

HOW DO WE RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE AND FORGIVENESS?

A Simple Study of God's Word That Will Change Your Life!

NOTE: after studying the Bible as an evangelist for 27 years with people from many different cultures, many different backgrounds, on four different continents, I found one thing that has consistently been important: keep it simple, keep it JESUS!

For this reason, we start at the beginning in Genesis 1:1 and work our way towards Jesus.

We do not talk about church in this study. Not that I don't think that is important, but I believe what a person thinks about Jesus is the MOST important thing.

How did you become a Christian? Did you "ask Christ into your heart?" Were you sprinkled as a baby? Would you be shocked if I told you that both of those ways are not even found in the Bible? What matters is we come to God the way He says to come to Him. Not the way we think. It matters what the Bible says, not what a preacher or pastor said.

Have you ever read the Bible for yourself? Or have you relied on your pastor to teach you? What if he is wrong? You are dealing with your eternal soul here. We are talking eternity. Judgment Day. You can get many things wrong in this life and you might be able to get away with it. However, when dealing with your eternal soul and your eternal destiny, don't you think you should make sure you are right with God before death? These lessons will not take long to do. After we die, there is no such thing as purgatory or a second chance (Hebrews 9:27)

If you want to print this study out for ANYONE, feel free to do so. There are no "strings" attached or copyright stuff. Feel free to send this study to people in prison, jail, drug rehab, halfway house, schools, overseas, anywhere! If you want to use it for yourself, feel free. I want it to be used for the glory of God!

Before we start, here is my story! My name is Chris Boyce. I am 52 years old. I am a sinner saved by grace and have been a follower of Jesus for 27 years. I am with the church of Christ, a non-denominational church that seeks to love God, love people, and to follow Jesus. The Bible is our only authority. Currently, my wife, Teresa and daughter, Sara and I are living in Seoul, Korea as "vocational" missionaries. I am teaching English at a University and we hope to begin college ministry soon.

I was born and raised in Washington D.C. I wanted to be a rock star when I was a kid. I got into heavy metal, drugs, and alcohol by the time I was 13 years old. I was rebellion with a capital "R!" But, my heart was empty. I always believed in God, but I hated "organized religion" and Christians. Thought they were hypocrites. After high school, I found myself with

no direction or purpose. I was deeply confused and even contemplated suicide at one point when I was 19. I was involved as a guitarist in a heavy metal band, but felt like I needed to get out of that lifestyle so I joined the military when I was 20. I was still empty, still angry on the inside. I just felt so lost.

After 3 ½ years in the Air Force and living and being involved in some very dysfunctional female relationships, in the fall of 1989, I found myself in Murfreesboro, TN. I wanted to be a recording engineer so I entered Middle Tennessee State University. I also got back into drugs, bands, and drinking. I started renting an apartment behind a Christian widow's house. She began to reach out to me in love and eventually invited me to her church (North Blvd church of Christ) and that is where I heard about hope, forgiveness, and the cross of Jesus Christ! I was baptized August 8, 1990 and Jesus Christ has changed my life...I have been clean by the grace of God for 27 years and been in ministry 27 years!

God has allowed me to serve and join Him as an evangelist starting and maturing churches in: the inner city of Mobile, Alabama (1994-1998 - 4 1/2 years), Abilene, Texas (1999-2000), start 3 churches/train 3 evangelists, Mwanza, Tanzania, East Africa (2000, 2002-2005 - 4 years), leadership training/discipleship/small groups, Recife, Brazil (2007-2011 - 4 years), and as an evangelist for the Forest Mill church of Christ, Manchester, TN (2011-2015 - 4 years). We didn't plan any of this. And no, it's not that we cannot stay longer than 4 years anywhere, it's just the way it's worked out! We have been here in Korea for 2 years. I have also been active in prison ministry in TN and TX (5 years). God also empowered me to get a B.A in Bible from Lipscomb University (1994) and an M.A. in Missions from Abilene Christian University (2000)!

All of us are students of the Bible; no one has all the answers. God made the Bible simple to understand – man makes it difficult. You read it and decide for yourself. Let's just let the Bible do the talking! Here's the outline of our lessons

Lesson 1: The Truth of the Bible

Lesson 2: Why do we have problems in our world?

Lesson 3: What is the Simple Message of the Bible? What is the "BIG PICTURE?"

Lesson 4: Who is Jesus?

Lesson 5: The power of Jesus: His Miracles

Lesson 6: The Love and Forgiveness of Jesus

Lesson 7: The Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus

Lesson 8: Are you ready to follow Jesus? What is faith?

Lesson 9: Are you ready to follow Jesus? Why do we need a Savior?

Lesson 10: Are you ready to follow Jesus? Seek to put Him First!

Lesson 11: Are you ready to follow Jesus? What is baptism?

DIRECTIONS: if you want to print these off and mail them to someone, please feel free to do so. I have mailed many of these to inmates in jail, halfway houses, and people that are just seeking a simple study.

If you want to print them off and do them yourself, after you are done, just email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com and we will see how you did! Or if you have any questions at all within this study or any other question, please feel free to email me! I may not know the answer, but I will do my best to try to help you. Especially if you struggle with foundational questions like:

- Does God exist?
- How do I know the Bible is true? Isn't the Bible just corrupted by years of tradition?
- What about evil and suffering?
- Do all religions lead to God or is there just one way?
- How do I know Jesus really is the Son of God? Or is He God? What about the Trinity?
- Does God really know me? Does He have a plan for my life?
- What is God's Will for my life?
- Is there any sin that is unforgiveable? Can God forgive me?
- Can I really know for sure that I am going to heaven?
- How can I begin to know God?

I would be more than happy to help you. I have wrestled with these questions myself. I am here to tell you that there are ANSWERS to your questions if you are willing to listen. No strings attached. I won't send your name to any churches or share it with anyone. I will not pressure you or drive you nuts emailing you. Nor will I argue with you. Everyone is entitled to their opinion. However, if you ask me what I think, I will share. I will also be interested in what you think as well. I just want to help you discover the truth that has transformed my life and given me hope, meaning, and purpose. And 27 years sobriety – no drugs or alcohol! Don't need them when you discover God's love for you.

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INTRODUCTION/LESSON 1

God Cares About Me and His Word is Truth

DIRECTIONS: Read the Scriptures which are from the New Living Translation (an excellent, simple translation; much easier to read than the King James Version or New International Version). CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER

2 TIMOTHY 3:16: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **17** so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work

1. True False *I believe every Word in the Bible is from God*
2. True False *Only God can determine what is right and what is wrong.*
3. True False *The Bible is something that man made up*

JOHN 17:17: Jesus said, "Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth."

4. True False *Jesus said that the Bible is not completely accurate*

2 PETER 1:20: Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, **21** or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.

5. True False *The Holy Spirit guided the pens of the men who wrote down the words in the Bible; therefore, the Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible*

PSALM 139:1: O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. **2** You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. **3** You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. **4** You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. **5** You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. **6** Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!

6. True False *God is not far away from me. He is right here with me right now.*

7. True False *God knows everything about me. He knows what I do each day. He even knows what I am thinking!*

PSALM 139:7: I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! **8** If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. **9** If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, **10** even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me. **11** I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night—**12** but even in darkness I cannot hide from you. To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you.

7. True False *God is everywhere, even in this cell. God is Spirit (John 4:23,24)*

PSALM 139:13: You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. **14** Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. **15** You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. **16** You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. **17** How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! **18** I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

8. True False *God created me special, a unique one of a kind.*

9. True False *God knew me before I was born (Jeremiah 1:5: "Before I was in the womb, O LORD, you knew me.")*

10. True False *God cares about my life, my actions, and my family. He loves me.*

HEBREWS 4:12: For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. **13** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

11. True False *The Word of God has the power to change my life*

12. True False *God sees all that I do and we are accountable to Him for how we live our lives – we will answer for our lives on Judgment Day.*

LESSON 2

Why Does The World Have Problems?

LET'S REVIEW FROM LESSON 1

- DIRECTIONS: CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER

1. True False *Every Word in the Bible is from God*
2. True False *God's Word can help me in my daily life*
3. True False *Jesus said that the Bible is not completely accurate*
4. True False *Man is the author of the Bible, not the Holy Spirit*
5. True False *God is not far away from me. He is right here with me right now.*
6. True False *God knows everything about me. He knows what I do each day. He even knows what I am thinking!*
7. True False *God is everywhere. God is Spirit.*
8. True False *God created me special*
9. True False *God knew me before I was born.*
10. True False *God cares about my life, my actions, and my family*

GENESIS 1:1: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

1. True False *God has no beginning and no end. He is not created.*
2. True False *God is very powerful to be able to create all things*

GENESIS 1:26: Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

3. True False *God created man and woman special. We are not “gods,” but just as God is spirit, we too have a spiritual nature. We also have intelligence, the need to love and be loved and a moral sense of right and wrong. Death is not final for us.*

GENESIS 1:27: So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. **28** Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.” **29** Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. **30** And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life.” And that is what happened. **31** Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was **very good!** And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

4. True False *God created everything bad*
5. True False *In the beginning, there was death, evil, and sin*
6. True False *Adam and Eve were the first humans God created*
7. True False *Before they sinned, Adam and Eve had eternal life with God*

GENESIS 2:15: The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. **16** But the Lord God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— **17** except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

8. True False *God tested Adam and Eve. God wanted to discover if Adam and Eve loved and trusted Him. God put the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the garden to see if Adam and Eve would obey.*
9. True False *Adam and Eve would die if they did not obey God.*
10. True False *God created a perfect world without evil. We have evil and suffering today because men and women continue to choose evil instead of good. It's not God's fault there is suffering, but human beings. Every human being is accountable to God for the choices they make and in the end, God will make all wrong things right.*

REVELATION 12:7: Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. **8** And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. **9** This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

Before Adam and Eve were created, God created angels who were his special servants and messengers. God created all angels good. There were no bad angels. One angel named Lucifer (satan) wanted all of the power in heaven. One day, soon after Adam and Eve were created, Lucifer disobeyed God. Other angels followed him. Lucifer wanted to be God. But, God is stronger than satan. God sent him to the earth with the other bad angels.

ISAIAH 14:12: “How you are fallen from heaven, O shining star, son of the morning! You have been thrown down to the earth, you who destroyed the nations of the world. **13** For you said to yourself, ‘I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God’s stars. I will preside on the mountain of the gods far away in the north. **14** I will climb to the highest heavens and be like the Most High.

11. True False *satan was originally a good angel, but rebelled against God because of his pride: he wanted to be God.*

EZEKIEL 28:13: You were in Eden, the garden of God. Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone—red carnelian, pale-green peridot, white moonstone, blue-green beryl, onyx, green jasper, blue lapis lazuli, turquoise, and emerald—all beautifully crafted for you and set in the finest gold. They were given to you on the day you were created. **14** I ordained and anointed you as the mighty angelic guardian. You had access to the holy mountain of God and walked among the stones of fire. **15** “You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you

12. True False *satan was apparently at one time beautiful and an important angel*

Now, in Genesis 2, we learn God creates Adam and Eve and their task is to take care and rule over the earth. However, satan wants to rule the earth and so he decides one day to disguise himself as a snake and deceive Adam and Eve into giving him authority and power over the earth.

