

Close, but No Cigar!

(Religion vs. Regeneration)



Introduction

Origin of the phrase “Close, but no cigar.”

Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ is a wonderful thing. It would be terrible to miss it.

I John 5:11-12

If you have Jesus you have life. *How do you know you have Jesus?*

You must be _____ again! John 3:5-7

You may think you're fine and _____! Matthew 7:21-23

Be brave enough to honestly face where you are _____! 2 Cor. 13:5



Let's Follow Jesus!



How do you test yourself? First...

1. Have you _____? Luke 13:3

2. Have you _____?

3. Have you asked Christ _____? Revelation 3:20

4. Are you trusting in Christ's righteousness _____ for salvation? Ephesians 2:8-9

Second: Are there any “Signs of Life” in your life?

Illustration of the dead branch.

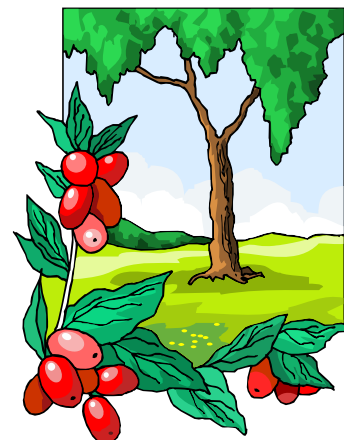
1. Hunger for the _____ of God I Peter 2:2

2. G _____ Ephesians 4:15

3. C _____ Hebrews 5:13-14

4. W _____ Colossians 1:28-29, Luke 12:8-9

5. L _____ I John 3:14



But these are just evidences. None of them can save. But if they aren't there...

Faith alone saves, but the faith that saves is never alone. (Martin Luther)