Guide to soulwinning

Why we do it and helps within this guide.

**Soul Winning and Gospel Presentation Guide**

This guide combines insights and instructions for effective soul winning and gospel presentation, drawing from provided materials.

**I. The Initial Approach: Knocking on the Door**

1. **Knock:** Approach the door and knock (consider knocking on the hinge side). Be mindful and respectful of the resident's property (e.g., lawns). Maintain a kind and bold demeanor.
2. **Greeting:** When the door is answered, greet the person warmly:

"Good morning/afternoon/evening, I am [Your Name] with New Life Baptist Church in Foristell. We are out here inviting people to church today..." [Hand them a church tract]

1. **Wait:** Pause and allow the person to respond.
2. **Inquire about Church Attendance:** Ask kindly, "Do you happen to attend church anywhere locally?"
3. **Follow-up Based on Response:**
	* **If they answer NO:**

"Well, more importantly than just going to church, we are also out here asking people this important question..." [Proceed to Section II: Initial Gospel Questions]

* + **If they answer YES:**

"Oh, where do you attend, and what kind of church is it?" [Listen respectfully to their answer]. "Well, we certainly aren't trying to take members from other churches, and I'm sure you can appreciate that we are asking this question, especially with so many different beliefs out there.” [Proceed to Section II: Initial Gospel Questions]

**II. Initial Gospel Questions**

Transition into the core questions to gauge their understanding and open the door for sharing the Gospel:

1. "If you were to die today, five or 10 years from now, are you 100% sure you would go to heaven?"
2. "What do you believe someone has to do to be saved and go to heaven?"
3. "Do you believe salvation is by faith alone, or faith plus works?"
4. "Do you think someone who believes in Jesus could go to hell or lose their salvation?"

**Handling Different Responses:**

* **If they answer incorrectly (e.g., mentioning works (good deeds, living a “good life”, uncertainty):**
	+ Ask follow-up questions gently:
		- "Do you believe someone can believe in Jesus and live however they want and still go to heaven?"
		- "Would you say we are saved by faith alone or faith plus living a good life?"
	+ Offer to clarify:
		- "The Bible says that salvation is only by faith. Can I show you?"
		- "The Bible says you can know 100% sure that you would go to heaven. Can I show you?"
		- "Can I show you what the Bible says you *have* to do to be saved?"
* **If they seem uninterested:**
	+ Ask/Tell: "I’ll show you just one verse and get out of your hair."
	+ Share **Acts 16:30-31 (OR Ephesians 2:8-9)**:

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

* + Follow up: "Can I show you what it means to believe?"

**III. Presenting the Gospel: Step-by-Step**

Use the following points and scriptures to explain the Gospel clearly.

**1. The Problem: Sin**

* **Romans 3:23**: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
	+ *Explanation:* According to the Bible, we have all sinned. Ask: "Would you agree? What is an example of sin?" (Examples: lying, stealing, murder). Breaking *any* of God's commandments is sin.
* **Romans 6:23a**: "For the wages of sin is death;"
	+ *Explanation:* The Bible says there is a punishment for our sin. We will all die physically one day, and our soul can go to one of two places: Heaven or Hell.

**2. The Penalty: Hell**

* **Revelation 20:10**: "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."
	+ *Explanation:* Hell is a terrible place. The Bible describes it as a lake of fire and brimstone, with torment that lasts forever and ever.
* **Revelation 21:8**: "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."
	+ *Explanation:* The Bible says we *all* deserve hell because we have all sinned. It's not just for murderers; even liars deserve hell. Ask: "If I told you a lie, what would that make me? (A liar). If I am a liar, where do I deserve to go according to this verse? (Hell)." This means everyone deserves hell. But does God *want* everyone to go to hell? (No). God is love and has provided a way to be saved.

**3. God's Provision: The Gospel of Jesus Christ**

* **Romans 5:8**: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
	+ *Explanation:* God showed His love by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to take the punishment we deserve. Jesus is the Son of God, and He is God ("God manifest in the flesh"). He was born of a virgin, lived a perfect, sinless life, and performed many miracles proving His divinity (turning water to wine, raising the dead). He willingly went to the cross.
	+ *On the Cross:* Jesus "bare our sins in his own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24), meaning He paid for every sin—past, present, and future—on the cross.
* **Acts 2:31**: "He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption."
	+ *Explanation:* After Jesus died, His soul went to hell for three days and three nights to take the punishment we deserved for our sins. But He wasn't left there!
	+ *The Resurrection:* What happened after three days? (He rose again!). His soul returned to His body, and He physically rose from the dead. He showed Himself to His disciples for 40 days and then ascended to heaven, where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.
	+ *Summary:* That is the Gospel: the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He paid the *full* penalty for sin.

