

"Task Force S4C" Is A Temporary Military Unit Formed By Christ To Undertake Specific Spiritual Warfare Missions

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Sunday Morning Prayer & Scripture
Pastor Ben 03/23/2025

## "Don't Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda"

(Don't wait until all you can do is wish you had repented and stayed Faithful to Christ )

"Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda" is a <u>colloquial</u> expression used to express regret or dismissiveness about past actions or missed opportunities, essentially saying "oh well" or "what could have been". The phrase is a shortened way of saying "would have, could have, should have". It's used when someone realizes they didn't do something they might have, or when they're reflecting on a situation with regret.

What is colloquialism? - Colloquialism is everyday language used by people of a certain region.

**Meaning of the word Repent:** The word "repent" in the Bible, particularly in the New Testament, comes from the Greek word "metanoeo," which signifies <u>a change of mind</u>, a <u>turning away from sin</u>, and a <u>turning towards God</u>, restoration of your relationship with God.

**The Apostle Paul's conversion** Acts 9:1-19: Before his conversion, Paul actively persecuted Christians, even imprisoning them. After his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, he became a fervent follower and apostle, demonstrating a profound change of heart and repentance.

**Peter denied Jesus 3x** Luke 22:54-62: Peter, one of Jesus' closest disciples, denied knowing Jesus three times during Jesus' trial. Despite this failure, Jesus forgave him and entrusted him with leadership of the church, showing that even after significant mistakes, repentance can lead to restoration.

**The Prodigal Son** <u>Luke 15:11-32</u>: While not a specific person, the parable of the Prodigal Son illustrates the concept of repentance and God's willingness to forgive. The son, after squandering his inheritance, returns to his father, humbled and repentant, and is welcomed back with open arms.

The Tax Collector in the Parable <u>Luke 18:9-14</u>: In the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, the tax collector humbled himself and cried out to God for mercy, recognizing his own sin and repenting



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## Luke 18:10-14

#### **New Living Translation**

(10) "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector

<u>In Jesus's time, a Pharisee</u> was a member of a prominent Jewish religious group known for their strict adherence to both the written and oral law, emphasizing personal piety and ritual purity, and often clashing with Jesus over interpretations of the Law.

<u>In the Bible, a "tax collector"</u> (also called a "publican") refers to a Jew who collected taxes for the Roman Empire, often seen as a traitor and a symbol of Roman oppression and corruption due to their perceived enrichment at the expense of their own people

#### **Amplified Bible**

(11) The Pharisee stood [ostentatiously] and began praying to himself [in a self-righteous way, saying]: 'God, I thank You that I am not like the rest of men—swindlers, unjust (dishonest), adulterers—or even like this tax collector.

<u>What does it mean if something is ostentatious</u>? - attracting or seeking to attract attention, admiration, or envy often by gaudiness or obviousness, overly elaborate or conspicuous.

#### **English Standard Version**

(12) I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.'

#### **Amplified Bible**

(13) But the tax collector, standing at a distance, would not even raise his eyes toward heaven, but was striking his chest [in humility and repentance], saying, 'God, be merciful and gracious to me, the [especially wicked] sinner [that I am]!'

#### **Amplified Bible**

(14) I tell you, this man went to his home justified [forgiven of the guilt of sin and placed in right standing with God] rather than the other man; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself [forsaking self-righteous pride] will be exalted."

#### **Matthew 21:31**

Which of the two did the will of his father?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.

#### **Matthew 23:12**

For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.



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#### **James 4:17**

#### **English Standard Version**

(17) So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

## Luke 12:35-40

#### **Amplified Bible**

(35) "Be dressed and ready for active service, and keep your lamps continuously burning.

#### **International Standard Version**

(36) Be like people who are waiting for their master to return from a wedding. As soon as he arrives and knocks, they will open the door for him.

#### **International Standard Version**

(37) How blessed are those servants whom the master finds watching for him when he comes! I tell all of you with certainty, he himself will put on an apron, make them sit down at the table, and go around and serve them.