GENESIS 3:1-24 *(in simple story form; you can compare to your own Bibles)*

1. One day, Satan came into the garden in Eden. He said to Eve, “Did God tell you not to eat the fruit on the trees?” Eve said to Satan, “We can eat the fruit on the trees. But God told us

not to eat the fruit on the tree in the middle of the garden. If we eat that fruit, we will die.” (Genesis 3:1-3)

2. Satan said to Eve, “You will not die. God is telling you a lie. If you eat that fruit you will be like God. You will know everything and be your own god. You don’t have to obey God. You can do what you want to do.” (Genesis 3:4,5)

3. So Eve ate some of the fruit. Adam was standing right next to her, but did not say anything! Eve gave some fruit to Adam. He ate it. Suddenly, they felt guilt, shame, and sadness. They had disobeyed God. (Genesis 3:6,7)

4. The next day, God came into the garden to see Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve were afraid. They knew they had done a bad thing. They had eaten the fruit God told them not to eat. They tried to hide from God. (Genesis 3:8,9)

5. God called, “Adam, Eve - where are you?” He looked everywhere. Then Adam said to God, “We heard you come into the garden. We are afraid. We are were naked so we hid.” God knew what Adam and Eve had done. He said, “You have eaten the fruit I told you not to eat.” God was very angry. He was very sad. Adam blamed Eve and said it was her fault; Eve said it was the snake’s fault. (Genesis 3:10-13)

6. When we disobey God, bad things happen. Adam and Eve learned this. Now there were bad things in the perfect world God created. People would now die. They would get sick. They would have problems.

7. But, in the garden, God made a promise to Adam and Eve. He said that one day, in the future, He would send a Savior to defeat satan. He would be one of Eve’s descendents. (Genesis 3:15) This promised Seed would be passed on from person to person (beginning with Abel, then Seth, etc) all the way until Jesus was born. God gave them hope.

8. Adam and Eve had to go away from the garden in Eden. They were separated from God. They would now die. They had to work very hard to get food to eat and live. Life was now difficult. (Genesis 3:21-24)

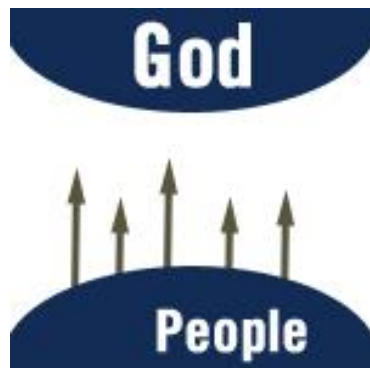
9. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. But, God still loved them. Adam and Eve tried to cover up their nakedness themselves, but God did not accept their clothes. Adam and Eve could not save themselves from their sin. Only God could. God did something for Adam and Eve that they could not do: He provided a substitute for their sins. God killed an animal and provided clothes for Adam and Eve.

NOTE: Why did God kill this innocent animal? Did the animal do anything wrong? No. It was to remind Adam and Eve that the punishment for sin is death. The animal became the substitute for Adam and Eve's sin. How were Adam and Eve saved? Just as we are: by grace through faith. Faith is the one element in man that God can get along with. God wanted them to put their trust and hope in the Savior, the future Messiah that would come one day. God wanted Adam and Eve to obey Him. How did Adam and Eve show they had faith? By offering the right sacrifice whenever they sinned. They needed to be sorry for their sins in their heart and trust that God would forgive them. Animal sacrifice was temporary only until Jesus would come to be our final sacrifice for our sins.

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| 10. True | False | <i>Adam and Eve listened to satan. They did not listen and obey God.</i> |
| 11. True | False | <i>God promised a descendent from Eve. He would defeat satan. His name is Jesus!</i> |
| 12. True | False | <i>When we disobey God, bad things happen</i> |
| 13. True | False | <i>Sin separated Adam and Eve from God. Now they would die spiritually and physically.</i> |
| 14. True | False | <i>Adam and Eve could not save themselves from their sins. God did for them what they could not do for themselves. He provided a substitute. They had to trust God and His promises.</i> |
| 15. True | False | <i>We, too, cannot save ourselves from our sins. We need God to rescue us. God accepts us, too when we trust Him and His promises.</i> |

<p>ISAIAH 59:2: But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear</p>
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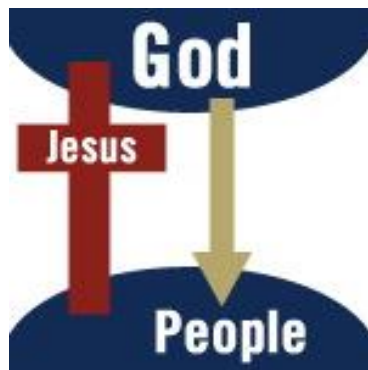
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| 16. True | False | <i>We are separated from God because of our sins</i> |
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Psalm 92:15 says that "there is no unrighteousness in God." Meaning, God is perfect & holy. There is no sin in Him. Therefore, God must punish sin. **Romans 6:23** says, "The wages of sin is death." What we deserve for our sins is to be separated forever from God.

We have a problem. **Romans 3:10** says "that none of us is righteous." God is righteous and perfect. We are not. Therefore, we cannot be in His presence unless He fixes our problem. Listen to **Romans 6:23**: "For the wages of sin is death but the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." . You cannot pay for a gift; you can only receive it!

Only the Promised Savior can help us. Jesus can be our bridge to God. How? Because Jesus is both 100% God and 100% man. He can be on God's side and our side at the same time. He is perfect and never sinned. His blood can wash us clean and through trusting in Him, we can receive forgiveness and eternal life.



If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don't hesitate to email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 3

What is the Bible about? What is the "BIG PICTURE?"

HOW CAN I UNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE IN A SIMPLE WAY?

DIRECTIONS: for this lesson, I want you just to read slowly and carefully to get the "BIG PICTURE" of the Bible. It is very simple to understand. It is not hard. But, it will help for you at this point to see how the whole "puzzle" fits! We will go from Genesis to Revelation in less than 15 minutes!

You have only studied the first 3 chapters of the Bible in Genesis! What is the Bible about in a nutshell? What's the big picture? The Bible is one story: How God rescues us from sin! Jesus Christ is the hero of the Bible. The story of REDEMPTION. Redemption is: "deliverance from slavery by payment of a price." We were slaves of sin, but Jesus Christ has paid our sin debt on the cross and we are REDEEMED!

- **Old Testament** points towards the cross = the Savior is coming (60 prophecies tell us details)
- **New Testament** points back towards the cross = the Savior has come, His Name is Jesus!
- **Revelation** says, "That same Savior is coming again!"

1. PERFECTION (Genesis 1,2)

God created a perfect world where there was no sin, death, or evil. God created man and woman in His image, as His representatives on earth. You are precious because you are a creation of God, created in His image. He created us for a relationship with Himself. Adam and Eve had eternal life, were without sin, and in perfect relationship with God. God provided all of their needs and He walked with Adam/Eve. They felt loved, secure, and their lives had purpose/meaning. God created humans and angels with freedom of choice.

2. PROBLEM (Genesis 3:1-14)

Satan was originally a good angel but chose to rebel against God, taking 1/3 of the angels with him to the earth. God gave Adam and Eve authority over the earth. Satan wants that authority so he comes and tempts them to disobey God. Because of sin, man and woman are separated from God. There were consequences to sin: death (both spiritually and physically)

3. PLAN OF REDEMPTION (Genesis 3:15 – 11:32)

Part of Satan's consequence of tempting Adam and Eve into sin was God's promise to send a Savior who would save mankind from sin and death and crush the devil! Here is the promise from God (they are not out of the garden and God is already giving Adam/Eve hope)

GENESIS 3:15: And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

- God makes a promise in Genesis 3:15: I will send a Savior, the Promised Seed, who will be passed on from generation to generation and eventually 4000 years later come to Mary and Joseph in a stable where Jesus was born as the Savior of the world (this is what the genealogies in Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38). Satan would live in “hostility” between humanity and himself (he seeks to destroy the seed beginning with Cain killing Abel)
- The promise in Genesis 3:15 is that satan will “stike the Savior’s heel” (cause temporary pain = the cross) while Jesus would “crush satan’s head” (at the cross and resurrection, Jesus conquered sin, death, and satan!).
- A seed & a promise would be passed on from generation to generation beginning with Seth, the son of Adam all the way to Jesus. God is faithful.
- Effects of sin: Cain kills Abel (Genesis 4).
- Two distinct family lines: the sons of Cain (disobedience) and the sons of God (faith/obedience) – through whom the promised seed of a Savior will come (Adam, Seth, all the way to Noah). Faith is what pleases God!
- Things get so bad on the earth that God decides to destroy the earth and start over again. Because Noah is a righteous man, God uses him to build an ark and to start over.

4. PROMISE OF REDEMPTION (Genesis 12 – 50, Timeline: 2166 – 1846 B.C.)

God begins to work out His plan to send a Savior through Abraham and Sarah. He promises a nation (Israel), land, protection, and the Promised Savior would come through their seed. The seed goes from Abraham, Issac, Jacob and Judah. Because of Joseph, God’s people end up in Egypt

5. PICTURES OF REDEMPTION (Exodus – Esther, Timeline: 1446 – 480 B.C.)

After 400 years of slavery, God rescue His people from Egypt, brings them to Mt Sinai, and enters into a covenant relationship with Israel. The Ten Commandments are the marriage vows! Because God wanted to be near His people, Tabernacle and priesthood. Sacrifice was established as the way to be forgiven of sins. All these are “pictures” of God’s desire to be near us and to have relationship! Israel fell into idolatry, worshiping other gods. God sends prophet after prophet to call His bride back to Him, but they refuse. Eventually, after several hundred years, both the northern and southern kingdoms go into exile

6. POEMS OF REDEMPTION (Job – Ecclesiastes)

How the heart responds to redemption! In Job, trusting God through difficult times; in Psalms, we learn how to pray and praise our God; in Proverbs, we learn how to live practically, and in Ecclesiastes, we learn that life without God is meaningless!

7. PROPHECIES OF REDEMPTION (Isaiah – Malachi, Timeline: 760-430 B.C.)

Prophets were not only calling Israel back to their promise they made to God, they were telling us about this promised Savior: over 60 prophecies about this Messiah!

8. PAUSE (WAITING FOR REDEMPTION – BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW COVENANT, Timeline: 430 – 4 B.C.)

For 400 years, there silence from God: no prophets, no Word, nothing. Just because God is silent, doesn't mean He wasn't working! God was preparing His people for His Son to come!

9. PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST – REDEMPTION FULFILLED (Matthew – John., 4 B.C.- 30 A.D.)

The entire Bible points to Jesus! In the Gospels, we learn about His virgin birth, miracles, teachings, death, burial, and resurrection! In Him, God's plan to save human beings from sin is fulfilled! On the cross Jesus paid for every sin we have committed so that now through trusting in Him alone, we can be forgiven and receive eternal life! Jesus came to show us how to love God with all of our heart! He is our example to follow!

10. PREACHING OF REDEMPTION (Acts, 30-62 A.D.)

Acts 2, Peter and the apostles share the good news that forgiveness and eternal life can be received by putting trust in Jesus and baptism. The book of Acts is how the church grew and spread throughout the Roman Empire and the world.

11. PRINCIPLES/PRACTICES OF REDEMPTION (Romans – Jude, 48-90 A.D.)

Each of the letters of the New Testament teach us how to grow in our faith, how to love God with all of our heart, and how to love our neighbor as ourselves.

12. PERFECTION (Revelation, 95 A.D.)

The message of Revelation is simple: GOD WINS! And if we are on God's side, we win too! God proves that He is Sovereign and in control of History! He judges all evil and wickedness on Judgment Day. All humanity either spend eternity with God in heaven or separated from God in hell. The book of Revelation, God restores everything back to the garden! Compare Genesis 1,2 with Genesis 21,22: God is now with His people again and the tree of life. The Bible begins with perfection, it ends with perfection. That is GOD'S STORY!