**4. The Requirement: Believe (Faith Alone)**

* *Question:* Does the fact that Jesus paid for sin mean everyone automatically goes to heaven? (No). The Bible says there is only *one* thing we must do to be saved.
* **Acts 16:30-31**: "30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."
	+ *Explanation:* According to the Bible, what is the one thing you must do to be saved? (Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ). Does this verse say you have to go to church, live a good life, repent of sins (meaning turn from sins), get baptized, etc., to be *saved*? (No). It *only* says believe.
	+ *What "Believe" Means:* To believe *in* or *on* someone means to *trust* them completely. Ask: "I'm sure you believe police officers exist. Does that mean you trust every single one of them? (No)." Many people believe Jesus exists, but they trust their church attendance or good works to get them to heaven. Are they really believing *in Jesus* or in *themselves*?
* **John 3:16**: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
	+ *Explanation:* Even this famous verse says salvation is by believing. What does God give you if you believe in Him? (Everlasting life). How long does everlasting, or eternal, life last? (Forever). It never ends.

**5. The Result: Eternal Security**

* *Question:* If someone believes in Jesus Christ and receives everlasting life, can they ever go to hell or lose that life? (No). If you could lose it, was it truly *everlasting*?
* **John 1:12**: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:"
	+ *Explanation:* When someone believes in Jesus Christ, they become a child of God ("For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." - Galatians 3:26). Ask: "Is it possible for me to change who my biological parents are? (No). What if I commit a terrible crime? Would that change who my mother is? (No)." It's the same with God. Once you believe in Jesus, you become His child forever.
	+ *Sin After Salvation:* Even if a child of God commits a big sin (e.g., murder), does that change the fact they are God's child? (No). However, just like earthly parents would be upset and discipline their child, God will discipline His children on earth for sin (consequences like jail, loss of rewards in heaven, physical death), but they cannot lose their salvation and go to hell because they are saved by faith, have eternal life, and are His child.
* **Romans 6:23b**: "...but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
	+ *Explanation:* Eternal life is a *gift*. Ask: "[Name], if I said I want to give you my Bible, but you must give me $100, is that a gift? (No). What if I said you must first wash my car? (No)." If God said He wants to give you eternal life, but you have to go to church, repent of sins, live a good life, etc., would it be a *free* gift? (No). A person who tries to pay for or earn salvation cannot receive it, because it's a gift already bought and paid for by Jesus Christ.
* **Ephesians 2:8-9**: "8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast."
	+ *Explanation:* This confirms salvation is by grace (God's unmerited favor) through faith, *not* of yourselves or by works. It's purely a gift.
* **1 John 5:13**: "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..."
	+ *Explanation:* God wants you to *know* for sure that you have eternal life.
* **1 John 5:10-11**: "10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. 11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."
	+ *Explanation:* Believing the record (testimony) God gave about His Son *is* how you receive eternal life. To not believe it is to call God a liar.

**6. The Invitation: How to Believe/Receive Salvation**

* **Recap Questions:**
	+ "Do you believe you are a sinner?" (Yes)
	+ "If you never believed in Jesus Christ, would you deserve to go to hell for your sins?" (Yes)
	+ "Do you believe God doesn't want you to go there, and that Jesus Christ died on the cross for *your* sins?" (Yes)
	+ "Do you believe He was buried and rose again?" (Yes)
	+ "So then, what is the one thing you must do to be saved?" (Believe in Jesus Christ)
	+ "If you believe, is there anything you could do to lose your salvation and go to hell?" (No)
	+ "Example: If you believed in Christ right now, received eternal life, became God's child... and then ten years from now, you committed a terrible sin like murder, where would you go when you died - heaven or hell?" (Heaven) "Why?" (Because salvation is by believing, not works; eternal life is eternal).
* **Romans 10:9-10**: "9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
	+ *Explanation:* The Bible says if you truly believe the Gospel in your heart, you would express that belief to God. Confession here means agreeing with God or professing your faith. It's the outward expression of the inward belief.
	+ *Clarification:* "If I prayed and asked God to save me, but didn't truly believe in my heart, would the prayer save me? (No). What if I prayed a thousand times? (No). What if I asked God to save me, but I was still trusting my good works or church attendance? (No, because I'd be trusting myself, not Jesus). What if I asked Him to save me but thought I could lose my salvation? (No, because again, I'd be trusting myself to keep it, not resting fully in Christ's finished work)."
* **The Prayer:** "If you believe this in your heart, it's not the specific words that save, but the faith behind them. Would you like to tell God right now that you believe and ask Him for the gift of eternal life? We can pray together."

