

Lesson: 4

Accepting a Gift



**Does a gift
only become
ours when
we accept it?**

A gift is something paid for by another person and given freely – no strings attached. We do not earn or deserve a gift; otherwise, it would no longer be a gift, but a payment, wage or

reward. Yet even when a gift is offered, it only becomes ours when we freely accept it.

God has given humanity the greatest gift of all. He humbled Himself and came into the world as a man – Jesus Christ – and willingly went to the cross to pay the penalty for the sins of the world. He did this so that anyone who chooses to believe in Him may receive everlasting life in Heaven instead of judgement.

The Bible makes it clear that salvation is not something we can work for or earn. Ephesians 2:8–9 says, “...it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” If salvation could be achieved through our own efforts, then Christ’s sacrifice would not have been necessary. The cross shows that our sin-debt was too great for us to pay ourselves, but not too great for God’s love and grace.

All that remains for us to receive everlasting life is to accept it by faith. Like any gift, it must simply be received. We do not contribute to it, pay for it, or deserve it. Jesus Christ paid for it completely.

John 3:16 declares, “**For God so loved the world that He gave His uniquely born Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**”

When a person believes in Christ, everlasting life becomes their permanent possession. God does not take back His gifts. Since we did nothing to earn salvation, we can do nothing to maintain it or lose it. Eternal life rests on God’s promise and Christ’s finished work, not on human performance.

Imagine eternally regretting the refusal of God’s greatest gift. The good news is that receiving it is not complicated – it comes through simply believing in Christ and accepting by faith what He has already paid for. As it is freely given – it must be freely received.

Jesus said in John 6:40, “**And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.**”