SINCE JESUS IS THE HERO OF THE BIBLE AND IT ALL POINTS TO HIM, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE KNOW ABOUT HIM! NEXT LESSON, WE WILL DISCOVER WHO JESUS IS! BY LESSON 11, YOU WILL DISCOVER SIMPLY WHAT YOU MUST DO TO RECEIVE FORGIVENESS AND ETERNAL LIFE! KEEP READING!

If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don't hesitate to email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 4
Who is Jesus?

REVIEW FROM LESSON 2

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|----------|-------|---|
| 1. True | False | <i>God has no beginning and no end. He is not created.</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>God is very powerful to create all things</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>God created man and woman special. We are not like the animals. We are all equal before God.</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>God created everything bad</i> |
| 5. True | False | <i>In the beginning, there was no death, no evil, and no sin</i> |
| 6. True | False | <i>Adam and Eve were the first humans God created</i> |
| 7. True | False | <i>Adam and Eve were going to live forever with God</i> |
| 8. True | False | <i>God tested Adam and Eve. God wanted to discover if Adam and Eve loved and trusted Him. God put the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the garden to see if Adam and Eve would obey.</i> |
| 9. True | False | <i>Adam and Eve would die if they disobeyed God.</i> |
| 10. True | False | <i>Adam and Eve listened to satan. They did not listen and obey God.</i> |
| 11. True | False | <i>God promised a descendent from Eve. He would destroy satan. His name is Jesus!</i> |
| 12. True | False | <i>When we disobey God, bad things happen</i> |
| 13. True | False | <i>Sin separated Adam and Eve from God. Now they would die spiritually and physically.</i> |

JOHN 8:23: But Jesus continued, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. **24** I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins

1. True False *I will die in my sins if I don't believe Jesus is the One He claims to be.*

COLOSSIANS 1:15: Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, **16** for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. **17** He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. **18** Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.

2. True False *When I look at Jesus, I am looking at God*

3. True False *Through Jesus, God the Father created the world*

4. True False *Jesus is not created. He was there before anything was made. He was with the Father and the Spirit.*

5. True False *Jesus is 100% God; 100% man*

JOHN 14:6: Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

6. True False *Jesus said that He is the only way to heaven*

The Gospel of John begins with, "In the beginning was the Word...." This term, "in the beginning" should remind us of how the Bible begins in Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

*A "word" explains what something is. For example, I am typing this paper on a **computer** which is a word. In the beginning was the Word. The "Word" in this passage does not mean the Bible. The "Word" is a person. It is Jesus' "nickname." Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like.*

JOHN 1:1: In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He existed in the beginning with God. **3** God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. **4** The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it

7. True False *The Word (Jesus) has always existed. He existed in the beginning with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.*

8. True False *God the Father created everything through His Son, Jesus*

JOHN 1:6: God sent a man, John the Baptist, **7** to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. **8** John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. **9** The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

9. True False *John the Baptist's purpose was to prepare people for Jesus to come*

JOHN 1:10: He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize Him. **11** He came to His own people, and even they rejected Him. **12** But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God. **13** They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God

10. True False *Jesus (the Word) was welcomed and not rejected by everyone*

11. True False *To anyone who puts their trust in Jesus and accepts Him as the Son of God, He gives them the right to become God's child (to be adopted!)*

JOHN 1:14: So the Word became human and made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen His glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. **15** John testified about Him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for He existed long before me.'" **16** From His abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. **17** For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has ever seen God. But the Son, who is Himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.

12. True False *The Word (God) became a human being in Jesus.*

13. True False *Jesus has come to show us what God the Father is like*

14. True False. *If I want to know what God is like all I have to do is look at Jesus*

LISTEN! Jesus is not a Son like you and I are a son. You and I have a birthday, Jesus does not. We have an earthly father, Jesus did not. Joseph was His step-daddy. What does it mean that Jesus is the "Son of God?" Imagine that we are Jewish people living in the first century. If I

should greet you and say, “I am Chris, son of Christopher” (which is my father’s name), you would understand that to mean I have all the characteristics of my father. Jesus is called the “Son of God” because He has all the characteristics of God. “Son of God” means Jesus is 100% God. Jesus also frequently called Himself, “Son of Man” which means He had all the characteristics of man too. “Son of Man” means He was 100% man.

JESUS PROVED HE WAS GOD IN THE FLESH! (SON OF GOD)

1. He was born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)- His birth was a miracle; God placed Himself in the womb of Mary through the Holy Spirit.
2. He forgave sin (Mark 2:1-12; Luke 7:48)
3. He accepted worship (Matthew 14:33; John 20:28)
4. He knew people’s thoughts (Mark 2:8)
5. He performed miracles (too numerous to mention)
6. Jesus boldly claimed that He was sinless and no one accused Him during His trial (John 8:46; Matthew 26:29,60)
7. He arose from the dead (Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20)

Jesus not only proved He was God, He claimed that He was the only way to God! (John 14:6) No other religious leader ever claimed that! And so did His followers! (Acts 4:12)

LUKE 1:26: In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, **27** to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. **28** Gabriel appeared to her and said, “Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!” **29** Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. **30** “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favor with God! **31** You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you will name Him Jesus. **32** He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. **33** And He will reign over Israel forever; His Kingdom will never end!” **34** Mary asked the angel, “But how can this happen? I am a virgin.” **35** The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. **36** What’s more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. **37** For the word of God will never fail.” **38** Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s servant. May everything you have said about me come true.” And then the angel left her.

15. True False

Mary never had sex with anyone. She became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit which was a miracle.

LUKE 2:1: At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. **2** (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **3** All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. **4** And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. **5** He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant. **6** And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. **7** She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

16. True False *Jesus was born poor because He wanted to identify with the common people.*

LUKE 2:8: That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. **9** Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, **10** but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. **11** The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! **12** And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." **13** Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." **15** When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." **16** They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. **17** After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. **18** All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, **19** but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. **20** The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

17. True False *God announced the birth of His Son, the Savior of the World whom the world had been waiting 4000 years for to a bunch of uneducated, smelly, social outcasts called "shepherds."*

LUKE 2:39 When Jesus' parents had fulfilled all the requirements of the law of the Lord, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee. **40** There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him. **41** Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. **42** When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. **43** After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, **44** because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening, they started looking

for him among their relatives and friends. **45** When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. **46** Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. **47** All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere." **49** "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" **50** But they didn't understand what he meant. **51** Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart. **52** Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.

18. True False *When Jesus was 12 years old, He already understood He was the Son of God*

LUKE 3:1: It was now the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius, the Roman emperor. Pontius Pilate was governor over Judea; Herod Antipas was ruler over Galilee; his brother Philip was ruler over Iturea and Traconitis; Lysanias was ruler over Abilene. **2** Annas and Caiaphas were the high priests. At this time a message from God came to John son of Zechariah, who was living in the wilderness. **3** Then John went from place to place on both sides of the Jordan River, preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven....One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened, **22** and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy." **23** Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his public ministry.

19. True False *John the Baptist prepared people for Jesus to come by preaching that they needed to change their ways. To show that they had changed their ways, they would be baptized.*

20. True False *Jesus was baptized, not for the forgiveness of sins, but to identify Himself with all people and to begin His 3 ½ year ministry.*

An important thing to understand is: the Name of Jesus means "*the LORD saves*" and the Name "*Christ*" means "*anointed One*." Anointed means God has set that person apart for a special task that He would like for them to do. Jesus' task was to come to teach us how to love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind and how to love our neighbor as our self. He also came to be our substitute sacrifice for our sins.

If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don't hesitate to email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 5
Power of Jesus

REVIEW FROM LESSON 4

- | | | |
|---------|-------|--|
| 1. True | False | <i>I will die in my sins if I do not believe Jesus is the One He claimed to be</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>When I look at Jesus, I am looking at God</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>Through Jesus, God the Father created the world</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>Jesus is not created. He was there before anything was made. He was with the Father and the Spirit.</i> |
| 5. True | False | <i>Jesus is 100% God; 100% man</i> |
| 6. True | False | <i>I believe that Jesus Christ was born of the virgin Mary</i> |
| 7. True | False | <i>Jesus was born poor.</i> |
| 8. True | False | <i>When Jesus was 12 years old, He understood He was the Son of God</i> |
| 9. True | False | <i>Jesus said that He is the <u>only</u> way to heaven</i> |

1. JESUS' POWER OVER EVIL SPIRITS

MATTHEW 8:28: When Jesus arrived on the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gadarenes, two men who were possessed by demons met him. They lived in a cemetery and were so violent that no one could go through that area. **29** They began screaming at him, "Why are you interfering with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torture us before God's appointed time?" **30** There happened to be a large herd of pigs feeding in the distance. **31** So the demons begged, "If you cast us out, send us into that herd of pigs." **32** "All right, go!" Jesus commanded them. So the demons came out of the men and entered the pigs, and the whole herd plunged down the steep hillside into the lake and drowned in the water. **33** The herdsmen fled to the nearby town, telling everyone what happened to the demon-possessed men. **34** Then the entire town came out to meet Jesus, but they begged him to go away and leave them alone.

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|---------|-------|---|
| 1. True | False | <i>Jesus has greater power than satan or his demons (bad spirits)</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>The evil spirits know that Jesus is the Son of God</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>A follower of Jesus does not need to fear bad spirits or satan</i> |

2. JESUS' POWER OVER NATURE

MATTHEW 8:23: Then Jesus got into the boat and started across the lake with his disciples. **24** Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. **25** The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" **26** Jesus responded, "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!" Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. **27** The disciples were amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked. "Even the winds and waves obey him!"

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| 4. True | False | <i>Even the wind and the water obeys Jesus</i> |
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3. JESUS' POWER OVER ILLNESS

MATTHEW 8:1: Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountainside. **2** Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached him and knelt before him. "Lord," the man said, "if you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean." **3** Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!" And instantly the leprosy disappeared. **4** Then Jesus said to him, "Don't tell anyone about this. Instead, go to the priest and let him examine you. Take along the offering required in the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy. This will be a public testimony that you have been cleansed."

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| 5. True | False | <i>Jesus touched the leper, but He did not have to touch Him to heal.
Jesus touched the leper to show His compassion and love</i> |
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4. JESUS' POWER OVER OUR PROBLEMS

MATTHEW 11:28: Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. **29** Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30** For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

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| 6. True | False | <i>When we are weary and burdened by our sins, Jesus said we should come to Him who will forgive and empower of us to follow Him</i> |
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5. JESUS' POWER OVER DEATH

LUKE 7:11: Soon afterward Jesus went with his disciples to the village of Nain, and a large crowd followed him. **12** A funeral procession was coming out as he approached the village gate. The young man who had died was a widow's only son, and a large crowd from the village was with her. **13** When the Lord saw her, his heart overflowed with compassion. "Don't cry!" he said. **14** Then he walked over to the coffin and touched it, and the bearers stopped. "Young man," he said, "I tell you, get up." **15** Then the dead boy sat up and began to talk! And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

7. True False *The men carrying the dead man's box gave the man back to his mother (be careful, look at verse 15).*

6. JESUS' POWER OVER OUR SINS

JOHN 8:42 Jesus told them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, because I have come to you from God. I am not here on my own, but he sent me. **43** Why can't you understand what I am saying? It's because you can't even hear me! **44** For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies. **45** So when I tell the truth, you just naturally don't believe me! **46** Which of you can truthfully accuse me of sin? And since I am telling you the truth, why don't you believe me?"