**Sample Prayer:** "Dear Heavenly Father / Dear God / Dear Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I deserve to go to hell. But I believe that You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for my sins, that He was buried, and that He rose again. Please save me right now and give me the gift of eternal life. I am trusting only in Jesus Christ and what He did for me, not in my own works or goodness. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

* **Assurance:**
	+ "Did you mean that prayer in your heart?"
	+ "If you were to die right now, where would you go?" (Heaven)
	+ "Why?" (Because I believed in Jesus Christ)
	+ "What did He do for you?" (Paid for all my sins)
	+ "What is the one thing you had to do to be saved?" (Believe)
	+ "Now that you believe, can you ever lose your salvation?" (No)

**IV. Post-Salvation Follow-Up**

After someone professes faith:

1. **Invite them to Church:** Encourage fellowship and learning.
2. **Discuss Next Steps:** Briefly mention the importance of biblical baptism (as a step of obedience *after* salvation, not *for* salvation) and reading the Bible (recommend KJV).
3. **Answer Questions:** Address any further questions they may have.
4. **Leave Contact Information/Tract:** Provide church details.

**Demo/Practical: 10-15 min exercise**

**Understanding Soul Winning**

**What is Soul Winning?**

* Soul winning is the God-ordained method to obey Christ's command to **bring forth fruit** unto eternal life (John 15:16).
* Proverbs 11:30: "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."
* It involves persuading men and women to be saved through faith in Jesus Christ by preaching the Gospel.
* It requires **repentance toward God** (a change of mind about sin, God, and self, leading to trust in Christ) and **faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ** (Acts 20:21). It's turning *from* unbelief *to* belief.

**Why Do We Go Soul Winning?**

1. **It's a Command:** Jesus commanded us: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15).
2. **It's God's Method:** It pleased God "by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Cor 1:21). Preaching the Gospel is the *only* way people can hear and believe.
	* **Romans 10:13-15, 17**: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?... So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
3. **People Need a Guide:** The natural (unsaved) man cannot understand spiritual things on his own (1 Cor 2:14). They need a saved person, guided by the Holy Spirit, to explain the "mystery of the Gospel."
	* *Example:* The Ethiopian Eunuch reading Isaiah 53 needed Philip to guide him (Acts 8). "How can I [understand], except some man should guide me?"
4. **It's Our Ministry:** God "hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Cor 5:18).
5. **It Was Christ's Example and First Love:** Evangelism was central to Christ's ministry and the "first works" of the early church (Rev 2:4-5). Churches that neglect it risk losing their effectiveness ("candlestick removal") being considered even a church in God’s eyes.

**Why Not JUST Use Gospel Tracts?**

* While tracts are useful tools to leave behind or supplement a conversation, they cannot replace the role of a preacher (a saved person sharing the Gospel).
* As mentioned (1 Cor 2:14, Acts 8), the unsaved person lacks spiritual discernment and needs a Spirit-filled guide to understand the message and apply it personally. Faith comes by *hearing* the Word of God presented by a preacher.

**Getting Started and Practical Considerations**

**How Do I Get Started?**

* Attend church soul-winning times.
* Pair up with an experienced soul winner initially. You can be a silent prayer partner and learn by observation for as long as needed.

**Requirements to Participate (New Life Baptist Church Example):**

1. **Be Saved:** You must personally believe that salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone, without works, and that it is eternal.
2. **Be In Good Standing:** If under church discipline according to biblical principles (e.g., Romans 16, Matthew 18, 1 Cor 5), reconciliation is needed first.

