

# Seven Commands of Christ

## An adaptation of George Patterson's Seven Commands

### Bible Study Method

Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

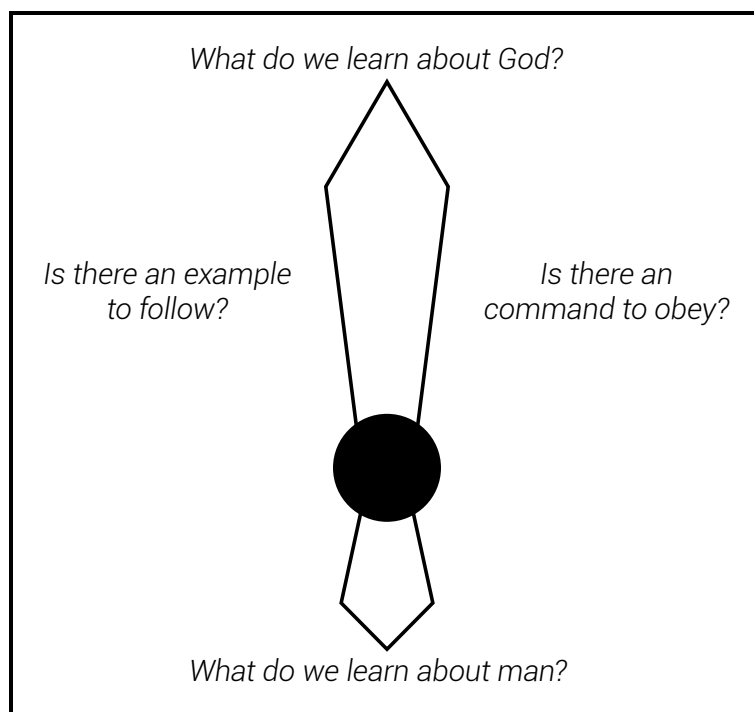
The picture of the sword helps us to teach any passage of the Bible. When we think of a sword we think of four questions we need to ask.

The arrow that points up is for God.  
*What do we learn about God?*

The arrow that points down is for man.  
*What do we learn about man?*

The sword also has two blades.  
The first blade makes us ask,  
*Is there an example to follow?*

The second blade makes us ask,  
*Is there a command to obey?*



After reading or telling any story from the Bible ask these four questions one at a time and search the story for answers. The answers you find will reveal the meaning of the story for our lives.



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### Command #1 - Repent and Believe

Command - Mark 1:15 says, "The time has come," he [Jesus] said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Tell the Story - Zacchaeus' Salvation from Luke 19:1-10

What does repent mean?

Repent means turning from sin and following Jesus

What does believe mean?

Believe means choosing to trust Jesus as Lord

Why should we repent?

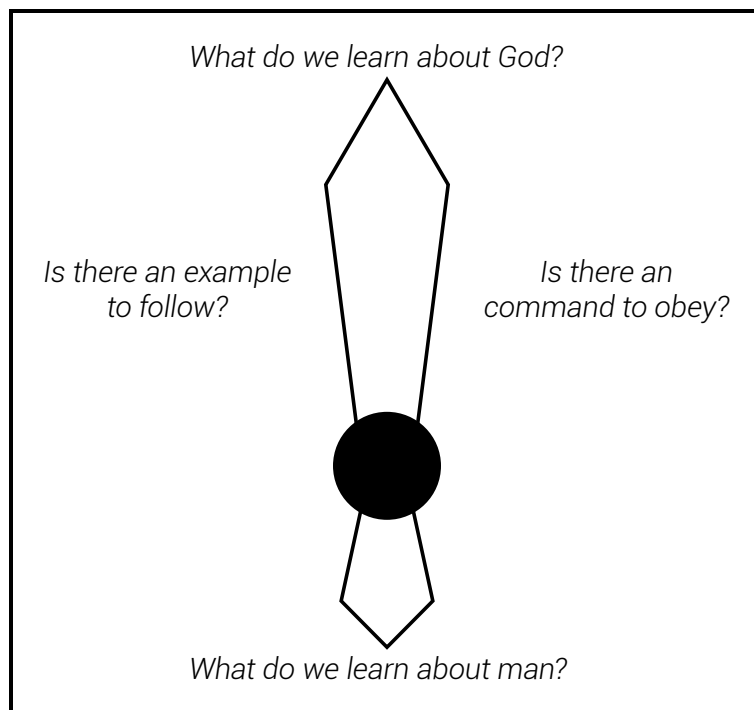
Romans 3:23, 6:23 and 10:9-10

Who should repent?

