only are you in Jesus Hand, but Jesus said that you are in God's Hand as well.
- Now write on the larger circle "God."



- Read the Scripture again. What a profound thing! You are in both the Hand of Jesus and in the Hand of God when you have been given eternal life!
- Satan would have to go through both to gain your soul and he is not able to do that!



SHOR' Nuff Series:

Lesson Two:

I got Saved, but then I sinned.

NOW WHAT!!!!!!!

References: Romans 7:18; Romans 8: 38-39; Romans 8:16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 2:1; Jude 24

To the Teachers/Preachers:

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Old Nature Hangs Around:

We often talk about "animal instinct." When a skunk sprays out of fear, it's a defense mechanism. He hardly contemplates whether or not to spray. It's more of a reflex. He gets nervous, he sprays. It's his nature. Animal instinct can result in survival for example. When Fall is in full swing you see squirrels scrambling to pack away the nuts for the winter. It's his nature.

We, too have a nature. But the one we are discussing today gets us into trouble. It's called a "sin nature."

We have all experienced a visit from the "sin nature." How often have you seen a younger sibling immediately lie to cover up for something they have done wrong? It is usually very obvious to those older and more experienced to catch onto the lie as soon as it is told.

However, as we get older, we also get more experienced at the story telling. This immediate response is brought on by our natural instinct to avoid consequences of the sin nature. The sin nature can get us into a lot of problems.

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Before you are saved or born-again all you have to rely on is the OLD NATURE.

New Nature Added in at Salvation

But good news; when you accept Jesus as Savior, a new nature is available!

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Ephesians 4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

It's wonderful that as a born-again person we receive a new nature.

Now What?

But what happens when we sin again? What happens when we "mess up"? What happens when we fall short of the high mark God sets?

Scripture answers that question itself.

Romans 8:38-39 (KJV) For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jude 1:24 (KJV) Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

1 John 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Note that in 1 John 2:1 that John is talking directly to the people that are already born-again/saved because he addresses them as his children.

But does this Wonderful Eternal Life Belong to you?

Present Salvation Here

To the Teachers/Preachers:

Take your remaining time to work through the following attached worksheet titled: **I got Saved, but then I sinned. NOW WHAT !!!!**. Whatever is not finished; send it home and suggest they bring it back finished and you can discuss any points you choose.

I got Saved, but then I sinned. NOW WHAT !!!!!

Read the Bible.

Fill in the Blanks & See what God has to Say.

Proof of His Keeping Power; Because He says so

He does the Keeping.

1. John 10:28 " And I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man _____ them out of my hand."

The Holy Spirit lives inside and we are adopted into the family.

2. Romans 8: 15-16 "The Spirit itself beareth _____ with our spirit that we are the children of God."

As His children, we get the inheritance.

3. Luke 12: 23-32 " Fear not, little flock, for it is the Father's good pleasure to _____ you the kingdom."

You are Born into God's Family when you are BORN AGAIN.

Evidence/Indications/Visible results of Salvation

You will not be ashamed of Jesus.

1. Romans 1:16 "For I am not _____ of the Gospel of Christ..."

A born again person desires to serve and follow.

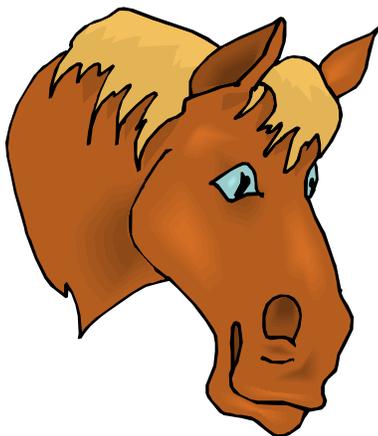
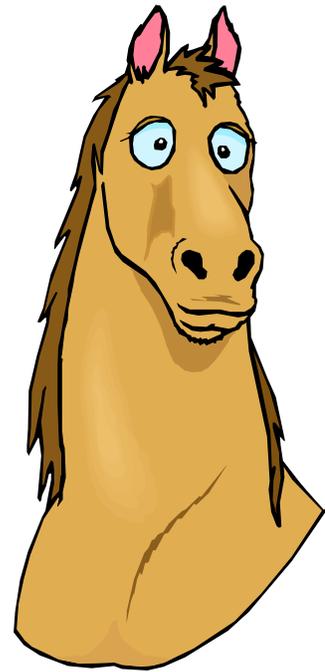
2. John 12:26 " If any man _____ me, let him _____ me, and where I am there shall also my servant be; if any man serve me, him will my Father honor."

Born again people have the power to be over comers & can resist speaking & acting like the world.

3. I John 4: 4-5 "Ye are of God, little children, and have _____ them; because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

Born again people are concerned about others.