#### **Amplified Bible**

(38) Whether he comes in the second watch (before midnight), or even in the third (after midnight), and finds them so [prepared and ready], blessed are those servants.

#### **International Standard Version**

(39) But be sure of this: if the homeowner had known at what time the thief were coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into.

#### **Amplified Bible**

(40) You too, be continually ready; because the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect."

#### Philippians 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, / who, by the power that enables Him to subject all things to Himself, will transform our lowly bodies to be like His glorious body.

#### 2 Peter 3:10-12

But the Day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar, the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and its works will be laid bare. / Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to conduct yourselves in holiness and godliness / as you anticipate and hasten the coming of the day of God, when the heavens will be destroyed by fire and the elements will melt in the heat.

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## The Dangerous Results of "Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda"

**Putting off Christ, or rejecting his teachings and salvation**, carries the risk of eternal separation from God and spiritual death, as the Bible warns against the consequences of rejecting the Son of God.

**Eternal Separation from God:** Matthew 25:41 & 46 - 2 Thessalonians 1:9 - Revelation 20:11-15 - Revelation 14:11- Isaiah 59:1-2 & 14:12-15 - Ezekiel 28:12-17 The core message is that rejecting Christ means rejecting the path to salvation and eternal life, and instead facing a fate of eternal separation from God, often referred to as hell.

**Spiritual Death: Colossians 2:13 - 2 Thessalonians 1:9 - Matthew 25:41** The Bible describes sin as leading to "**spiritual death**," which is a state of being separated from God and experiencing the consequences of that separation.

Condemnation and Judgment: Romans 6:23 - Matthew 25:46 - Revelation 20:11-15 - John 12:48 Those who do not believe in Jesus are already condemned, and their fate is one of judgment and punishment, as stated in John 3:18.

Missed Opportunity for Forgiveness and Grace: James 1:12 - Matthew 6:1-34 By rejecting Christ, individuals miss the opportunity for the forgiveness of sins and the grace that God offers through his Son. The Bible emphasizes that the reward for those who follow Christ is eternal life and a place in God's kingdom, while those who reject him face eternal loss.

**Re-crucifying Christ:** Hebrews 6:6 The idea that rejecting Christ after having tasted of his goodness and wisdom is a re-crucifying of Jesus and a putting him to public shame.

## Colossians 3:23-24

#### **Amplified Bible**

Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men, knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [greatest] reward. It is the Lord Christ whom you [actually] serve.

### **Galatians 6:9**

#### **GOD'S WORD® Translation**

We can't allow ourselves to get tired of living the right way. Certainly, each of us will receive [everlasting life] at the proper time, if we don't give up.



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# SDACOM

To some people, the idea of "peace" is a stress-free day. To others, "peace" is the serenity of a gorgeous sunrise or sunset. Whatever your definition, peace is something we all want. But do you pursue it? Do you seek peace? Do you chase after it every day?

In ancient Jewish tradition, peace was valued more than truth. The rabbis would argue that if there was a situation in which truth and peace were in conflict with each other, peace should take precedence. Perhaps, this is because the Hebrew word for "peace" is *shalom*, which means to be wholly unified with God and others. Among the rabbis, it was more important for you to be unified with God and others than to be "right." My friend Andy Stanley puts this idea into modern terms when he says, "You are more important than my view." But how often do we get this the other way around and put our need to be "right" ahead of people?

The first believers in God taught that those who follow God should love peace and pursue it, love their neighbors, and attract others to the Scriptures. This is the peace Jesus offers—peace with God, peace of God, and peace with each other. This sort of peace attracts people to the truth.

Does your life exhibit peace like this? How will you attract people to God today through the peace you display?

# How To Pronounce "Shalom" (shaw-lom)



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Photo by S4C's Own Thomas Copeland, A Soldier For Christ

# For Your NOTEs
