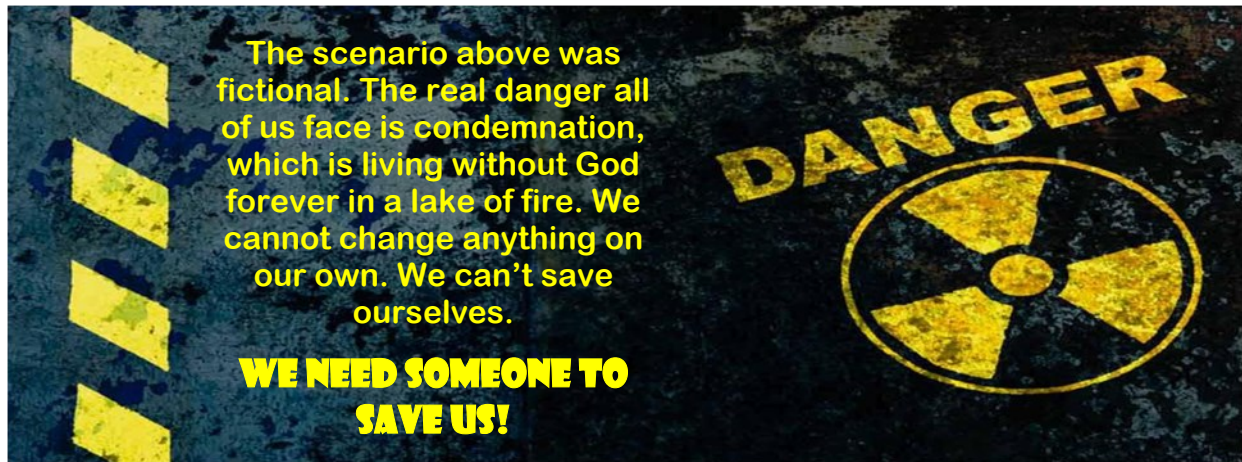




NAME: _____

LESSON ONE- SALVATION

Imagine you are trapped in a burning building with no way out. The flames are getting closer. The air is getting hotter. You begin to cough due to all the smoke. You are helpless! You need someone to save you! Just when you think you have taken your last breath, a fireman comes to your rescue! He saves your life!



You need to understand a few things about God.

God is holy. Holiness means He is divine, exalted, and worthy of complete devotion.

God is just. He is morally right and fair. He is correct.

God is righteous. God is right. He is without sin.

God is pure, which means there are no faults and impurities with Him. He is clean.

God is always these things. He never has an off-day. He is always honest. He is always good. He possesses these things in their perfection. Actually, He is the standard for these things. There would not be holiness, justice, righteousness, or purity without God.

Consider this also:

God is sovereign. He has supreme authority.

God is Creator. We would not exist without Him.

The world you live in belongs to Him, and He has authority over it. When He created this world, He created it to be holy, just, righteous and pure as well as good, loving, peaceful, and joyful. This is the world He wanted people to experience.

This isn't the world that I live in. I see death, sickness, fighting, sadness, and suffering. What happened?

READ ROMANS 5:12

Choices. You deal with them every day. What do you want to wear? What do you want to do after high school? What do you want for lunch? How should you react to your friend? Should you write that history paper or play another round on the PS3? Some choices are more important than others. It is not going to affect your life too much if you decide to eat pizza for lunch instead of a peanut butter sandwich. The field you choose to enter into after graduation affects your life a little more.

What are some of the more serious choices you have been facing lately?



God created people with the ability to choose. He gave a choice to the first man ever created. This man made the choice to go against God (sin). With His disobedience (His name was Adam if you didn't already know), Romans 5:12 tells us that death entered the world. Death brought all its friends like sickness, fighting, sadness, and suffering. This distorted the holy, just, righteous, pure, good, loving, peaceful, and joyful world God had made.

God has given you choices. The most important choice you have is to accept Him or deny Him. You can obey or disobey Him. He wants your sincere love and devotion. He knows obedience is best for you, but He won't force you to accept it. He does everything He can to convince you to turn to Him, but the choice is yours.

READ ROMANS 3:10-20

God will not and can not allow unrighteousness into His presence, so it will be removed. There is something very important that you need to know. It wasn't just the world that was changed when Adam sinned; people were changed as well. Each of us was born in a fallen state. The relationship with God has been severed.

The verses you just read compare your righteousness and goodness to God's righteousness and goodness. Let's see how you do.

From our passage, how many are righteous? _____

How many are good? _____

Does this include you? _____

What does this mean to you being in the presence of a holy, just, and righteous God?