8. True False *Read verse 44. satan hates the truth and is a liar who seeks to destroy*

9. True False *Jesus asked the religious leaders who didn't believe He was God's Son if they could accuse Him of sin (read verse 46) – Jesus never sinned*

I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because...

- ✓ Jesus was born from Mary (who was a virgin and never had sexual relations)
- ✓ His miracles
- ✓ Jesus never sinned

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LESSON 6

Forgiveness and Love of Jesus

REVIEW FROM LESSON 4

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|---------|-------|---|
| 1. True | False | <i>Jesus has greater power than satan or his demons (bad spirits)</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>The evil spirits know that Jesus is the Son of God</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>A follower of Jesus does not need to fear bad spirits or satan</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>Even the wind and the water obeys Jesus</i> |
| 5. True | False | <i>Jesus touched the leper. He did not touch him to heal. Jesus touched the leper to show His love</i> |
| 6. True | False | <i>When we are weary and burdened by our sins, Jesus said we should come to Him who will forgive and empower of us to follow Him</i> |
| 7. True | False | <i>Jesus asked the religious leaders who didn't believe He was God's Son if they could accuse Him of sin (read verse 46) – Jesus never sinned</i> |

I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because...

1. Jesus was born from Mary (who never had sexual relations)
2. His miracles
3. Jesus never sinned

MATTHEW 9:9: As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. **10** Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. **11** But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" **12** When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do." **13** Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

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|---------|-------|--|
| 1. True | False | <i>Jesus came to invite bad people to heaven (those who are "sick") and was willing to eat with the rejects of society</i> |
|---------|-------|--|

LUKE 7:36: One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. **37** When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. **38** Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. **39** When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" **40** Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. **41** Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. **42** But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" **43** Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. **44** Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. **45** You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. **46** You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. **47** "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." **48** Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." **49** The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?" **50** And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

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| 2. True | False | <i>Jesus forgave this woman. She was a prostitute</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>The woman cried on Jesus' feet because she was so overcome with her sins and so grateful for His forgiveness</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>The religious, self-righteous Pharisee thought he was better than this woman but in verse 40, Jesus knew what he was thinking</i> |
| 5. True | False | <i>Jesus told the Pharisee a story about a guy who cancelled debts and His point was the one who loves more is the one who realizes their debt is greater (read verses 41-43)</i> |
| 6. True | False | <i>Those religious leaders got mad at Jesus because He forgave her</i> |

JOHN 8:1: Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, **2** but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. **3** As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been

caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. **4** “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. **5** The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?” **6** They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. **7** They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” **8** Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. **9** When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. **10** Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?” **11** “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”

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| 7. True | False | <i>Adultery involves two people and the law of Moses said that both the woman and the man should be stoned to death (Leviticus 20:10) – where was the man here?</i> |
| 8. True | False | <i>The religious leaders did not care about truth or this woman, but wanted to trap Jesus (if He said, “Yes, go stone her” He would have been in trouble with the Romans who were the only ones who could execute someone for a crime. If He would have said, “No, don’t stone her” He would have been in trouble with the Scriptures)</i> |
| 9. True | False | <i>The oldest men dropped their rocks because they realized Jesus was right</i> |
| 10. True | False | <i>Jesus, being the only One who is sinless, could have condemned her, but He did not</i> |
| 11. True | False | <i>Jesus said to the woman, “You can continue as sinning as much as you like and I will forgive you.” (verse 11)</i> |

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LESSON 7

Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus

REVIEW

1. True False *Because of our sin, we are separated from God, cannot go to heaven, & we will physically and spiritually die (if we do not receive God's gift of forgiveness through Jesus Christ). We cannot save ourselves from our sins. Our only hope is Jesus.*
2. True False *Because God loves us so much, He has provided the answer to our sin problem through His Son, Jesus Christ.*
3. Name 3 things that prove Jesus is God's Son:
- 1) born of a _____
 - 2) M_____
 - 3) He never _____

FOUNDATION QUESTIONS

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1: Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the **gospel** I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. **2** By this **gospel** you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. **3** For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

1. True False *The Gospel ("Good News") is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (note verses 3 and 4)*

ROMANS 1:16: For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the non-Jew. **17** This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."

2. True False *The Gospel, the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, has the power to save me from my sins!*
3. True False *We become right with God by putting our faith and trust in Jesus Christ*

I. JESUS' DEATH, BURIAL, & RESURRECTION

MATTHEW 26:47: And even as Jesus said this, Judas, one of the twelve disciples, arrived with a crowd of men armed with swords and clubs. They had been sent by the leading priests and elders of the people. **48** The traitor, Judas, had given them a prearranged signal: "You will know which one to arrest when I greet him with a kiss." **49** So Judas came straight to Jesus. "Greetings, Rabbi!" he exclaimed and gave him the kiss. **50** Jesus said, "My friend, go ahead and do what you have come for." Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him. **51** But one of the men with Jesus pulled out his sword and struck the high priest's slave, slashing off his ear. **52** "Put away your sword," Jesus told him. "Those who use the sword will die by the sword. **53** Don't you realize that I could ask my Father for thousands of angels to protect us, and he would send them instantly? **54** But if I did, how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that describe what must happen now?" **55** Then Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I some dangerous revolutionary, that you come with swords and clubs to arrest me? Why didn't you arrest me in the Temple? I was there teaching every day. **56** But this is all happening to fulfill the words of the prophets as recorded in the Scriptures." At that point, all the disciples deserted him and fled.

TRUE FALSE 1. Jesus was truly guilty of wrongdoing when He was arrested.
Which one of Jesus' 12 apostles turned Him in to be arrested? _____
Were the 11 other apostles loyal to Jesus?__

MATTHEW 26:57: Then the people who had arrested Jesus led him to the home of Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of religious law and the elders had gathered. **58** Meanwhile, Peter followed him at a distance and came to the high priest's courtyard. He went in and sat with the guards and waited to see how it would all end. **59** Inside, the leading priests and the entire high council were trying to find witnesses who would lie about Jesus, so they could put him to death. **60** But even though they found many who agreed to give false witness, they could not use anyone's testimony. Finally, two men came forward **61** who declared, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the Temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'" **62** Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Well, aren't you going to answer these charges? What do you have to say for yourself?" **63** But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I demand in the name of the living God—tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." **64** Jesus replied, "You have said it. And in the future you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven." **65** Then the high priest tore his clothing to show his horror and said, "Blasphemy! Why do we need other witnesses? You have all heard his blasphemy. **66** What is your verdict?" "Guilty!" they shouted. "He deserves to die!" **67** Then they began to spit in Jesus' face and beat him with their fists. And some slapped him, **68** jeering, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who hit you that time?"

2. TRUE FALSE *The Jewish religious teachers told lies about Jesus*

3. TRUE FALSE *All the religious leaders were happy when Jesus claimed to be the Son of God*

MATTHEW 27:11: Now Jesus was standing before Pilate, the Roman governor. “Are you the king of the Jews?” the governor asked him. Jesus replied, “You have said it.” **12** But when the leading priests and the elders made their accusations against him, Jesus remained silent. **13** “Don’t you hear all these charges they are bringing against you?” Pilate demanded. **14** But Jesus made no response to any of the charges, much to the governor’s surprise. **15** Now it was the governor’s custom each year during the Passover celebration to release one prisoner to the crowd—anyone they wanted. **16** This year there was a notorious prisoner, a man named Barabbas. **17** As the crowds gathered before Pilate’s house that morning, he asked them, “Which one do you want me to release to you—Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” **18** (He knew very well that the religious leaders had arrested Jesus out of envy.) **19** Just then, as Pilate was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him this message: “Leave that innocent man alone. I suffered through a terrible nightmare about him last night.” **20** Meanwhile, the leading priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas to be released and for Jesus to be put to death. **21** So the governor asked again, “Which of these two do you want me to release to you?” The crowd shouted back, “Barabbas!” **22** Pilate responded, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” They shouted back, “Crucify him!” **23** “Why?” Pilate demanded. “What crime has he committed?” But the mob roared even louder, “Crucify him!” **24** Pilate saw that he wasn’t getting anywhere and that a riot was developing. So he sent for a bowl of water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood. The responsibility is yours!” **25** And all the people yelled back, “We will take responsibility for his death—we and our children!” **26** So Pilate released Barabbas to them. He ordered Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip, then turned him over to the Roman soldiers to be crucified.

4. TRUE FALSE *Jesus' trial was totally fair & honest*

5. TRUE FALSE *Pilate actually tried to free Jesus, but gave up when he realized he could not keep the people from starting a riot. Pilate then had Jesus whipped (if you have seen the movie, “The Passion” by Mel Gibson, you have seen an accurate picture of what it was like to be whipped by the Roman soldiers)*

MATTHEW 27:27: Some of the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into their headquarters and called out the entire regiment. **28** They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. **29** They wove thorn branches into a crown and put it on his head, and they placed a reed stick in his

right hand as a scepter. Then they knelt before him in mockery and taunted, "Hail! King of the Jews!" **30** And they spit on him and grabbed the stick and struck him on the head with it. **31** When they were finally tired of mocking him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him again. Then they led him away to be crucified.

6. TRUE FALSE *Jesus wore a crown of thorns in mockery and shame so that we one day might wear a crown of righteousness*

MATTHEW 27:32 Along the way, they came across a man named Simon, who was from Cyrene, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross. **33** And they went out to a place called Golgotha (which means "Place of the Skull"). **34** The soldiers gave Jesus wine mixed with bitter gall, but when he had tasted it, he refused to drink it. **35** After they had nailed him to the cross, the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. **36** Then they sat around and kept guard as he hung there. **37** A sign was fastened above Jesus' head, announcing the charge against him. It read: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." **38** Two criminals were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. **39** The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery. **40** "Look at you now!" they yelled at him. "You said you were going to destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days. Well then, if you are the Son of God, save yourself and come down from the cross!" **41** The leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders also mocked Jesus. **42** "He saved others," they scoffed, "but he can't save himself! So he is the King of Israel, is he? Let him come down from the cross right now, and we will believe in him!" **43** He trusted God, so let God rescue him now if he wants him! For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" **44** Even the revolutionaries who were crucified with him ridiculed him in the same way.

7. Who carried Jesus' cross? "_____ from Cyrene." Cyrene is in modern day Libya, northern Africa. It is possible that a black man carried Jesus' cross.

8. TRUE FALSE *Jesus was not mocked on the cross*

MATTHEW 27:45: At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o'clock. **46** At about three o'clock, Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" **47** Some of the bystanders misunderstood and thought he was calling for the prophet Elijah. **48** One of them ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, holding it up to him on a reed stick so he could drink. **49** But the rest said, "Wait! Let's see whether Elijah comes to save him." **50** Then Jesus shouted out again, and he released his spirit.

9. TRUE FALSE *For the first and only time in eternity, Jesus the Son felt separated from His Father and it was because He became sin on the cross and*

bore the sins of every human being that has ever lived

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21: “God made Him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us so that in Him (Jesus) we might become right with God.”

10. TRUE FALSE *Jesus never sinned, but became a sinner on the cross. By trusting in Jesus’ finished work on the cross, I can become right with God*

ROMANS 6:23: “The wages of sin is death (hell) but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

11. TRUE FALSE *God is holy and just. He cannot make peace with sin and say, “Sin doesn’t matter.” He must punish sin if He is worthy of worship. Therefore, Jesus became our substitute on the cross; He received the punishment we deserve (eternal death, separation from God).*

MATTHEW 27:51: At that moment the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, rocks split apart, **52** and tombs opened. The bodies of many godly men and women who had died were raised from the dead. **53** They left the cemetery after Jesus’ resurrection, went into the holy city of Jerusalem, and appeared to many people. **54** The Roman officer and the other soldiers at the crucifixion were terrified by the earthquake and all that had happened. They said, “This man truly was the Son of God!”

