



U-Turns Allowed

U-TURN #1

Tim Gill - April 3, 2016

...“I assure you that if you don’t turn your lives around and become like this little child, you will definitely not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:3 (CEB)

“...We came to tell you the Good News. We are telling you to turn away from these worthless things. Turn to the true living God...”

Acts 14:15a (ERV)

Why should I look at the conversions in the Book of Acts?

1. So I can learn how to turn to God.

I have had one message for Jews and Greeks alike—the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus.

Acts 20:21 (NLT)

2. So I can be sure I am right with God.

The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Acts 16:34 (NIV)

3. So I can help others turn to God.

“King Agrippa, after I had this vision from heaven, I obeyed it.”

Acts 26:19 (NCV)

King Agrippa said to Paul, “Do you think you can persuade me to become a Christian in such a short time?”²⁸ Paul said, “Whether it is a short or a long time, I pray to God that not only you but every person listening to me today would be saved and be like me—except for these chains I have.”

Acts 26:28-29 (NCV)

The Conversions teach me that I can turn my life around...

1. When I assess the direction I’m going.

“...I am sending you to the Gentiles¹⁸ to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God’s people, who are set apart by faith in me.”

Acts 26:17b-18 (NLT)

Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.”⁴⁰ Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!”

Acts 2:38-40 (NLT)

2. When I’m not afraid to ask for directions.

The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?”

Acts 8:34 (NIV)

“May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?”

Acts 17:19b (NIV)

Yes, beg for knowledge; plead for insight.⁴ Look for it as hard as you would for silver or some hidden treasure.⁵ If you do, you will know what it means to fear the LORD and you will succeed in learning about God.

Proverbs 2:3-5 (GNT)

3. When I start moving in the right direction.

“Turn back to me and do the works you did at first...”

Revelation 2:5 (NLT)

So repent (change your mind and purpose); turn around and return [to God], that your sins may be erased (blotted out, wiped clean), that times of refreshing (of recovering from the effects of heat, of reviving with fresh air) may come from the presence of the Lord.

Acts 3:19 (AMPC)