

BEGINNING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

4 Introductory Questions

If you were to die tonight, how sure are you that you would go to heaven (on a scale of 1 to 10)?

If God were to ask you "Why should I let you into my heaven?", what would you say?

Are you interested in hearing what the Bible says about this?

Are you willing to consider the following four key components from the Bible that can help you know you are going to heaven?

1. GOD

a. Who is God?

God is our Holy Creator

Genesis 1:26a-Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

1 Peter 1:16-You shall be holy, for I am holy

b. What is He like?

God is merciful

1 John 4:8b-God is love.

God is just

Exodus 34:7-keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty

Illustration

Mercy and justice are like to hands clasped together.

Tracking Question

What do you think about this so far?

2. MAN

a. Who is man?

Man is a sinner

Romans 3:23-For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

b. What is he like?

Man cannot redeem himself

Jeremiah 17:9-The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Illustration

Like a brand new car right off the line at the factory that happens to have a one inch scratch on the door, we are completely imperfect.

Tracking Question

What do you think about this so far?

3. JESUS

a. Who is Jesus?

He is God's Son

John 14:6- Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 3:18-Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

b. What is He like (or really "What did He do?")?

Romans 5:8-but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Illustration

Like a judge paying the sentence for the guilty defendant, so Jesus became a man and paid the penalty for our sin.

Tracking Question

What do you think about this so far?

4. RESPONSE

a. **What is saving faith?** (not intellectual understanding, an emotional response, or temporal faith)

- Admitting your need to God.
- Asking Him to forgive you and help you repent.
- Trusting in Christ alone to rescue you from the penalty of sin.
- Following Jesus Christ, the King of your life, in faith from this day forward.

Acts 16:31-Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved

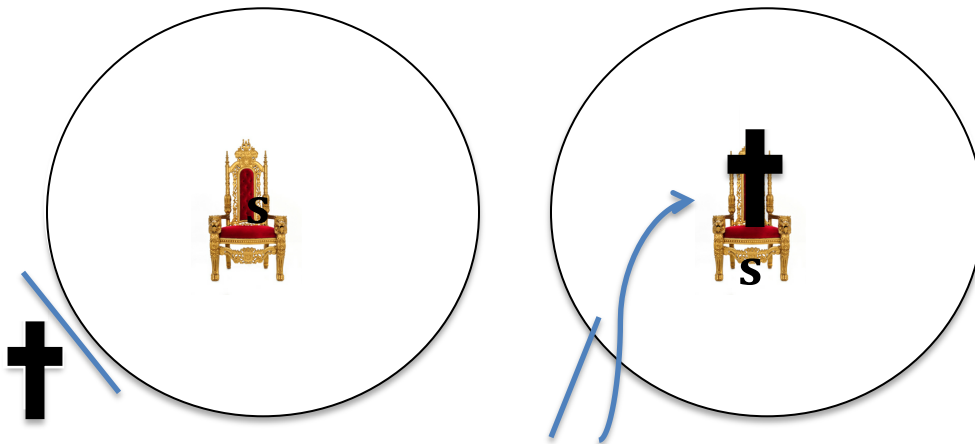
2 Peter 3:9-The Lord...is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

b. **What is saving faith like (or what is true of a person with saving faith)?**

Heaven is a free gift

Eph 2:8-9-For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Illustration



Tracking Questions

What do you think about this?

Would you like to trust in Christ, repent of your sin, and begin an eternal relationship with God today?

You can confirm your decision to trust in Christ through prayer.

Dear God,

I admit my need for you. I repent (turn away) from my sinful lifestyle (ways). Thank you for sending Your Son, Jesus, to die for my sins so I can be forgiven. I trust in Christ alone to rescue you from the penalty of my sin. I want to follow Jesus Christ, the King of my life, in faith from this day forward.

In Jesus name, Amen.

A person who has made this kind of decision needs to G.R.O.W:

G – Go to a church to learn more about God

R – Read the Bible and pray

O – Obey God's Word

W – Witness or tell others how they can be saved from their sin.

What is your next step to grow? Start by attending a Bible-based church this Sunday.

Resources: What is the Gospel? by Greg Gilbert, Evangelism Explosion, The Story booklet by SpreadTruth Ministries, Would you like to know God personally? Booklet by Cru, Child Evangelism Fellowship