12. TRUE FALSE *Some very unusual things happened when Jesus died on the cross*

13. TRUE FALSE *Even the Roman officer believed He was the Son of God!*

MATTHEW 27:57: As evening approached, Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea who had become a follower of Jesus, **58** went to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. And Pilate issued an order to release it to him. **59** Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a long sheet of clean linen cloth. **60** He placed it in his own new tomb, which had been carved out of the rock. Then he rolled a great stone across the entrance and left. **61** Both Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting across from the tomb and watching. **62** The next day, on the Sabbath, the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate. **63** They told him, “Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive: ‘After three days I will rise from the dead.’ **64** So we request that you seal the tomb until the third day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling everyone he was raised from the dead! If that happens, we’ll be worse off than we were at first.” **65** Pilate replied, “Take guards and secure it the best you can.” **66** So they sealed the tomb and posted guards to protect it.



- 14. TRUE FALSE** *Jesus was buried in a rich man's tomb named Joseph of Arimathea (most people were buried in the ground, but Joseph wanted to honor Jesus).*
- 15. TRUE FALSE** *The religious leaders were concerned Jesus might rise from the dead*
- 16. TRUE FALSE** *Normally, when someone dies and we bury them, we place guards around the grave! A Roman "guard" was 4 soldiers*

MATTHEW 28:1: Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. **2** Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. **3** His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. **4** The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. **5** Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. **6** He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. **7** And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you." **8** The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message. **9** And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."

- 17. TRUE FALSE** *The angel rolled the stone away so the women could see in (not to help Jesus get out; nothing is impossible for the Son of God!)*

MATTHEW 28:11: As the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and told the leading priests what had happened. **12** A meeting with the elders was called, and they decided to give the soldiers a large bribe. **13** They told the soldiers, "You must say, 'Jesus' disciples came during the night while we were sleeping, and they stole his body.' **14** If the governor hears about it, we'll stand up for you so you won't get in trouble." **15** So the guards

accepted the bribe and said what they were told to say. Their story spread widely among the Jews, and they still tell it today.

18. TRUE FALSE

The religious leaders bribed the guards to tell a lie that Jesus' body was stolen by His disciples

Could Jesus' body have been stolen?!? Let's name the three groups of people that could have stolen the body.

1) JEWISH PEOPLE: they would have loved to have the body so they could disprove the apostles teaching later that Jesus had risen. They did not have Jesus' body.

2) ROMANS they were just glad to get rid of Jesus. He was causing problems in Jerusalem. They had no reason to steal His body.

3) DISCIPLES OF JESUS: Why would they have stolen the body and then gone all over the world spreading the news that Jesus had risen? They all died for their faith. Why would you die for a lie? Plus, the other thing to consider was there were 4 Roman guards at the tomb of Jesus. If the body was stolen, the guards would have been killed. Do you think the 12 disciples, who were scared, would have gone back and asked the guards if it was OK to steal the body!?! Also, you have to consider the rock that was in front of the grave that was cut out of the mountain. How many men would it take to move a 2 ½ ton rock big enough to cover a tomb? Over twenty men! With Roman soldiers there? Jesus is ALIVE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN PROVE THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS HAPPENED WITHOUT USING THE BIBLE?

1. All of the disciples (with the exception of John) died for their faith alone. Changed lives: from doubters to confessors! All of the disciples ran on Passover; Peter denied he knew Jesus; Thomas was a doubter, now he was a confessor; In Acts 2, 50 days later they are all boldly preaching the risen Jesus! There was a willingness to die for something they themselves witnessed with their own eyes (there were no witnesses that saw Mohammed receive the Koran or Joseph Smith receive his vision) It's easier to die for a cause if you are in a group, but dying by yourself proves you truly believe it.

2. Conversion of skeptics like Paul (who killed Christians, Acts 7) and James (the brother of Jesus) - Saul or Paul was a killer of Christians; who would have ever thought he would be a follower? He had such a reputation he had trouble convincing the early church he was for real; and what about James, the half-brother of Jesus? James didn't believe, in fact, in John 7, we learn a little about how Jesus' brothers felt about Him....they made fun of Him.

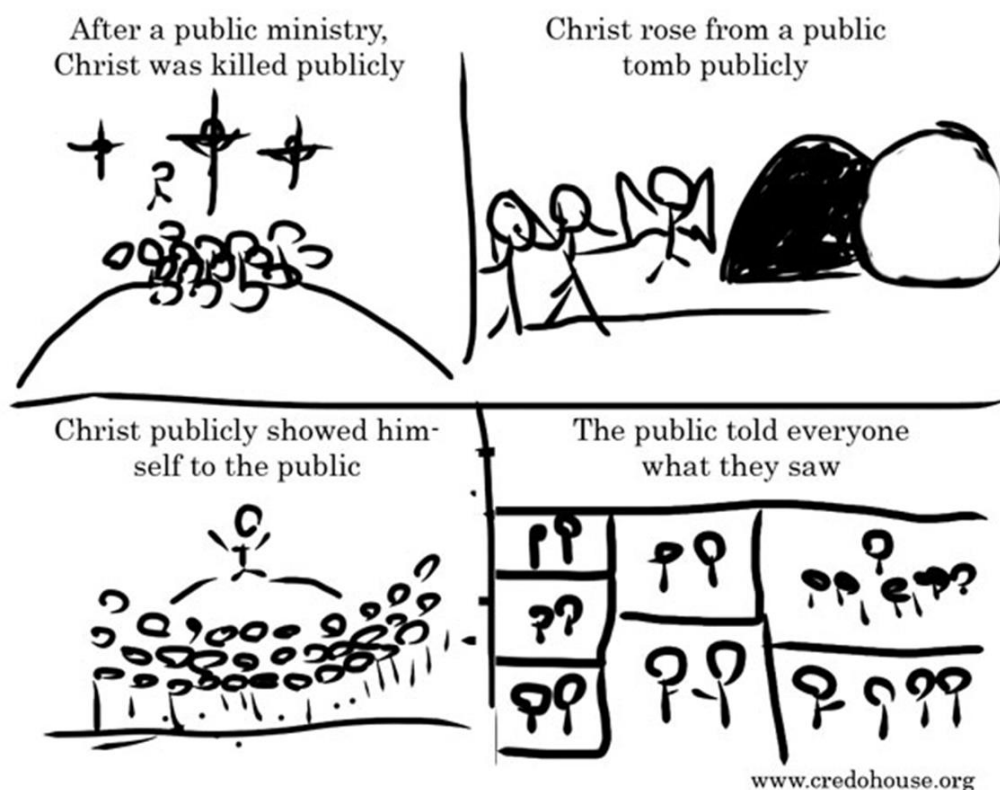
3. The uniqueness of communion and baptism. No other mystery/pagan religions believed gods could die, let alone die in their place, and then be raised from the dead. Romans viewed Christians as strange people who were cannibalistic. Both communion and baptism celebrate/re-enact the death of Jesus

4. How can you explain why in a short period of time (30 AD, Acts 2-6, period of a few months), 10,000 Jewish people gave up five key practices that had served them sociologically and theologically for thousands of years?

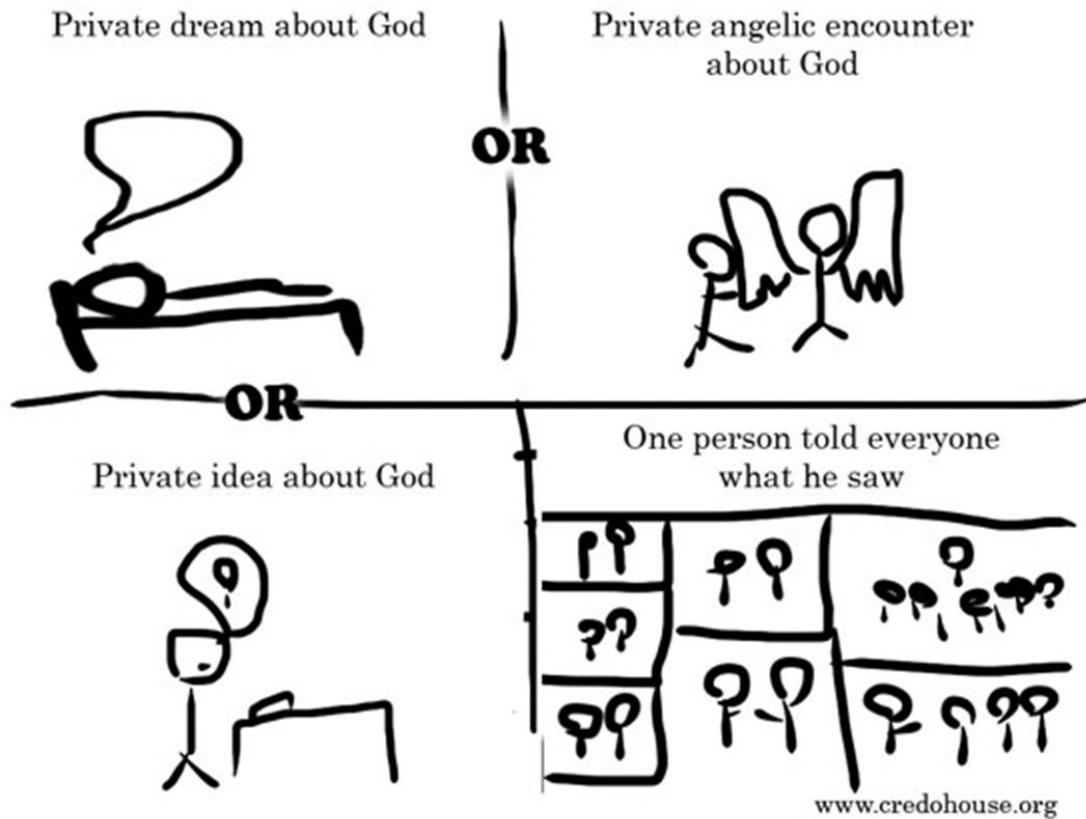
NOTE: They did not stop being Jewish; they continued to go to the Temple for prayer, observe the Sabbath, and celebrating their festivals; Jewish people do not have to cease being Jewish in order to follow their Messiah; but, now they gave up things like animal sacrifice, observance of the law....they have up these treasured beliefs to follow an obscure Jewish carpenter.

5. Emergence of the church. When a major cultural shift takes place, historians always look for events that can explain it. The church began shortly after Jesus' death and resurrection and within 20 years it had even reached Rome, eventually influencing the entire Roman Empire.

How Christianity Started



How Other Religions Started



JESUS APPEARED PUBLICLY! THIS IS SIGNIFICANT....WHY?

If you look at cults and world religions, they are all founded by one person: Budda, Mohammed (Islam), Confucius, Charles Russell (Jehovah's witnesses), Joseph Smith (Mormonism), it is all private. There were no witnesses. Jesus died in public, he was buried in a public tomb, he showed himself publicly when he arose, the public (disciples) told the world what they saw

- **What does the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus mean for us?**
 - ✓ *It means that death is not final or the end for us*
 - ✓ *When Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, He defeated satan and his demons*
 - ✓ *It proves Jesus is the Son of God!*
 - ✓ *How can we get forgiveness from His death?*

If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don't hesitate to email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 8

What is Faith? What does it Mean to be Born Again?

Read John 3:1-8

JOHN 3:1: There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. 2 After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.” 3 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.” 4 “What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?” 5 Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. 6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. 7 So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can’t explain how people are born of the Spirit.”