**Ethics, Behavior, and Attitude:**

* **Be an Ambassador for Christ:** Represent Him well.
* **Attitude:** Show kindness, smiles, boldness, and respect for property.
* **Focus:** Stick to the Gospel. Don't get sidetracked by debates on non-essential topics. Bring the conversation back to salvation. Remember, the unsaved cannot understand deeper biblical truths until they are saved.
* **No Arguing:** Persuade using the Gospel, but avoid contentious arguments on side issues.
* **Confidentiality:** Don't discuss negative experiences within earshot of the home you just left.
* **Withdraw Gracefully:** If asked to leave, do so respectfully without anger or bitterness.

**Handling Rejection and Persecution:**

* **Expect It:** Jesus said we are sent as sheep among wolves (Matt 10:16). "If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you" (John 15:20). "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Tim 3:12).
* **Don't Take it Personally:** They are rejecting Christ, not so much you or make it not so (1 Samuel 8:7).
* **Rejoice:** Being reproached for Christ's name is a reason to be glad, knowing God's Spirit rests on you (1 Peter 4:13-14).
* **Shake Off the Dust:** If rejected, move on without bitterness (Mark 6:11). Pray for those who reject the Lord.
* **Endure:** Stay in the fight, finish the race, don't faint, stand your ground (various scriptures). Think it not strange and rejoice in persecution (1 Peter 4:12-19).

**Legal Protection for Door-to-Door Visitation**

* **First Amendment Right:** Door-to-door visitation for distributing information and inviting people to religious meetings is protected free speech under the First Amendment (Martin v. Struthers, 319 U.S. 141 (1943)).
* **Resident’s Choice:** It is generally up to the individual resident (owner or tenant), not the community, HOA, or property manager, to decide whether to receive visitors or communications at their door (Martin v. Struthers; Walker v. George Town Housing Authority, 677 N.E.2d 1125 (Mass. 1997); Smith v. Silvey, 197 Cal. Rptr. 15 (1983)).
* **Not Solicitation (If No Money Asked):** Religious visitation and distributing free literature are distinct from “solicitation” (which involves asking for money or selling items). Courts have recognized this distinction (Murdock v. Pennsylvania, 319 U.S. 105 (1943); Watchtower v. Village of Stratton, 536 U.S. 150 (2002); International Society for Krishna Consciousness v. Lee, 505 U.S. 672 (1992)). Soul winning, when not asking for funds, is protected religious speech.
* **Respect “No Solicitation” Signs:** You *must* honor posted “No Solicitation” or similar signs on individual residences. Visiting a home with such a sign could lead to trespassing charges.
* **Respect Individual Refusals:** If a resident asks you to leave, you must leave immediately and not return to that specific address. Failure to do so could result in trespassing charges. However, you may generally continue visiting other residents in the complex or neighborhood who have not objected.
* **Blanket Prohibitions:** Property managers or HOAs generally cannot issue blanket prohibitions against all door-to-door religious communication for residents who have not individually objected (Walker v. George Town Housing Authority).

*(Legal points summarized from Gibbs & Associates Law Firm memo provided)*

**Helps and Recommendations**

**Key Verses Reference:**

* **The Command:** Mark 16:15
* **The Method:** Romans 10:13-17; 1 Corinthians 1:21
* **The Need:** Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:10; Revelation 21:8; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Acts 8:31
* **The Gospel:** Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (implied); Acts 2:31
* **Salvation by Faith:** Acts 16:31; John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 4:5
* **Eternal Security:** John 3:16; John 1:12; Romans 6:23b; 1 John 5:11-13; Galatians 3:26, Eph 1:13-14 (sealed, earnest)
* **How to Receive:** Romans 10:9-10, 13
* **Fruit/Purpose:** John 15:5, 8, 16; Proverbs 11:30
* **Persecution:** Matthew 10:16; John 15:20; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12-16; Mark 6:11

**Addressing Other “Christian” religions and Difficult Verses: (THIS IS NOT HERE TO DISCOURAGE AND ARE VERY RARE CASES)**

