

Foundations of Faith

Lesson One: Salvation

Steps to Peace with God

1. God's Purpose: Peace and Life

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

Genesis 1:27-28 _____

John 3:16 (memorize) _____

John 10:10 (memorize) _____

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

2. The Problem: Separation from God

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

Romans 3:23 (memorize) _____

Romans 6:23 (memorize) _____

Isaiah 59:2 _____

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

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

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

The Bridge Illustration

Story on sin and our need for God

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

3. God's Bridge: the Cross!

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

John 14:6 (memorize) _____

John 3:16 _____

Romans 5:8 (memorize) _____

Ephesians 2:8-9 _____

Story on grace

4. Our Response: Receive Jesus

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

Romans 10:9 (memorize) _____

Check the responses necessary for you to be saved. (see also 1 John 1:7; Acts 2:37-39; 1 Corinthians 15:1-5; 1 Peter 3:8)

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

New life in Christ!

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

2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 17 _____

I John 5:12-13 _____

Check the statements that describe your new life in God.

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

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

Describe your life in the following boxes:

My life before Jesus

When I encountered Jesus

Since I met Jesus

YOUR RESPONSE THIS WEEK:

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

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

Signature: _____

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