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|---------|-------|---|
| 1. True | False | <i>No one can go to heaven unless they are ‘born again’</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>To be ‘born again’ means to be spiritually reborn by the Holy Spirit</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>A person must be born of water and Spirit to be ‘born again’</i> |

Read Acts 2:36-38

ACTS 2:36 On this day, Peter finished his message by saying: “So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!” 37 Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” 38 Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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| 5. True | False | <i>We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in water baptism</i> |
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We all will die one day. Are you ready to meet God in Judgment? If you died tonight, are you confident you would go to heaven? Are you a Christian? How did you become a Christian? Let’s find out what the Bible says. There are five simple steps in the Bible:

1. **Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you trust Him alone to save you?**
2. **Do you know you have sinned and you cannot save yourself by good deeds alone?**

3. Are you ready to change your ways and leave your old life of sin?
4. Are you ready to put Jesus Christ first in your life as Lord and Savior?
5. Baptism is where you begin your walk with God!

Let's start with what it means to believe in Jesus...

Read Matthew 16:13-16

MATTHEW 16:13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." 15 Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

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| 1. True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He was born of Mary (who was a virgin; she never had sexual relations)</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He did miracles</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He never sinned</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He has risen from the dead!</i> |

Read Hebrews 11:1

HEBREWS 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

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| 5. True | False | <i>Faith is a confident trust in God even though I have not seen Him</i> |
| 6. True | False | <i>Faith obeys God's Word</i> |

Read Romans 4:18-25

ROMANS 4:18 Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" 19 And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb.

20 Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. 21 He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. 22 And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous. 23 And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. It was recorded 24 for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25 He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.

7. True False *Faith is a confident trust that God's promises are true (Romans 4:21)*

8. True False *If I trust in God's promises and trust in His Son Jesus alone for salvation, then God accepts me and I am right with Him (verse 22)*

Read Romans 4:1-5

ROMANS 4:1 Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What did he discover about being made right with God? 2 If his good deeds had made him acceptable to God, he would have had something to boast about. But that was not God's way. 3 For the Scriptures tell us, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." 4 When people work, their wages are not a gift, but something they have earned. 5 But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God who forgives sinners.

9. True False *When I put my complete trust in Jesus and His death on the cross, (His works, not my works) God accepts me as right with Him (Verse 5)*

10. True False *Can I save myself (without Jesus) by doing just good deeds alone?*

Read James 2:14-19

JAMES 2:14: What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? 15 Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, 16 and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? 17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. 18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.

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| 11. True | False | <i>Demons and satan believe in God (but they do not trust God)</i> |
| 12. True | False | <i>Faith in Jesus should change the way I live</i> |
| 13. True | False | <i>If I have faith in Jesus, I will obey His Words</i> |
| 14. True | False | <i>Good deeds and obeying God is proof that I have faith, but I am not saved by my good deeds. I am saved 100% by the blood of Jesus!</i> |

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theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 9

Why Do We Need A Savior? What is Sin?

LET'S REVIEW FROM LESSON 8

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|-----|------|-------|---|
| 1. | True | False | <i>No one can go to heaven unless they are 'born again'</i> |
| 2. | True | False | <i>To be 'born again' means to be spiritually reborn by the Holy Spirit</i> |
| 3. | True | False | <i>A person must be born of water and Spirit to be 'born again'</i> |
| 4. | True | False | <i>We are born again when we believe Jesus is the Son of God and we are baptized in water</i> |
| 5. | True | False | <i>We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in water baptism</i> |
| 6. | True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He was born of Mary (who never had sexual relations)</i> |
| 7. | True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He did miracles</i> |
| 8. | True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He never sinned</i> |
| 9. | True | False | <i>I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God because He has risen from the dead!</i> |
| 10. | True | False | <i>Faith is a confident trust in God</i> |
| 11. | True | False | <i>Faith obeys God's Word</i> |
| 12. | True | False | <i>Faith is a confident trust that God's promises are true (Romans 4:21)</i> |
| 13. | True | False | <i>If I trust in God's promises and trust in His Son Jesus alone for salvation, then God accepts me and I am right with Him</i> |

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|-----------------|--------------|--|
| 14. True | False | <i>When I put my complete trust in Jesus and His death on the cross, God accepts me as right with Him</i> |
| 15. True | False | <i>Can I save myself by doing just good deeds alone without Jesus?</i> |
| 16. True | False | <i>Demons and satan believe in God</i> |
| 17. True | False | <i>Faith in Jesus should change the way I live</i> |
| 18. True | False | <i>If I have faith in Jesus, I will obey His Words</i> |
| 19. True | False | <i>Good deeds and obeying God is proof that I have faith, but I am not saved by my good deeds. I am saved 100% by the blood of Jesus Christ!</i> |

QUESTION: am I good enough to go to heaven? Only God can determine what is “good.” He told us what was good in the 10 commandments! Let’s look at them!

EXODUS 20:1: Then God gave the people all these instructions: 2 “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. 3 “You must not have any other god but me.

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| 1. True | False | <i>A “god” today can be money, work, family, or the things we own. If we put those things FIRST in our lives, they become a “god.”</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>Do you love God with all your heart and always put Him first in your life 24 hours a day?</i> |

EXODUS 20:4: Then God gave the people all these instructions: 2 “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. 3 “You must not have any other god but me. “You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. 5 You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. 6 But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.

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| 3. True | False | <i>False gods are things made by man.</i> |
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4. True False *We must not worship religious things. For example: pictures of Jesus, candles, crosses, rosary beads, etc.*

EXODUS 20:7: "You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God. The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.

5. True False *We must not use God's name with disrespect*

6. True False *If I say, for example, "My God" I am guilty of breaking this Command because I am not using God's Name respectfully*

EXODUS 20:8: "Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 You have six days each week for your ordinary work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. 11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.

7. True False *God wants us to rest one day a week. Saturday (Sabbath) was for Jewish people. Christians rest on Sunday because Jesus arose from the dead.*

EXODUS 20:12: "Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

8. True False *Have you always honored your parents in a way that is pleasing to God? Ask Him to remind you of the sins of your youth.*

EXODUS 20:13: "You must not murder.

9. True False **Murdering people is not just done physically.** *Jesus said we can "murder" people with our anger and words (Matthew 5:21-22)*

10. True False *Have you ever hurt someone with your words?*

EXODUS 20:14: "You must not commit adultery.

11. True False *Jesus also said if I look upon a woman or man and imagine having*

sex with them, I commit adultery in my heart. (Matthew 5:27-30)

EXODUS 20:15: "You must not steal.

12. True False *Have you ever stolen anything? Have you ever cheated someone?
Have you taken something that belonged to another?*

EXODUS 20:16: "You must not testify falsely against your neighbor.

13. True False *Have you ever lied? Have you ever gossiped about another
person?*

EXODUS 20:17: "You must not covet your neighbor's house. You must not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor."

14. True False *Have you ever wanted something someone else had?*

15. YES NO *Besides Jesus, Is there anyone that can say they have never
disobeyed God?*

16. True False *God gave us the law to help us see our sins. And to see our need
for Jesus. Trying to be a good person does not save me. Why?
Because I still sin. I cannot save myself.*

So, if we have answered "true" for any of those questions we have just answered, in our own words, we have already said that we are liars, thieves, adulterers, blasphemers, and murderers!!

QUESTION: Would we be innocent or guilty on the day of Judgment before God? (circle)

17. If we are guilty and cannot save ourselves, would we go to heaven or hell? (Be honest!)

18. What do we deserve for our sins? **Romans 6:23:** "*For the wages of sin is death...*"

- The First Death = physical death
- The Second Death = spiritual death = hell.

19. "If God is love, why does hell exist?"

Hell is a choice. God doesn't send anyone there! We send ourselves there by rejecting the One who can save us! If we do not fix our sin problem before we die, we die in our sins and are separated from God forever. We are responsible for the choices we make in our lives and are held accountable by God on the Day of Judgment.

ROMANS 6:23: For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

20. True False *What we receive for our sins is hell. (The first death is when we die physically; the second death is dying spiritually)*
21. True False *God has offered us eternal life in Jesus. Heaven is a gift*
22. True False *A gift is something you pay for*

What must I do to receive the gift of eternal life?

1. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you trust Him alone to save you?
2. Do you know you have sinned and you cannot save yourself by good deeds alone?
3. Are you ready to change your ways and leave your old life of sin?
4. Are you ready to put Jesus Christ first in your life as Lord and Savior?
5. Baptism is where you begin your walk with God!

ROMANS 3:21 But now God has shown the way that he will accept people as right with himself. This way does not need Moses' rules. But Moses' rules, and the prophets' messages, told us about this new way. **v22** God accepts people as right with himself because they believe Jesus Christ. God does this for every person who believes Christ. There is no difference between people. **v23** All people are the same because all of them are sinful. They are not good and great, as God wanted them to be.

23. TRUE FALSE *God accepts us when we try to save ourselves, clean ourselves up, do good things and go to church (be careful, verse 22)*
24. TRUE FALSE *I am a sinner (verse 23)*

ROMANS 3:24 But because God is so very kind, he accepts people as right with himself. That is God's gift, which people do not have to pay for. God accepts us as right with himself by Christ Jesus, who bought us, to make us free. **v25** God chose to offer Christ as a sacrifice so that he could forgive sinful people. God sent Christ to bleed and to die. And, as a result, God *forgives

people who believe Christ. God did this to show clearly that he is always completely right and fair. In past times, God did not punish people who were doing wrong things. **v26** He did not punish them because he is so patient. But now God has given Christ, to show, at this time, that he is completely right and fair. God did this to show that he accepts people as right with himself. If any person believes Jesus, God accepts that person as right.

- 25. TRUE FALSE** *Jesus Christ paid for my sins on the cross 100%*
- 26. TRUE FALSE** *God will forgive me when I put my trust in Jesus Christ*
- 27. TRUE FALSE** *Jesus took my place on the cross; HE is my substitute and He took the punishment that I deserved.*
- 28. TRUE FALSE** *Through faith in Jesus, repentance, and baptism, I can receive forgiveness and the gift of eternal life*

If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don't hesitate to email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 10

Change Your Ways and Put Jesus First!

ROMANS 3:21 But now God has shown the way that he will accept people as right with himself. This way does not need Moses' rules. But Moses' rules, and the prophets' messages, told us about this new way. **v22** God accepts people as right with himself because they believe Jesus Christ. God does this for every person who believes Christ. There is no difference between people. **v23** All people are the same because all of them are sinful. They are not good and great, as God wanted them to be.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--|
| 1. TRUE | FALSE | God accepts us when we try to save ourselves, clean ourselves up, do good things and go to church (verse 22) |
| 2. TRUE | FALSE | I am a sinner (verse 23) |
| 3. TRUE | FALSE | Jesus Christ paid for my sins on the cross 100% |
| 4. TRUE | FALSE | God will forgive me when I put my trust in Jesus Christ |
| 5. TRUE | FALSE | Jesus took my place on the cross; HE is my substitute and He took the punishment that I deserved. |
| 6. TRUE | FALSE | Through faith in Jesus, repentance, and baptism, I can receive forgiveness and the gift of eternal life |

What must I do to receive the gift of eternal life?

1. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you trust Him alone to save you?
2. Do you know you have sinned and you cannot save yourself by good deeds alone?
- 3. Are you ready to change your ways and leave your old life of sin?**
4. Are you ready to put Jesus Christ first in your life as Lord and Savior?
5. Baptism is where you begin your walk with God!

1. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CHANGE YOUR WAYS?

