



Dear Crossroads Family,

This Sunday we will be celebrating our nation's 250th anniversary. What a milestone for a nation to experience freedom for such a long time. It cannot be doubted that God has had His hand of blessing upon the United States. Knowing that, Christians are the people that should be leading the charge to praise and honor the Lord for all He has done for us. We are blessed, not because we deserve it, but because He has graced us with His goodness and blessing. Psalm 33:12 says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people He chose for his inheritance." It is always His choice to bless, and the only proper response is to honor and serve Him. Let's do that Sunday.

Remember also that immediately following the service, we will have a free hot dog picnic lunch in the Fellowship Hall. It is free and everyone is invited. I hope you will plan to take a little time after the service and join us for this fun time of enjoying the food and friendships we are blessed with here at Crossroads.

Sunday's sermon, based on the text from our Bible study series, is entitled *Buying Heaven: The Search for a Spiritual Shortcut*, from **Luke 18:18-30**. (Sermon notes are provided below.) It is an important message for all of us to hear and understand. I trust you will be in Bible study and worship this Sunday.

Don't forget that our regular food and diaper drive is postponed to June 12th. Don't forget to bring something to share with those in need on that day.

God bless you. May you and your family have a wonderful and safe Independence Day!

Love,
Bro. Doug

Buying Heaven: The Search for a Spiritual Shortcut
Luke 18:18-30

The rabbis in the 1st century constantly wrestled with one core question: Could the entire will of God be _____ down to one foundational principle or definitive ____? Jesus was repeatedly asked some form of that often-contemplated question.

The question of this ruler in Luke 18:18 indicates that he was looking for a single _____, performed in one moment in time, that could guarantee for _____ his ultimate acquisition of eternal life. Jesus first pointed the man back to the Law of Moses. The man's answer is essentially, "I've done my best and I sense it _____." Though he was either a member of the Sanhedrin or at least a local synagogue ruler and fabulously rich, he was wise enough to know that though he had done his best, he was on the _____ of eternal life _____.

He did the wise thing _____ . Jesus gave him the answer he needed to hear...the answer we

all need to hear: “Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” First, turn your back on anything that _____ you from making God and His will your _____. What would Jesus tell you that you need to _____ to have a right relationship with God?

Then, Jesus added, “Come, follow me.” So, there is really ___ once-and-for-all act we can do to buy eternal life. There is that “once-and-for-all” moment when we _____ the name of the Lord to be saved. But if that once-and-for-all moment isn’t followed by coming and _____, then the “calling on the name of the Lord” is only _____.

Jesus wasn’t saying we _____ our salvation by our follow through. His point was that the follow through _____ that our “I do” to Jesus was not a _____.

A.W. Tozer said, “The modern concept of 'accepting Christ' without any intention of following Him has created a generation of spiritual _____. True faith alters the course of a life, and it is the subsequent following that bears witness to the _____ of the initial _____.”

A Few Announcements:

Crossroads Monthly Food & Diaper Drive is next Sunday, July 12. Be prepared to bring your donations on Sunday, July 12. A shopping wish list will be included in the bulletin this Sunday and posted on the website.

Last Sunday, we shared a VBS 2026: *Illumination Station* highlight video during the worship service. Unfortunately, the video format was not fully compatible with our presentation software, resulting in display issues that made it difficult to view. We want you to be able to enjoy the smiles of our children and volunteers and see the many activities that made VBS such a wonderful week. To provide a better viewing experience, we have included a link to the video here: [VBS Recap Video](#)

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