Acts 2:38-41 - Everyone must repent for forgiveness.

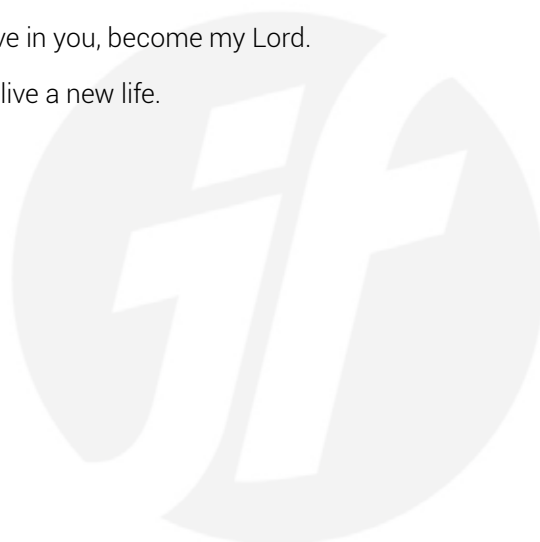
What is assurance?

1 John 1:9 says that when we confess our sins Jesus forgives us and cleanses us.  
John 10:28 - Our salvation belongs to Jesus



Prayer - Jesus I want to leave my old life of sin and follow you. I believe in you, become my Lord.

Assignment - Confess your sins before the Lord, turn from them and live a new life.



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### Command #2 - Be Baptized

Command - Matthew 28:19 says, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

Tell the Story - Phillip and a New Believer from Acts 8:26-39

#### What is baptism?

Romans 6:3-4 - Baptism is a symbol of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. It means we already have died to our old life and been raised to live a new life with Jesus.

#### Why should we be baptized?

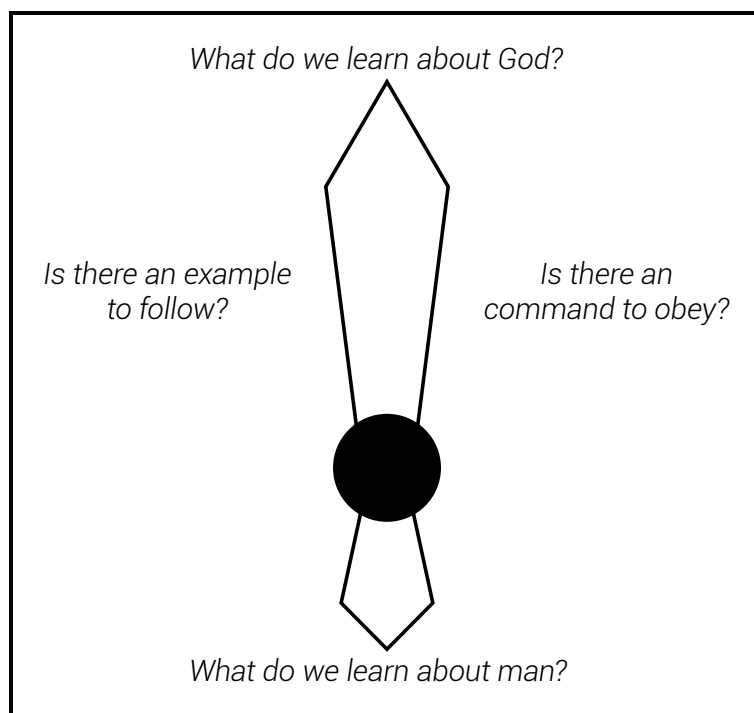
Matthew 3:13-15 - Jesus received baptism, so should we. Receiving baptism means we identify Jesus as our Lord.

#### Who should be baptized?

Acts 2:38 - Everyone who repents and believes.

