



Saved by Grace...or Just Familiar With It?

A Biblical Self-Examination Guide



THE WAKE-UP CALL

MATT.
7:21

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21)

→ **Truth to Remember:** Believing in Jesus is not the same as obeying Jesus.

Imagine this...

You wake up one morning with a strange heaviness in your heart. Not fear, but a quiet question you can't shake: "Am I really right with God?"

You pray. You reflect. You replay every good deed you've done, every time you said "thank you, Lord," every time you told someone you were a believer. But something is still unsettled. So you open your Bible.

And you see that Jesus didn't just say believe in Me. He said, "Believe and Be Baptized" (Mark 16:16) and "Follow Me" (Luke 9:23). What He didn't say was, "Agree with Me." He said, "Obey Me" (John 14:15). Suddenly, the truth hits you:

I believed in Jesus... but I never truly followed Him. That's where this journey begins — not with shame, but with surrender.

Ask yourself honestly...

-
- **Do I follow the Jesus of the Bible - or the one culture created?**
 - **Is my faith just agreement, or is it surrender?**
 - **Do I live in obedience to His Word, or do I just believe He exists?**

THE TEST ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE

2 COR
13:5

“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.”
(2 Corinthians 13:5)



Have I been born again? (John 3:5)

***After belief and baptism-was there true death to self and new life in Christ?**



Do I obey Jesus? (Luke 6:46)

***Do I follow His teachings daily, or just agree with them in theory?**



Do I walk in the light? (1 John 1:6-7)

***Is my lifestyle aligned with truth, or do I excuse my sinful behavior?**



Do I love what God loves? (1 John 2:15)

***Do I crave His Word, His people, His ways - or the world's comfort?**



Do I repent when I sin? (1 John 1:9-10)

***Is there ongoing confession and transformation, or just complacency?**

THE RESPONSE THAT SAVES

1 JOHN
2:3-4

"This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commands. The one who says, 'I have come to know him,' and yet doesn't keep his commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

1 John 2:3-4 CSB

If you're unsure, don't harden your heart; this is mercy. Steps to take:



Cry out to God in repentance. (Acts 3:19)

Repentance is more than saying "I'm sorry." It's turning from your way and returning to God's way. Confess your sins honestly and humbly before Him. Ask Him to change your heart, not just your habits. Tell Him you no longer want to live your way - but His.



Be baptized with full faith and surrender. (Romans 6:3-4)

Baptism is more than a ritual - it's burial and resurrection. It's the moment you're united with Jesus in His death and raised to walk in a new life. Go down into the water not just believing - but surrendering everything. If you've already been baptized but never truly repented, consider if it reflected a biblical response like that seen in Acts 2.



Submit to His Word in all areas of life. (James 1:22)

Don't just read Scripture - obey it. Let God's Word reshape your decisions, relationships, habits and beliefs. If something in your life contradicts what the Bible teaches, choose God - even when it's hard. Obedience is the fruit of saving faith.



Surround yourself with truth-speaking believers. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

You were never meant to walk this road alone. Connect with people who love the Lord and live by His Word. Choose a community that tells you the truth even when it's uncomfortable - and encourages you to keep going when it gets hard.



Walk daily in the Spirit - not your feelings. (Galatians 5:16-25)

Faith isn't based on emotion - it's powered by the Holy Spirit. Every day, ask the Spirit to lead your steps, convict your heart, and help you bear fruit. You won't be perfect - but you will be changed.

Keep this in mind: "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise...but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance (2 Peter 3:9)"

True faith doesn't just believe - it follows.