

Talking About God with a Novice Zionese Speaker

When we have a gospel conversation with kids, we can sometimes use language that is hard for them to understand. Zionese is a made-up word to remind us that children don't always understand some of the more advanced language of the Bible, or some of the "churchy" phrases we sometimes use to communicate a spiritual truth. Use this guide to help you translate Zionese for kids.

Words/Phrases to Avoid (unless you can explain them)

- Ask Jesus into your heart
- Born Again
- Cleanse your Heart
- Confession
- Conviction
- Give Your Heart to Jesus
- Holy
- Iniquity
- Justified
- Lost
- Redeemed
- Repentance
- Righteous
- Sanctified
- Saved
- Transgression
- Trinity
- Washed in the Blood

Zionese for Novices

*Remember, a novice is someone who is just learning a language. We need to start with the basics. They will learn more about each word/term's meaning as they grow in Christ.

Zionese	What it Means
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salvation • Saved 	<p>Salvation means that God has forgiven you for displeasing Him because you have told Him you are sorry and asked Him to forgive you and be in charge of your life.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take Jesus as Savior • Give your heart • Ask Jesus into your heart • Be born again • Be washed in the blood • Commit your life 	<p>Ask Jesus to help you live as He wants you to live every day. Ask Jesus to be the Boss (Leader) of your life. Ask Jesus to be in charge of your life.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lost 	<p>Lost means you have not asked Jesus to forgive you and to be in charge of your life.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a Profession (of faith) 	<p>Let other people know that you have asked Jesus to be in charge of your life.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith • Trust 	<p>Faith/Trust is believing God to do what He says He will do and be who He says He is. Faith/trust is doing what God says because you believe that God always chooses the best for you.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sin • Iniquity 	<p>Sin is when you choose your way instead of God's way. Sin is when you know what you are supposed to do, but you choose to do something else. Sin separates you from God.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repent 	<p>Repent means that you decide to do things <i>God's way</i> instead of your way. You are sorry for the wrong choices you have made.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obeying <i>God</i> 	<p>Obeying <i>God</i> means choosing to live <i>God's way</i>.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian • Believer 	<p>You are a <i>Christian (believer)</i> if you have asked <i>God</i> to forgive you for the wrong choices you have made and asked Him to be in charge of your life.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savior 	<p>Jesus is my <i>Savior</i> because he does for me what I cannot do for myself. He saves me from being separated from <i>God</i> because of my sin.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Righteousness 	<p>Always doing and saying what <i>God</i> would do and say.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Spirit 	<p>"God is the boss and the Holy Spirit is the One who tells you what the Boss wants you to do" (Gabe, Interlachen, FL).</p>