#### How should we be baptized?

Matthew 3:16 - Jesus went down into the water.



Prayer - Lord give me the strength to identify my life with you through the symbol of baptism.

Assignment - Go down into the water and receive baptism.



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### Command #3 - Pray

Command - In Matthew 6:9-13 Jesus says, "This, then, is how you should pray:

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one."*

Tell the Story - Jesus teaches about prayer from Matthew 6:5-15

What is prayer?

Talking with God our Father.

Why do we pray?

Matthew 6:9-13 - God hears us.  
We desire His will to be done on earth.

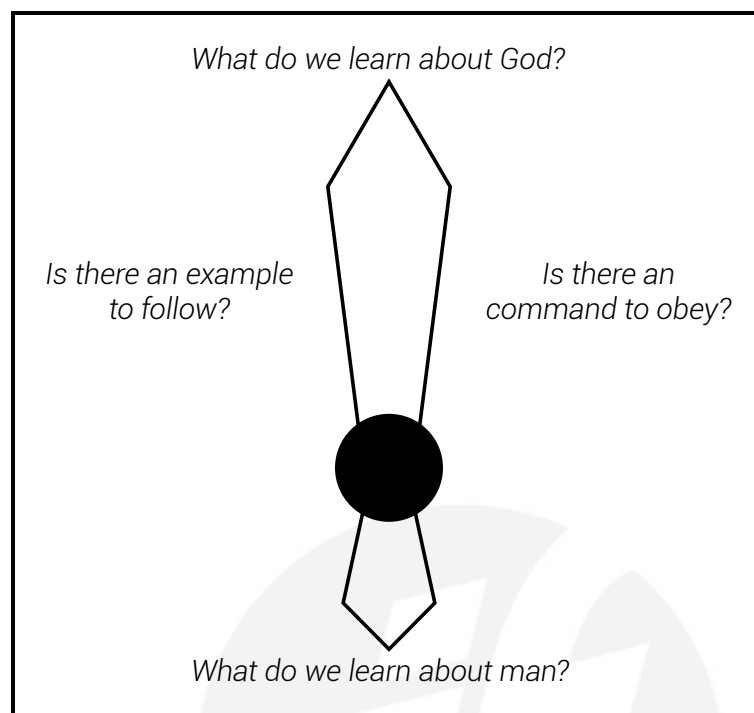
How do we pray?

By simply talking with God.

"Give us today our daily bread."  
-pray for needs

"Forgive us our debts."  
-pray for forgiveness

"Deliver us from the evil one."  
-pray for resistance of temptation



Prayer - Lord teach us to pray. Give us pure motives. May your will be done in us.

Assignment - Start and finish each day by giving thanks to God and presenting your requests to Him.

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### Command #4 - Go...Make Disciples

Command - In Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus says, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Tell the Story - The Samaritan Woman from John 4:4-42

Who should we share with?

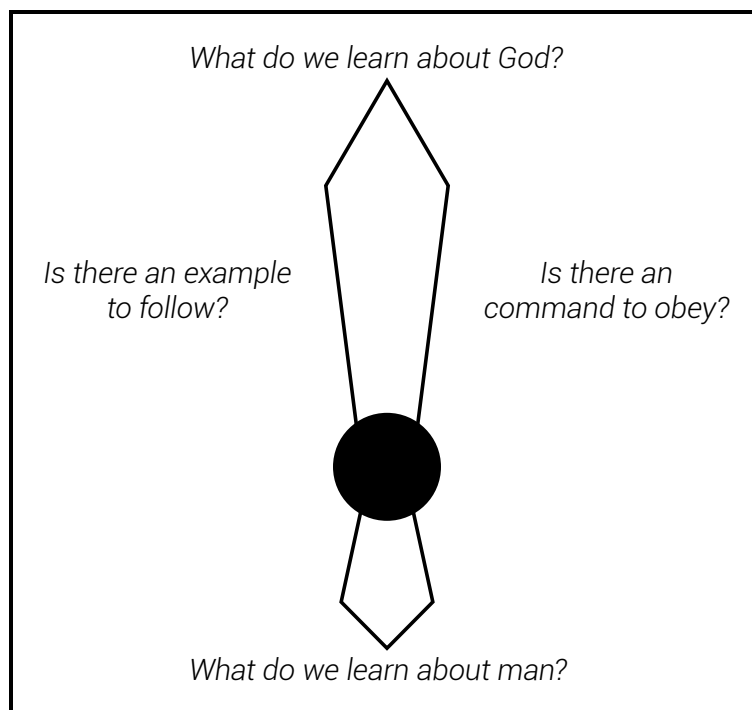
John 4:16 - Our families, friends and neighbors.

