Date: 4/30/16

Title: Now is the Time

Theme: Trust in Jesus now before it is too late!

Object: Pictures of skydiving

Text: 2 Cor 6:22 Corinthians 6:2 (NKJV) 2 … Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Here the apostle Paul is writing to the people of Corinth with a very important message.

He tells them, “Now is the day of salvation; don’t wait until tomorrow.”

When we hear about Jesus and how He can save us from our sins and give us eternal life, we should believe in Jesus, ask Him to forgive our sins, and love Him and obey Him today.

You know, lots of people go through life and they think, “Some day I’m going to become a Christian.”

“But not today. Maybe some day way off in the future I’ll trust in Jesus and live for Him, but now I’m having too much fun with my friends, and none of them trust in Jesus.”

When people do that, it reminds me of something that sounds really scary.

Did you ever hear of skydiving?

You get on an airplane and climb up to 30,000 ft, put on a parachute, and jump out of the plane.

And instead of opening your parachute right away, you just put out your arms and legs and drop down through the air toward the ground. [Show picture]

It’s like you’re flying through the air, but you’re not going up, you’re flying down toward the ground.

My grandson, CJ, loves to do this.

He’s in the Navy, and as part of his training, he has had to jump out of planes in all kinds of different conditions: sometimes over water, sometimes over land, sometimes at night, mostly during the day.

And he loves the thrill of flying through the air.

Now how did they take this picture of this guy skydiving? There had to be another skydiver there with him that had a camera to take his picture.

So people often sky dive together. They jump out of the plane one after the other, but they catch up to each other in the air. [Show picture]

If they hold their arms and legs out, they drop slower, but if they hold them in, they drop faster.

So here they have all caught up to each other and they formed a circle and are dropping through the air at the same speed.

Notice that they all have a parachute strapped to their back.

And when they get close to the ground, they pull the rip cord and their parachute opens.

Here’s a picture of a skydiver after his parachute opens.

The parachute slows him down, and he just floats down slowly through the air and land softly on the ground without getting hurt.

Now what if his parachute doesn’t open? He’s dead!

Or what if he doesn’t open it in time? What if he’s having too much fun doing flips and somersaults in the air and he doesn’t open his parachute in time to slow down? He’s dead!

Or what if he passes out, or gets knocked out by another skydiver and he can’t pull the rip cord to open his parachute? He’s dead.

The Bible tells us: “Don’t wait to open your parachute. You might hit the ground first and then you’re dead.”

Jesus is our parachute. Today is the day of salvation.

Do you want to trust in Jesus before you hit the ground?

Let’s ask Him to be our savior right now!!