ACTS 17:30: "God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him. 31 For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead."

- | | | |
|---------|-------|--|
| 1. True | False | <i>God has told us that we must change our hearts and lives and turn back to Him</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>To change (repent) means to leave your old life of sin & follow Jesus</i> |

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9: Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, 10 or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. 11 **Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

- | | | |
|---------|-------|--|
| 3. True | False | <i>God will forgive all of our sins when we change our ways and come to Him seeking forgiveness</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>Some of the Corinthian Christians were homosexuals, robbers, drunkards, but they were sorry for their sins and God forgave them</i> |
| 5. TRUE | FALSE | <i>God has the POWER to change your life; you do not!</i> |
| 6. TRUE | FALSE | <i>The Holy Spirit we receive in baptism gives us the power to change our lives</i> |

2. PUT JESUS FIRST!

LUKE 9:23 Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. 24 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. 25 And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your very soul? 26 If anyone is ashamed of me and my message, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in his glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels. 27 I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Kingdom of God."

- | | | |
|---------|-------|--|
| 4. True | False | <i>If we want to follow Jesus, we must seek to stop putting ourselves first every day</i> |
| 5. True | False | <i>If you choose to live only for yourself, you will "lose it" (not be happy); but if you put Jesus first, you will be happy</i> |

6. True False *If you want to put money and material things first in your life, you will lose your soul.*

LUKE 14:25 A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, 26 “If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, love me more than everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. 27 And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple.

7. True False *Jesus said if we want to follow Him, we must love Him FIRST; even before family*

8. True False *Jesus does not want someone who follows him and follows the world also*

9. True False *Are you ready to change your ways and follow Jesus?*

10. True False *Are you ready to put Him first in your life?*

NOTE: when you get married, you are not telling your spouse you will be a “perfect” person, but that you will be loyal! Same with Jesus. We want to put Him first, but we struggle with our sinful nature still. God forgives and helps us get sin out of our lives.

If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don’t hesitate to email me: theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

LESSON 11

Baptism!

REVIEW FROM LESSON 10

- | | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| 1. True | False | <i>God has told us that we must change our hearts and lives</i> |
| 2. True | False | <i>To change (repent) means to leave your old life of sin and follow Jesus</i> |
| 3. True | False | <i>God will forgive us when we change our ways and obey Him</i> |
| 4. True | False | <i>If we want to follow Jesus, we must say “no” to what we want</i> |
| 5. True | False | <i>If you choose to live only for yourself, you will “lose it” (not be happy)</i> |
| 6. True | False | <i>If you want to get the whole world, you will destroy yourself in the end.</i> |
| 7. True | False | <i>Jesus said if we want to follow Him, we must love Him FIRST; even before family</i> |
| 8. True | False | <i>Jesus does not want someone who follows him and follows the world, too</i> |
| 9. True | False | <i>Are you ready to change your ways and follow Jesus?</i> |
| 10. True | False | <i>Are you ready to put Him first in your life?</i> |

Read Matthew 28:18-20

MATTHEW 28:18: Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- | | | |
|---------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. True | False | <i>Baptism is a command of Jesus</i> |
|---------|-------|--------------------------------------|

Read Mark 16:15-16

MARK 16:15: Jesus came and told his disciples, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. 16 Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.

2. True False *Baptism and faith go together.*

3. True False *Baptism is necessary to go to heaven*

Read Acts 2:36-38

ACTS 2:36 On this day, Peter finished his message by saying: “So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!” 37 Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” 38 Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

4. True False *In baptism, we receive forgiveness and the Holy Spirit*

Read Acts 8:26-38

ACTS 8:26 As for Philip, an angel of the Lord said to him, “Go south[a] down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 27 So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace, the queen of Ethiopia. The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and he was now returning. Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 29 The Holy Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and walk along beside the carriage.” 30 Philip ran over and heard the man reading from the Scripture. Philip asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 The man replied, “How can I, unless someone instructs me?” And he urged Philip to come up into the carriage and sit with him. 32 The passage of Scripture he had been reading was from the prophet Isaiah and it said this: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter. And as a lamb is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. 33 He was humiliated and received no justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” 34 The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?” 35 So beginning with this same Scripture in Isaiah, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. 36 As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look! There’s some water! Why can’t I be baptized?” 37 And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I

believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 38 He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

5. True False *Before America or Europe, the good news of Jesus first came to Africa!*
6. True False *After he heard the story of Jesus and believed, the man from Ethiopia was baptized*

Read Acts 16:25-34

For teaching people about Jesus in Philippi, Greece, Paul and Silas, who were not doing anything wrong, were thrown into prison by some bad people who did not like their message.

ACTS 16:25: Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. 26 Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off! 27 The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. 28 But Paul shouted to him, “Stop! Don’t kill yourself! We are all here!” 29 The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 Then he brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.” 32 And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. 33 Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. 34 He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.

7. True False *The guard asked, “What must I do so that God will save me?” Paul said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and God will save you.”*
8. True False *After the guard heard the story of Jesus and believed, he and his family were baptized*

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1: Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the **gospel** I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. **2** By this **gospel** you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

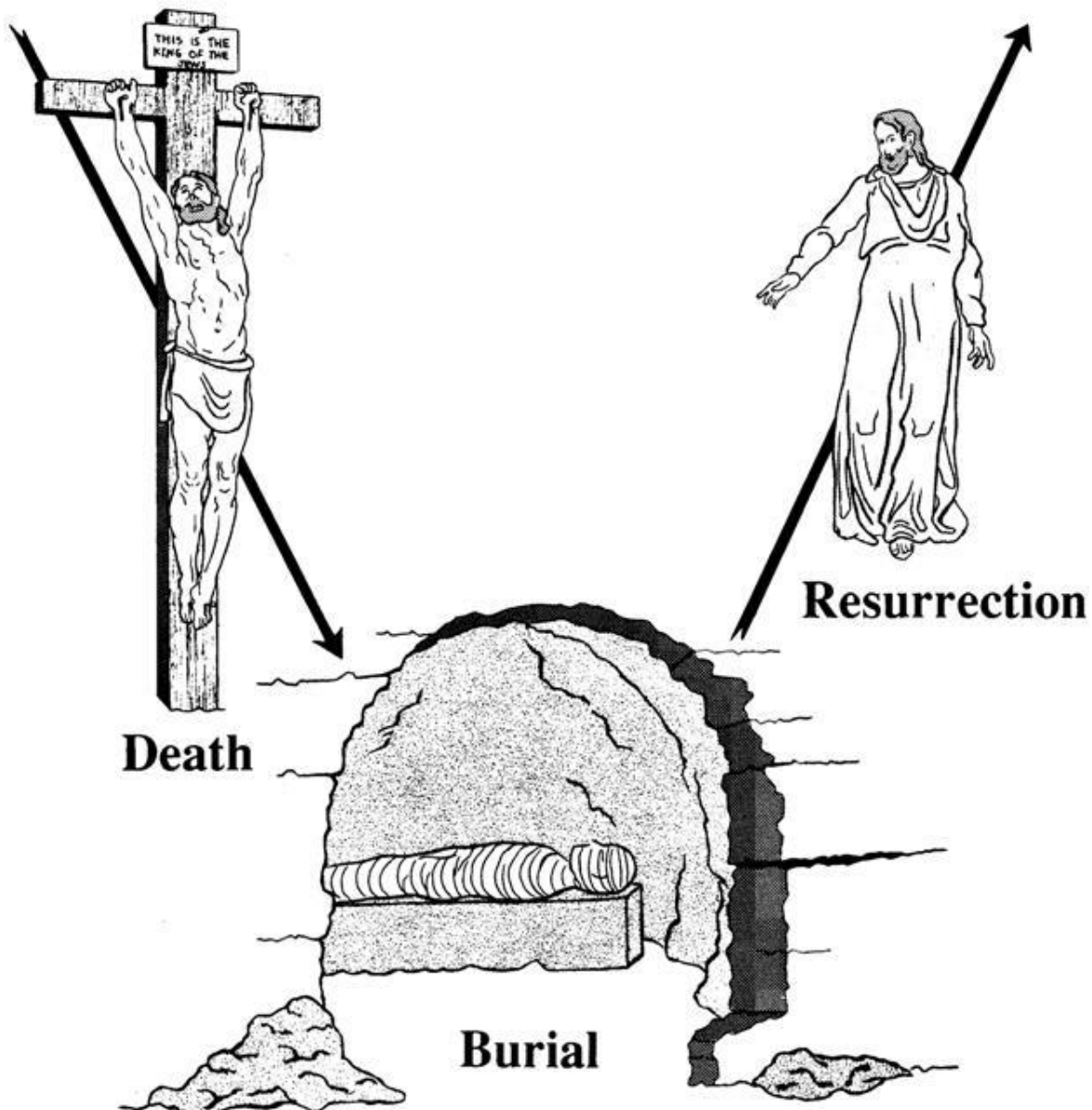
3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

9. True False *The gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus*

➤ *PLEASE LOOK AT DIAGRAM!*

the Gospel enacted

I CORINTHIANS 15:3-4



QUESTION: Jesus died for our sins 2000 years ago. How do I get forgiveness from His death on the cross?

Read Romans 6:3,4

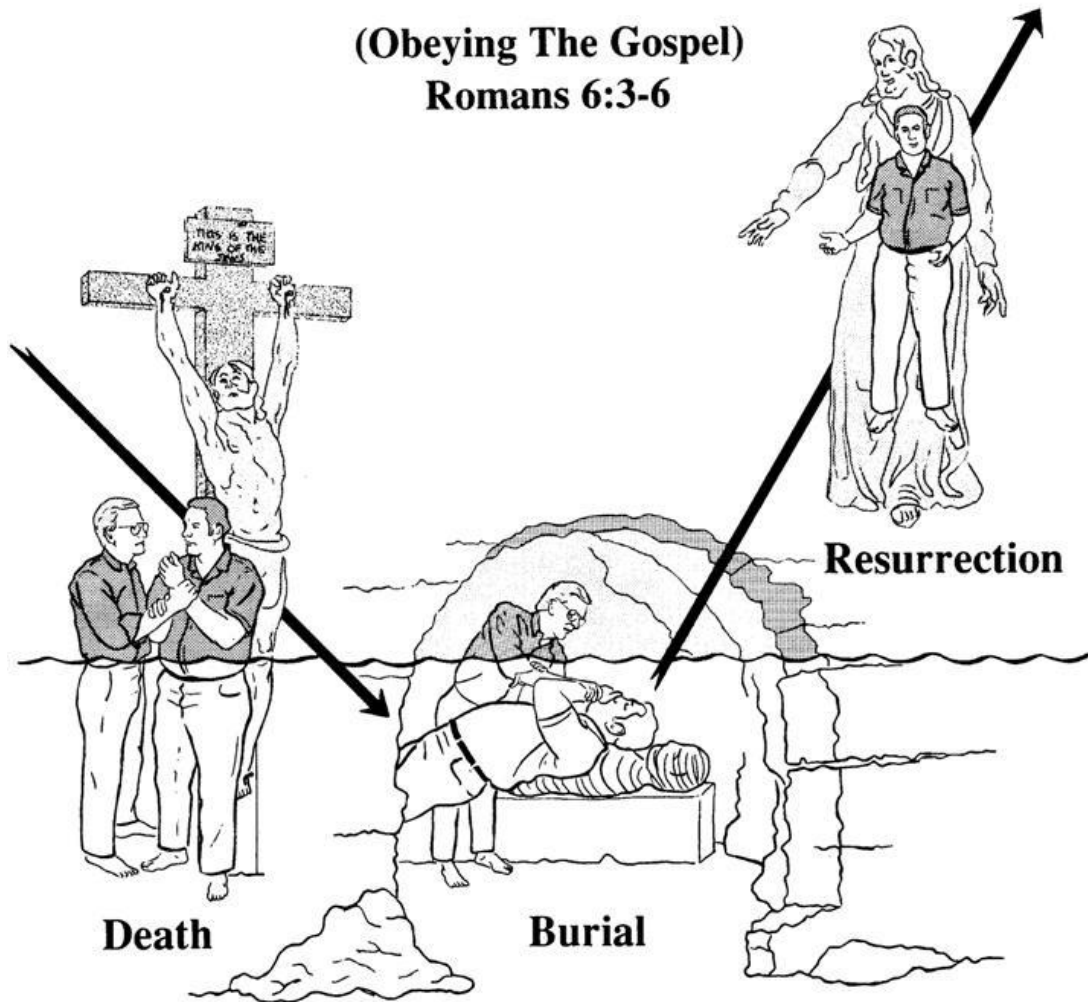
ROMANS 6:3 Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? **4** For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---|
| 10. True | False | <i>When we are baptized, we come in contact with His blood (death of Jesus). Our sins are forgiven.</i> |
| 11. True | False | <i>In baptism, we “bury” our old lives. We show God we want to change our ways.</i> |
| 12. True | False | <i>We are raised out of the water to a “new life” in Jesus. We are “born again”</i> |