What should we say?

John 4:29 - The woman shared her story and God's story.

Who is qualified to go?

John 4 - The Samaritan woman was and so is every believer.



Prayer - Lord make me bold to share what you have done in my life. Give me your words to share in my community.

Assignment - Learn how to share My Story and God's Story from the last page of the booklet. Also pray for opportunities to share with the people who are on your list of friends and neighbors that need to hear your story. Share with them.

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### Command #5 - Love

Command - In Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

Tell the Story - The Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37

What is love?

John 15:13 and 1 Corinthians 13

Why do we love?

John 13:34-35 - Because Jesus loved us first. Love teaches the world about Jesus.

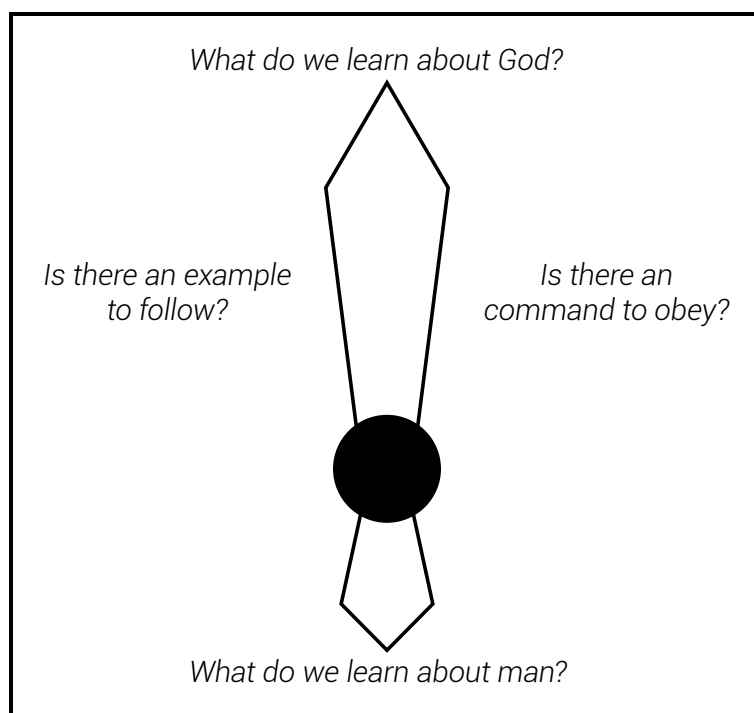
Who do we love?

Matthew 22:37-39 - First we need to love God. Then we need to love our neighbors.

How do we love?

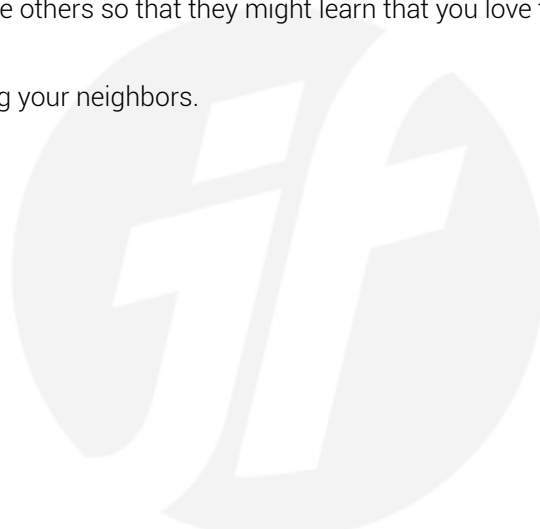
John 14:15 - Loving Jesus means we obey Jesus.

John 21:17 - Loving others means telling them what God has done for you.