* **Other Christian Religions:**
	+ - **Mat 7:21  Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.**
		- **Mat 7:22  Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?**
		- **Mat 7:23  And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**
		- We are saved by faith (NOT OF OURSELVES). Jesus **NEVER** knew these people so they were never saved to begin with. These people claim Jesus and yet relied on their works, what THEY DID. Hypothetical, if this were me standing in front of Jesus I would have been saying things along the lines of “Lord you said to believe, its faith alone, nothing I could do but everything YOU did…” Not these people, the first thing out of their mouth was “Look at all the wonderful works we did…that’s good enough to in right?”
	+ Other religions of course with claim you have to have faith. If they didn’t they’d probably have nobody in their church. The problem is they give lip service to that concept or truth but add in that you have to maintain your salvation through deeds and works. There isn’t a single story of someone losing their salvation and then getting it back in the bible. You’d think there’d be at least one but there isn’t.
* **James 2 :** First of all you have to have saving faith for it to be dead, James is simply trying to encourage his congregation to get to work for the Lord. He also calls his people “brethren”, he also talks about offending/breaking the law in one point and being guilty of all. This is NOT a faith+works automatic thing. If good works were automatic after salvation, then we wouldn’t need growth or all these NT teachings on how to act and behave as Christians.
* **1Jn 5:18**  We know that **whosoever is born of God** sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. (VERY INTERESTING this verse in the ESV…)
	+ Understand that being born under the curse (flesh, old man), we are still in that body. Yes, we are redeemed, God put the Earnest payment in for us and SEALED us unto the day of Redemption. BUT this is the War we wage within ourselves. The old man and the new man. The NEW MAN is born of God, that cannot sin. It’s what Paul talks about in that he does the things he doesn’t want to do and the things he should do he doesn’t. Also refer to John 3 when Jesus and Nicodemus are talking about this. The water birth (physical under the sin curse, wages of sin is death, that is why we still pass away), the spiritual birth that which is born of God at the point of salvation. Read of 1 John, notice how he talks over and over alluding to the fact that we sin. If we say we don’t we are liars, if we sin, he will forgive all, etc. Lifeguard analogy (remember the conversation on how many times we forgive a brother (repetitive sin),
	+ Also, the very reason there is the verse about the flesh and blood of this cursed old man not being able to enter heaven. However, the new man born of God will. 1 Cor 15:50, 1 Cor 6:9-10.
* **Hebrew 6 and 10 – God’s chastisement/scourging of His children (us, the saved)**
	+ Hopefully you don’t get this brought up because this is a deep topic of study but I put it hear so that you can always be ready to give an answer.

**Recommendations/Tips/Preferences**

1. **Get a Soul Winners New Testament KJV** and use markers to quick reference verses.

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[**https://a.co/d/cToQp9I**](https://a.co/d/cToQp9I)

* 1. Show them verses in the Bible so they aren’t taking your word for it.
1. **Do not look like a cult** – Don’t dress like a Mormon (white shirt black tie and call yourself an elder if you are 19…), Don’t dress like a JW (AKA False witnesses), nothing wrong with a suit or church clothes but just make it clear that you are a BAPTIST if so. Otherwise you will get mistaken. Dress appropriately is all. Nothing wrong with regularly street clothes just be a representative of Christ.
2. **Children –** If children answer the door always ask for a parent/guardian. Teens? (Preach it)
3. **Knock on the hinge side of the door.**
4. **Stay off of grass and use walkways/paths.**
5. **When in doubt or stuck…use or guide them through the tract**
6. **Serving God –** Anna’s example in Luke 2 – Prayer and Fasting. Soul winners, need your prayers. If you cannot make it soul winning for whatever reason please pray for them as well as for more laborers to enter into the fields as Jesus told us to.
7. **Why the KJV?** Let’s just be the same out there. Things that are different are not the same and there is already massive confusion in the world. Also the majority of New Versions insert contradictions, teach progressive salvation (works based) rather than one and done as far as salvation goes, teaches to avoid Jesus by inserting contradictions, raises questions of doubts by inserting footnotes next to verses, removing whole portions of scripture, removing/altering KEY doctrine verses, removing Hell altogether, etc…The KJV has been used for 400+ years in the English speaking language and if it was good then, it is good now. So much more on this but for several reasons and a few proof verses below.

**Acts Example**

KJV – Believing and Baptism (**verse 37 omitted or altered in new versions**, **removing that believing is required unto salvation and THEN get baptized. They want people to just get baptized without believing? Sounds Catholic**)

Act 8:35  Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Act 8:36  And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; **what doth hinder me to be baptized?**

Act 8:37  And Philip said, **If thou believest** with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Act 8:38  And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

NIV – Missing and hidden that you’d almost read over it due to it being footnoted.