➤ PLEASE LOOK AT DIAGRAM! (next page)

the Gospel re-enacted in Baptism

(Obeying The Gospel)
Romans 6:3-6



When we are baptized, we obey the Gospel. We come into contact with the blood of Jesus shed on the cross 2000 years ago. Our sins are forgiven and washed away. In baptism, we “die” to our old life (we repent) and our old lives are “buried.” We are showing God we want to change our lives. We come out of the water with a “new life” (resurrected). We are “born again!” In baptism, our sins are transferred to the cross and the perfection of Jesus Christ is credited to us by faith.

What must I do to receive the gift of eternal life?

1. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you trust Him alone to save you?
2. Do you know you have sinned and you cannot save yourself by good deeds alone?
3. Are you ready to change your ways and leave your old life of sin?

4. Are you ready to put Jesus Christ first in your life as Lord and Savior?
5. Baptism is where you begin your walk with God!

If you answered, “yes” to all of these questions, you are ready for baptism! Some people say, “When I get my life together, then I will be baptized!” You can’t! This is why we need a Savior! The truth is: you are dirty because of sin and Jesus is the only One who has the “soap!” Some say, “I need to know the Bible better.” You have already heard all that you need to know to make a decision about following Jesus.

NOTE: when you get married, you are not telling your spouse you will be a “perfect” person, but that you will be loyal! Same with Jesus. Baptism is your “wedding day” with God. You are telling Him: “I will be loyal to you.” We want to put Him first, but we struggle with our sinful nature still. God forgives and helps us get sin out of our lives.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT INFANT BAPTISM?

Now, I realize that there is a lot of confusion today about baptism. Different churches do different things. Many times in Korea, Brazil, Tanzania, Tennessee, Texas, or Alabama, someone would ask me, “I was baptized as an infant. Do I need to be baptized again?” This is what I would normally tell them....

1. I appreciate the fact that your parents wanted you to grow up learning about God. That is good. You know, we are all on a spiritual journey, growing, learning. None of us know everything about the Bible or God.

2. Certainly, no church is perfect. The church of Christ does not believe or say we are the only ones going to heaven. It is not only arrogant, but it is a sin to criticize or judge any other church. God is the judge. We leave that to Him.

But the issue is: what does the Bible say? God’s Word is the final authority for the worldwide church, right? I would then ask them, “Based on what we’ve learned today, when you were baptized as an infant, did you understand who Jesus was? That you were a lost sinner? That you needed to change your ways?” As we have learned today, the Scriptures teach that all of those things are important when we are baptized. Of course, no one baptized as an infant understands those things. So, where did infant baptism come from? **There is not one example in the Bible of a baby or child being baptized and saying they need forgiveness.**

Interestingly enough, infant baptism began about 400 years after the church began and became an “official” Catholic church teaching by the 12th century. Infant baptism was greatly influenced by Augustine, one of the church leaders at that time. He had such a low view of

humanity that he believed that children were born inheriting Adam and Eve's sin and were lost. He called this, "original sin." But, what do the Scriptures teach? Do they teach that God would hold us accountable for someone else's sin?

Ezekiel 18:20: *"The one who sins is the one who will die. The child will not share the guilt of the parent, nor will the parent share the guilt of the child."*

Therefore, the idea that we inherit Adam and Eve's sin is not true. We are responsible for our own lives. What we do inherit from Adam and Eve is the consequences of sin which is death.

The truth is that children are born with a sinful nature, but because they do not know right from wrong, they are not held accountable by God. How could we worship a God who sent children to hell? Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me..." Therefore, if they do die, they go directly into the arms of Jesus and are safe.

Some people hear this and say, "What does it matter?" The issue is: do we come to God our own way or do we come to Him the way He has asked us to in the Bible? The story of Cain and Abel is a sad one. God told them that whenever they come to Him, they needed an animal sacrifice. However, Cain came to God the way he wanted to: with vegetables instead of an animal sacrifice. His brother, Abel, came to God by faith with a lamb to sacrifice for his sins. Abel was accepted by God; Cain was rejected. However, God gave Cain a chance to come to Him the way He said. Cain in his pride refused. I had been sprinkled when I was 13, but realized it was not God's way when I read the Bible when I was 24.

So, I would always encourage people who were baptized as infants to be baptized again as a teenager or adult because now they understand. There is faith, there is repentance, there is a realization that they need Jesus. The Scriptures teach that all of those things are necessary when we are baptized and every example in the Bible were people who understood they needed Jesus. One more thing: we are not baptized to join a church, but to begin a new relationship with God!

So, if you were sprinkled as a baby or a young child, it is just like you have been "dating" God, but you have not gotten married yet! You have not been "born again" or had your sins washed away yet! Your name is not written in the Lamb's Book of Life! You still need to do one more step. You need to put your trust in Jesus to save you from your sins, make a decision to change your ways, and be immersed into Christ!

Baptism is like your "wedding day" between you and God where you say, "Yes, I am ready to be loyal only to You. I am trusting now in the finished work of the cross of Jesus and I believe He is the Son of God. Only He can save me from my sins." The word, "*baptizo*" in Greek means

“immersion” – when we are baptized, immersed into Christ, we are washed clean by the blood of Christ, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and are born again! Adopted children now of the King!

Baptism is the BEGINNING of your walk with God! The love of Christ motivates us to love and follow Him. We are completely saved, 100% because of the cross, but we “under construction.” (Hebrews 10:14) God has saved us, but He wants us to grow in our faith and maturity and that is the Holy Spirit’s task! Christlikeness! (Romans 8:29; 1 Thessalonians 4:3) God’s Spirit is a “guarantee” that He will finish what He starts in you and get you to the finish line! (Philippians 1:6; Ephesians 1:14)

In baptism, an amazing transfer has taken place: our sins have been transferred to the cross while the perfection and righteousness of Jesus has been “credited” to us by faith. This is why we can rejoice! This is why we can know we are going to heaven to be with Jesus when we die! We serve, we do good works, not to “get saved” but because we are “saved” by the grace of God! (Ephesians 2:8-10). What happened the moment you were baptized?

WHO AM I? WHAT IS MY “NEW IDENTITY” SINCE I HAVE BEEN ‘BORN AGAIN?’

Read out loud for the next 30 days and watch the truth of God’s Word transform your heart and mind! Read each Scripture reference and rejoice!

- 1. I am completely saved because of the finished work of the cross of Jesus** (*Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:3-7, also known as “grace” – His undeserved kindness*)
- 2. I am a child of the King** (*John 1:12; Romans 8:16; 1 John 3:1,2*)
- 3. I am completely forgiven of my sins** (*Acts 2:38; 22:16*)
- 4. I am at peace with God...God is no longer angry with me** (*Romans 5:1-10*)
- 5. I am credited with the righteousness of Jesus** (*Romans 4:24*)
- 6. I am now standing before God's throne without fault & great joy** (*Jude 24*)
- 7. I am holy in God's sight, washed clean, and innocent...if I continue trusting and following Jesus** (*Colossians 1:21-23, notice that it is conditional*)
- 8. I am chosen by God, holy and dearly loved** (*Colossians 3:12*)
- 9. I am absolutely complete in Christ** (*Colossians 3:3, a.k.a, “Jesus is ENOUGH!”*)
- 10. I am fully pleasing to God because I am “in Christ”** (*Matthew 3:17*)
- 11. My name is in the Lamb’s Book of Life** (*Revelation 20:11-15*)
- 12. I have been bought with a price – the precious blood of Jesus** (*1 Peter 1:18,19 – to be “bought” means to be “redeemed” from the slavery of sin*)

13. **I am a new creation of infinite worth** (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)
14. **I am accepted by God – not because of my works, but because I trust in His promises and His Son** (*Romans 4:1-7; 15:7*)
15. **I am dead to sin, but alive to God** (*Romans 6:11*)
16. **I have been “grafted into the olive tree” – Israel – and the promises of Abraham** (*Romans 11*)
17. **I am God's Temple and His Spirit lives inside my heart** (*1 Corinthians 3:16*)
18. **I am a co-laborer with God in His church & ministry** (*1 Corinthians 3:9*)
19. **I am Jesus' friend** (*John 15:15*)
20. **I am reconciled to God and am now a minister of reconciliation** (*2 Corinthians 5:17-20*)
21. **I am an enemy of the devil** (*1 Peter 5:8*)
22. **I am born of God and the devil cannot touch me** (*1 John 5:18*)
23. **I am “not guilty” and no longer condemned before God** (*Romans 3:24; 8:1- “justified” means declared, “not guilty”*)
24. **I am an adopted son or daughter of the King and share the same inheritance Jesus does** (*Galatians 4:6,7; Romans 8:17*)

25. **I am God's "poem" or “trophy,” His divine masterpiece** (*Ephesians 2:10*)
26. **I am a stranger to this world I temporarily live in** (*1 Peter 2:11*)
27. **I am a citizen of heaven and the Kingdom of God** (*Luke 17:21; Philippians 3:20*)
28. **I have been entrusted with spiritual gifts that I am to use for His glory and to spread His fame throughout the world** (*Isaiah 26:8; 1 Corin. 12:12-27*)
29. **I am secure in Jesus’ hand and no one can snatch me away from Him** (*John 10:28*)
30. **I am on my way to the Promised Land (heaven) because I now possess eternal life** (*1 John 5:13*)
31. **I am a saint** (*Romans 1:7; 2 Corin. 1:1; Eph 1:1; Phil. 1:1 - the word saint and holy have the same root word in Greek. To be a saint is one who belongs to God. We are not saints because we have done good things, we are saints because we are in Christ.*)
32. **I am not the great "I AM" (Exodus 3:14) "but by the grace of God I am what I am"** (*1 Corinthians 15:10*)
33. **I am not a spectator! Now that I know I am a sanctified, blood bought saint of the Living God, what am I sitting around for? I need to be about my Father’s business!** (*Luke 2:49*)



Two books to buy:

“Victory over the Darkness” by Neil Anderson

“Search for Significance” by Robert McGee

If you have any questions regarding anything in this study, please don't hesitate to email me:
theworld4jesuschrist@gmail.com – thanks!

“And now, why delay? Get up and be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on the name of the Lord.” (Acts 22:16)