Prayer - Lord help me to love you by obeying you. Lord help me to love others so that they might learn that you love them also.

Assignment - Take time each day to intentionally show love by helping your neighbors.



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### Command #6 - Lord's Supper

Command - Luke 22:19-20 says, *And he [Jesus] took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."*

Tell the Story - Jesus' Last Meal from Luke 22:7-20

What is the Lord's Supper?

1 Corinthians 11:26 - A symbol of the Lord's death.

Why do we eat the Lord's Supper?

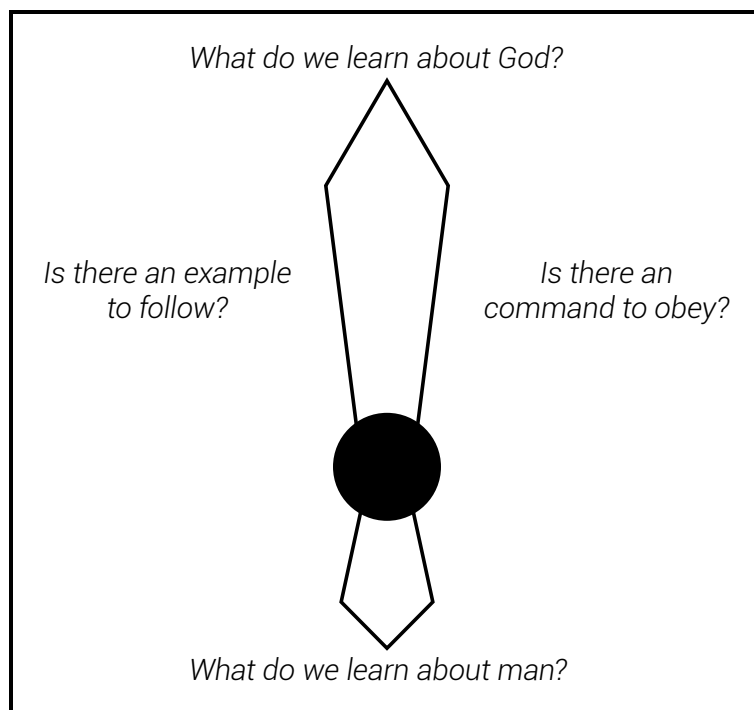
1 Corinthians - 11:26 - His body was broken, His blood was spilt for us.

How do we receive the Lord's Supper?

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 - We must examine ourselves, confess our sins to God and remember Jesus died to give us forgiveness.

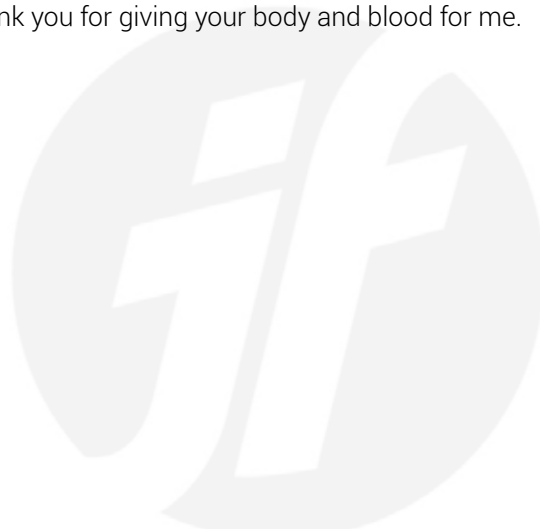
Who should receive the Lord's Supper?

Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:27-29 - Baptized disciples devoted to Jesus who examine themselves.



Prayer - Lord show me the sins I have committed. Forgive them. Thank you for giving your body and blood for me.

Assignment - Receive the Lord's Supper.



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### Command #7 - Give

Command - In Luke 6:38 Jesus says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Tell the Story - The Widow Gives from Mark 12:41-44

What should we give to God?

Our money, time and our lives.

Why should we give to God?

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - Give generously and we will receive generously. God loves a cheerful giver.

How do we give to God?