 

ESV – Just straight forgets it altogether
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**Progressive salvation – Are you SAVED OR BEING saved?!**

**KJV – SAVED**

1Co 15:1  Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

**1Co 15:2**  **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

**ESV – Being Saved?**

1Co 15:1  Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,

**1Co 15:2**  and by which you are **being saved**, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

**Contradiction – New versions want you to avoid Jesus because He is divisive?**

**KJV –** **Jesus Divides Luke12 and No relation to “divisive avoidance” in Titus 3**

**Luk 12:51**  Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather **division:**

**Tit 3:10**  A man that is **an heretick** after the first and second admonition reject;

Tit 3:11  Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

**ESV – Jesus Divides Luke12 and Insert contradiction “divisive avoidance” in Titus 3**

**Luk 12:51**  Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather **division.**

**Tit 3:10**  As for a person who stirs up **division**, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him,

Tit 3:11  knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

**NIV – Jesus Divides Luke12 and Insert contradiction “divisive avoidance” in Titus 3**

**Luke 12:51**

**51**Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but **division.**

**Titus 3:10-11**

10 Warn a **divisive person** once, and then warn them a second time. After that, **have nothing to do with them**. 11 You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.

Just because something found in the ground, buried as trash or prepped to be burned, or is older, doesn’t make it accurate. In other words, claims of older versions found don’t always equal most accurate.

**Deeper study continued in following pages.**

**KJV vs. Modern Version Comparisons (Based on AV1611.com Perspective)**

This document outlines alleged differences between the King James Version (KJV) and various modern Bible versions, drawing examples and interpretations primarily from the resources provided on av1611.com. The perspective presented reflects a KJV-advocacy viewpoint.

**Short Form Summary**

According to the analysis on av1611.com, modern Bible versions differ from the KJV in several key areas, allegedly leading to doctrinal shifts, contradictions, and a weakening of scripture:

1. **Omissions:** Critics point to numerous words, phrases, and even entire verses present in the KJV that are missing or bracketed/footnoted as doubtful in many modern versions (e.g., Acts 8:37, 1 John 5:7, Mark 16:9-20).
2. **Doctrinal Changes:** Alterations in wording are claimed to affect core doctrines such as the deity of Christ (1 Tim 3:16), the blood atonement (Col 1:14), the virgin birth (Luke 2:33), and salvation by faith (numerous examples implying works).
3. **Contradictions Introduced:** Changes are said to create internal contradictions within the Bible or conflict with established KJV readings (e.g., the "division" example: Luke 12:51 vs. Titus 3:10; differing accounts of genealogies or numbers).
4. **Weakening of Language:** The use of less definitive language or the introduction of doubt through footnotes is seen as undermining the authority and certainty of the text.

**Exhaustive Comparison (Examples from AV1611.com)**

Here are more detailed examples categorized according to the points in your statement, based on the linked av1611.com charts:

**1. Alleged Contradictions Introduced / Teaching to Avoid Jesus**

* **Division vs. Avoiding Division:**
	+ **KJV Luke 12:51:** "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather **division**:" (Jesus stating His effect)
	+ **KJV Titus 3:10:** "A man that is an **heretick** after the first and second admonition reject;"
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV) Titus 3:10:** "Warn a **divisive** person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them."
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* The change from "heretick" (one holding false doctrine) to "divisive person" in Titus 3:10 creates a contradiction. If believers are told to avoid "divisive" people, and Jesus Himself said He came to bring "division," modern versions indirectly teach believers to avoid Jesus or His teachings which naturally cause division between truth and error, believers and unbelievers.
* **God's Temptation:**
	+ **KJV Genesis 22:1:** "And it came to pass after these things, that God did **tempt** Abraham..."
	+ **KJV James 1:13:** "...for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither **tempteth** he any man:"
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV) Genesis 22:1:** "...God **tested** Abraham..."
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* The KJV uses "tempt" in Gen 22:1 in the sense of "to test or prove." Modern versions change it to "tested," removing the apparent (but resolvable) contradiction with James 1:13, but losing the specific word choice used in the KJV text.
* **Michal's Children:**
	+ **KJV 2 Samuel 21:8:** "...the five sons of **Michal** the daughter of Saul, whom she brought up for Adriel..." (Note: KJV clarifies she "brought them up," not bore them).
	+ **KJV 2 Samuel 6:23:** "Therefore **Michal** the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death."
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV) 2 Samuel 21:8:** "...the five sons of **Merab** daughter of Saul..." (Changing Michal to her sister Merab).
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Modern versions alter the text (changing Michal to Merab) to resolve an apparent contradiction, claiming a copyist error in the source text for the KJV. KJV defenders argue the KJV reading is correct and harmonious (Michal raised her deceased sister Merab's children).

