

Foundations of Faith

Lesson One: Salvation

Steps to Peace with God

1. God's Purpose: Peace and Life

Read the following verses and describe in your own words God's original intention for us.

Genesis 1:27-28 _____

John 3:16 (memorize) _____

John 10:10 (memorize) _____

There is a God. He is real. He exists. God is not nature or the creation of man. God is our creator. That means you are not here by accident. God made you to bless you and give you purpose. He wants you to experience peace and life – both eternal and abundant.

2. The Problem: Separation from God

Read the following verses and describe in your own words sin and its results

Romans 3:23 (memorize) _____

Romans 6:23 (memorize) _____

Isaiah 59:2 _____

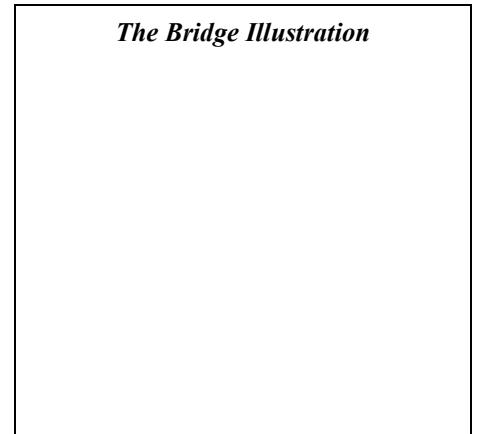
Have you ever sinned? Yes No I don't know (read Exodus 20:1-17)

Which statement best describes what you believe? What is wrong with the others?

- a. I have made a few mistakes, but mostly I am still a good person.
 - b. A loving God wouldn't send anyone to hell – just really evil people.
 - c. I have sinned against God, so I deserve death and eternal separation from God.
- (See 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9)*

Story on sin and our need for God

What are some ways people try to get to God? Why do they fail? _____



In John 14:6 (memorize) Jesus said, "I am the _____, the _____ and the _____. No one come to the Father except through me."

3. God's Bridge: the Cross!

Read the following verses and describe in your own words what God has done for us.

Romans 5:8 (memorize) _____

I Peter 3:18 _____

Ephesians 2:8-9 _____

Story on grace

4. Our Response: Receive Jesus

Read the following verse and describe in your own words what we must do to receive God's offer of salvation.

John 1:12 (memorize) _____

Romans 10:9 (memorize) _____

Check the responses necessary for you to be saved. (see also 1 John 1:9; Acts 2:37-39; 1 Corinthians 15:1-5)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do more good things than bad things | <input type="checkbox"/> Be willing to turn from your sins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admit that you have sinned | <input type="checkbox"/> Believe Jesus died to forgive your sins and rose from the dead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sincerely try to be a better person | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose one of the many ways to get to heaven |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Go to church more | <input type="checkbox"/> Invite Jesus to come in and control your life |

New life in Christ!

What can we learn from these verses about what a true Christian is?

2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 17 _____

1 John 5:12-13 _____

Check the statements that describe your new life in God.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> inner peace | <input type="checkbox"/> joy having been forgiven | <input type="checkbox"/> ability to defeat sin in my life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sense of God's presence | <input type="checkbox"/> desire to do God's will | <input type="checkbox"/> desire to share Jesus with others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> awareness of sin in my life | <input type="checkbox"/> confidence that I will go to heaven | <input type="checkbox"/> new love and concern for others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> feeling of unconditional love | <input type="checkbox"/> desire to read the Bible | |

Have you believed in Jesus and received this new life? Yes No I don't know

Describe your life in the following boxes:

My life before Jesus

When I encountered Jesus

Since I met Jesus

YOUR RESPONSE THIS WEEK:

- Pray to receive Jesus into your life.
- Record your spiritual "birthday" here:

On _____ (month) ____ (day) _____ (year) I received Jesus into my heart to be my savior. He forgave my sin, became my Lord and took control of my life. Now I have become a child of God and a new creation. I have begun a new life.

Signature: _____

- Talk with the one taking you through this lesson or a pastor about being baptized. (Acts 2:37-39; Romans 6:1-14)
- Get your own Bible if you do not have one. Begin reading one of the gospels (one of the first four books of the New Testament. Begin to do everything that Jesus commands.
- Memorize the *Steps to Peace with God* with the scriptures (in bold) and the bridge illustration.
- Practice sharing your testimony.
- Plan to attend a lifegroup.
- Agree with the one taking you through this lesson on a realistic but challenging goal to share the gospel this week.
- Share this lesson with someone who is ready to be trained.