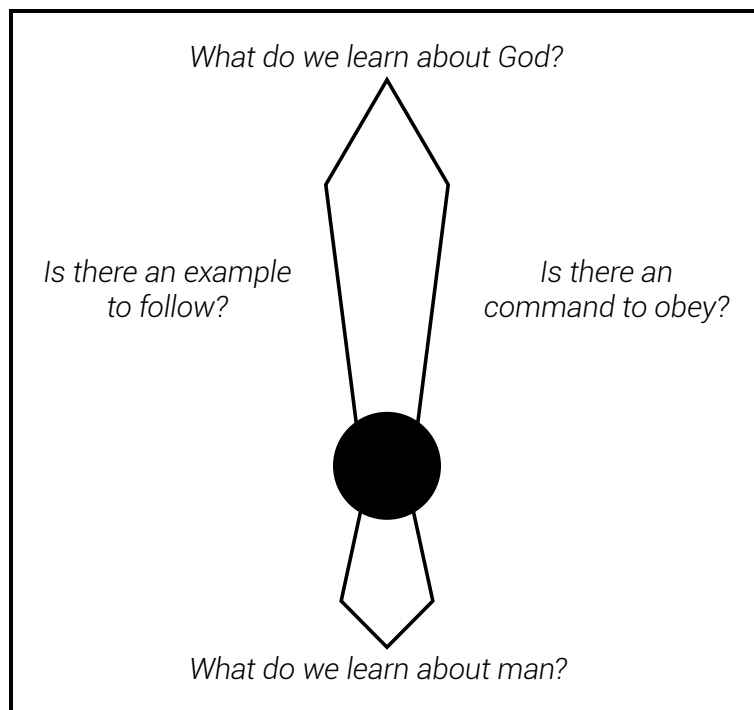
2 Corinthians 9:7 - Cheerfully, not under compulsion.

Matthew 6:1-4 - Secretly, not for recognition.

Who do we give to?

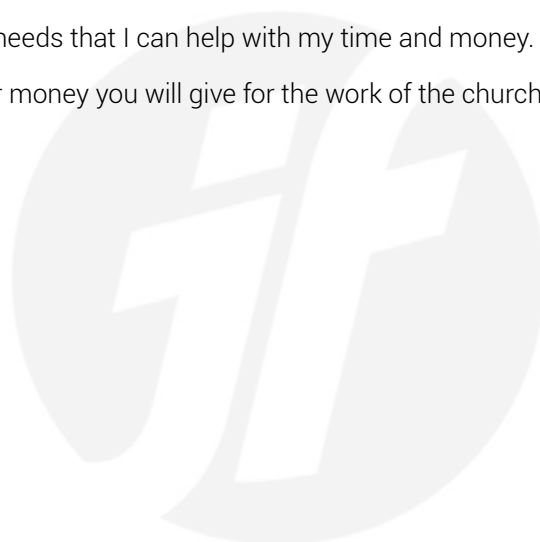
2 Corinthians 9 - A collection was given to a church.

Acts 4:34-35 - The church gave to all who had need.



Prayer - Lord everything I have is yours. Teach me to give. Show me needs that I can help with my time and money.

Assignment - Decide this week with your family an amount of time or money you will give for the work of the church each week.