**2. Alleged Teaching of Progressive Salvation (Works-Based)**

* **Believing vs. Obeying:**
	+ **KJV John 3:36:** "He that **believeth** on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that **believeth not** the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV) John 3:36:** "Whoever **believes** in the Son has eternal life, but whoever **rejects** [or **disobeys**] the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them."
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Changing "believeth not" to "rejects" or "disobeys" shifts the focus from simple belief (faith) to actions (obedience/works) as the condition for avoiding wrath, implying a works-based element for salvation.
* **Adding Works to Faith:**
	+ **KJV Romans 1:17:** "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by **faith**."
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV) Romans 1:17:** "...'The righteous will live by **faith**.'" (Some versions add footnotes or have variant readings that might imply ongoing faithfulness or obedience).
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* While this specific verse often retains "faith," the cumulative effect of changes elsewhere (like John 3:36) and the questioning of verses emphasizing faith alone (like the omission of Acts 8:37) are seen as promoting a works or "faithfulness" based salvation over simple belief.

**3. Raising Doubts (Footnotes)**

* *AV1611 Perspective:* Many modern versions include footnotes indicating textual variants, suggesting uncertainty about key verses or phrases (e.g., Mark 16:9-20, John 7:53-8:11, 1 John 5:7). This is seen as undermining the reader's confidence in the text as the authoritative Word of God, contrasting with the KJV which presents the text without such frequent questioning footnotes based on the Textus Receptus.

**4. Removing/Altering Key Doctrine Verses & Omissions**

* **Deity of Christ:**
	+ **KJV 1 Timothy 3:16:** "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God** was manifest in the flesh..."
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV/NASB/ESV) 1 Timothy 3:16:** "**He** was manifest [or **appeared**] in the flesh..." (Based on manuscripts reading "He who" instead of "God").
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Changing "God" to "He" is seen as a direct attack on the clear statement of Christ's deity in this verse.
* **Blood Atonement:**
	+ **KJV Colossians 1:14:** "In whom we have redemption **through his blood**, even the forgiveness of sins:"
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV/NASB/ESV) Colossians 1:14:** "in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Omitting "through his blood").
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Removing the phrase "through his blood" weakens the explicit link between redemption/forgiveness and Christ's literal blood sacrifice.
* **Virgin Birth Context:**
	+ **KJV Luke 2:33:** "And **Joseph** and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him."
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV) Luke 2:33:** "The child’s **father** and mother marveled at what was said about him."
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Calling Joseph the "father" of Jesus, even if contextually understood by some as his legal guardian, obscures the doctrine of the virgin birth where the KJV specifically names "Joseph."
* **Lord Jesus Christ:**
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Modern versions are claimed to omit "Lord" or "Christ" or both in numerous instances when referring to Jesus (e.g., removing "Lord" from Philippians 4:13 KJV: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."). This is viewed as diminishing His authority and specific role.
* **Whole Verse Omissions:**
	+ **Acts 8:37 (KJV):** "And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." (Crucial verse linking belief and baptism).
	+ **Modern Versions (e.g., NIV/NASB/ESV):** Omit the entire verse or place it in brackets/footnotes, stating it's not found in the earliest manuscripts.
	+ *AV1611 Perspective:* Removing this verse eliminates a clear statement of the eunuch's faith before baptism. Other commonly cited omissions include Matthew 17:21, 18:11, 23:14, Mark 9:44, 9:46, 11:26, Luke 17:36, John 5:4, Romans 16:24, and 1 John 5:7 (the Johannine Comma, explicitly mentioning the Trinity).

This compilation reflects the arguments presented on av1611.com regarding the KJV and modern Bible versions. It's important to note that textual criticism and translation philosophy are complex fields, and scholars associated with modern translations often provide detailed justifications for their readings based on older manuscripts and different translation principles than those underlying the KJV.