4. I John 3:14 "we know that we have passed from death unto life because _____"





MESSAGES OF ASSURANCE

SHOR' Nuff Series:

Lesson Three:

Because God said So

References: 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 2:25; 1 Peter 3:12; 2 Peter 1:10; 1 John 5: 12-13; 1 John 4:15; John 1:12; 1 John 3:2; Jude 1; Jude 24; Luke 12:32; Luke 12: 6-8

To the Teachers/Preachers:

The Bible is the final authority. Therefore, a great deal of scripture is referenced in the lesson. Take the time to read the scripture to this age group, pausing along the way and further explaining the context. We cannot add any "stories" or "references" that would have any more power than the Word of God.

For this lesson make a large poster or write on a white board that you can cover and reveal when needed these words: GOD SAYS SO!

Have the students practice loudly stating these words each time you raise up the poster board or reveal the words on your white board. Practice a few times before you start the lesson. Throughout this lesson you will see the statement GOD SAYS SO!

Introduction:

2 Peter 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

1 John 2:25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

God in his Word, promises eternal life to HIS children: not to those who reject Him.

1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

2 Peter 1:10a Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure:

It is obvious that in many places in His Word that:" GOD SAYS SO" when He assures us of salvation.

Let's look at some of the "GOD SAYS SO" verses. While we look at these verses I will need audience participation.

GOD SAYS SO!!!!

1 John 5: 12-13 "He that hath the Son hath life..." "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life..."

Who says that you may know that you have eternal life?

GOD SAYS SO!

1 John 4:15 "Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him..."

Who says that God dwelleth in you if you confess Jesus?

GOD SAYS SO!

John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God."

Who says that if you received Him, He will give you power to become the sons of God?

GOD SAYS SO!

1 John 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see him as his is."

Who says that we, who will be transformed to be like Him, are the sons of God?

GOD SAYS SO!

Jude 1 "...sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ and called."

Who says that the sanctified will be preserved in Jesus Christ?

GOD SAYS SO!

Jude 24 "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of this glory with exceeding joy."

Who says He will keep you from falling and present you faultless? Did you notice that He said that He would do it with exceeding JOY?

GOD SAYS SO!

In Closing:

Luke 12:32 "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Luke 12: 6-8 "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God..."

Young people: If you have repented, asked Jesus to save your soul, then you are guaranteed a place in Heaven. Jesus is anxiously waiting to joyfully present you perfect before God the Father. When you share your testimony with someone down here, Jesus is grabbing the angels and saying... LOOK he is one of mine, and he is telling someone about my death on the cross and my free gift of eternal life.

Present Salvation Here

Discussion:

But what if I do something really bad after I am saved, does that make the Blood atonement not count? Then would I need to be saved again?

Does this mean I have a "license" to sin then? Why or why not?



SHOR' Nuff Series:

Lesson Four:

Actions Speak Louder than Words

References: Hebrew 6: 4-6; John 10: 28-29

To the Teachers/Preachers:

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For this lesson write on a white board as the lesson covers the Greek words.

Introduction:

Hebrews 6:4-6

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

This scripture clearly says that if you were once saved and could lose your salvation then you would have a big problem. It speaks for itself. So with that in mind let's go even DEEPER into the Word of God today and learn something that many adults may not know yet! Let's learn four Greek words.

John 10:28-29 just like Jesus said it!

John 10:28-29 (KJV)

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Whenever we see a direct quotation from Jesus, then we need no further authority to believe it's truth.

When Jesus walked the earth in the form of a man, people around him spoke Aramaic and often wrote in Greek.

It's just like you being in school and you have people that can speak and write in Spanish or English or perhaps in German for example. The same meaning is expressed but with different words; so sometimes you need a translation.

This is the way it was with the early writings of the Bible. The New Testament was written down in Greek so we can go back to that language to get the "full meaning" of what we read in English.

These verses are especially important to understand. To know what Jesus was saying to us about our eternal life is vital!

So let's look at WHAT WAS HE SAYING?

WRITE ON THE BOARD: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall **never** perish....

Let's stop right there and look at the Greek word for that little word "never."

Did you know it was actually FOUR words to make that one word?

The first word used is actually a little phrase sometimes written as one word and sometimes as two words.

WRITE ON THE BOARD: **OUME** [pronounced oo may].

Write the meaning beside it: not at all, by no means, in no case, never

So to start with we have what's called a "double negative" in Greek language which is an extremely STRONG way of saying NEVER!

WRITE ON THE BOARD: **EIS** [pronounced ice].

Write the meaning beside it: place, time, purpose

WRITE ON THE BOARD: **HO** [pronounced ha].

Write the meaning beside it: male, female, or even neuter

WRITE ON THE BOARD: **AION** [pronounced ahee-ohn]

Write the meaning beside it: perpetually, eternally [perpetually means continuously]

So this is the way that sentence reads if you translate it literally at that word "never."

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall NOT AT ALL, BY ANY MEANS, IN ANY CASE, IN ANY PLACE, AT ANY TIME, FOR ANY PURPOSE, WHETHER THEY ARE MALE OR FEMALE, PERTETUALLY, AND ETERNALLY, ever perish.

WOW!

What a promise! What a statement!

Have you claimed your promise yet?

Present Salvation Here

Discussion:

Could a REAL born-again believer ever look like a “lost unbeliever” again?

How can a born-again/saved believer restore fellowship with God if he/she has sinned?