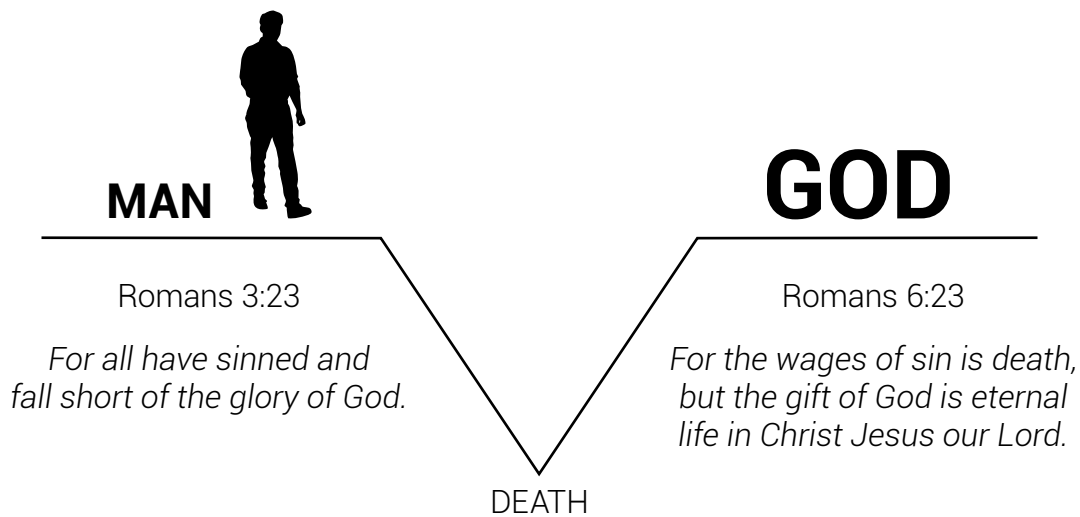


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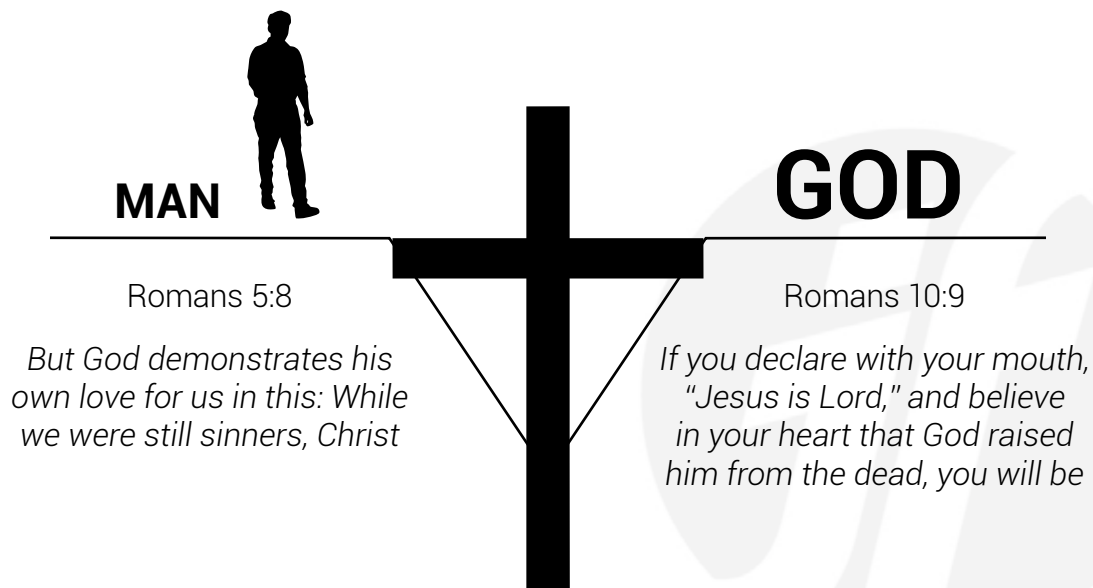
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### GOD'S STORY

The book of Romans tells us about the problem of sin and the way to approach God. Here is a simple way to understand and explain the solution Jesus gives. Believing the message of Jesus and turning from our sins to follow Him brings salvation and relationship with God through Jesus.



Because of sin we could not reach God, but God had a plan to reach us!



You can use these two simple drawings and the four verses listed from Romans to share the good news of salvation with anyone. Start with your family and share with all your friends and neighbors.

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### MY STORY

1 Peter 3:15 says, *"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."*

Obeying Peter's instruction means being ready to share our story of salvation at all times. Everyone who knows Jesus as Savior has three parts to their story.

Part 1 - Our life before we believed in Jesus

Part 2 - How we heard about and believed in Jesus

Part 3 - How our life changed after believing in Jesus

We should practice our testimony using these three parts so that we can share it at any time with anyone. Practice telling each part using simple words our neighbors will understand. We should be able to tell each part clearly and quickly. The entire story should last about three minutes. Take time to practice with other believers to help them learn and tell their own stories as well.

In the space below list the names of at least 25 people who need to hear your story of salvation. Search for the people you listed and be ready to tell them your story.