The library is a quiet and orderly place. What do you think would happen if you walked into the library and started yelling and screaming, knocking over bookshelves, and pushing other people?
Why would that be the response?

We said our holy, just God wants a place that is perfectly good and righteous, but people are not perfectly good and do not always do right. Do you see the problem?

In your own words, tell of the problem between a righteous God and an unrighteous person.

READ ROMANS 3:21-24

A good and righteous God cannot allow evil and unrighteousness in His presence and there is no one that is good enough or righteous enough compared to God. This is a big problem! As a result, we are in danger of being kicked out of God's presence one day. Thankfully, the verses you have just read tell what God has done to solve this problem and to save us from danger.



The word "justified" means "to be declared right." It pictures God as the judge, while you are the one on trial to determine whether you are innocent or guilty.

According to verse 23, are you innocent or guilty?

How many of us are guilty? _____

You need a righteousness that equals God's own righteousness.

Can you save yourself by trying to keep the Law? _____

The only chance you have of being rescued is for someone else to save you, which is exactly what Jesus Christ did for you.

How do you get the righteousness of God? _____

Is there anyone that cannot benefit from this provision of the righteousness of God?

How much do we have to be paid to be justified by His grace? _____

With Whom is our redemption found? _____

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4



These verses tell us exactly what Jesus Christ did to save you. The word “gospel” means “good news.” ***According to these verses, what is the good news?***

God, knowing you couldn’t save yourself, took action to send someone to save you. The Someone was Jesus Christ. He is your Savior. Jesus Christ went to the cross to pay for your sins. They are no longer keeping you from God. He defeated death so you could have life in Him. He provided the way to reestablish a relationship with you. He is offering righteousness through Him. You have a choice. Believe the good news that God’s gift of eternal life is offered through the work of Jesus Christ, or remain in a state of condemnation that ends in “*Everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power.*” (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)



Have you admitted that you need to be saved?

Have you made a decision to trust in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ?

If you haven’t, what is it that is important enough to keep you from salvation through faith in the work of Jesus Christ?

If you have placed your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, take the time now to thank the Lord for all He has done for you. Make a plan now to tell others the good news!

RETURN LESSON TO:



NAME: _____

LESSON TWO - SECURITY



I once lost a Bible study that I was typing for church. It was ten pages long. I had spent hours getting the words just right. When it was time to go home, I shut down my computer. The next morning I planned to work on the document some more. I went to open it up, but I couldn't find it. I searched for it, but it was nowhere to be found. I sat at my desk for a moment with my head in my hands. I thought I had done everything right to save the document, but it was lost. All the work I had done was for nothing. All the hours I spent working on it were wasted. I had to start all over again. It made me think about my salvation. Our salvation in Jesus Christ is the most important thing we have, and we NEVER have to worry about losing it. We never have to worry about a mistake being made, because our security is entrusted to the Lord. I'm glad my salvation from sin doesn't depend on my actions and precautions.

THINK ABOUT IT: Have you ever lost something important to you? Maybe it was your finished homework, your phone, money, or your best friend. What did you do?

READ EPHESIANS 1:3-14

At the beginning of the school year, you may have been assigned a combination lock for your locker. The lock allows you to secure your belongings in your locker during the school day. Verses 13 and 14 tell us that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit. When we trust Christ, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. He secures us just like that lock keeps all the belongings in your locker safe. What God wants us to know is that He is never going to lose us. There is nothing that can undo our salvation.



What other examples can you come up with of things that are tightly secured?



The word for “sealed” actually refers to “a stamp.” In other words, the Holy Spirit signifies that we belong to the Lord. The athletes in your school may have received a letterman’s jacket for being on the sports team. The jacket has the team’s seal, or logo, on the front. The jacket signifies that the person belongs to your school’s sports team. In the same way, the Holy Spirit living inside you says that you belong to God’s family forever.

What other ways have you seen that people let everyone else know that something belongs to them?

In verse 14, we are told the Holy Spirit is the “earnest of our inheritance.” An earnest is a down payment. You may relate to a new video game that you couldn’t wait to play. Months before it came out, you may have paid a percentage of the purchase price to guarantee that you would have a copy when the game was released. This verse is telling us that the Holy Spirit is the payment guaranteeing us a position in Heaven with Christ. Obviously, we aren’t in Heaven yet, but it is a fact that we one day will be.

Read through verses 3-12 again. Write down all of the blessings you find in these verses and try to describe each one in your own words. I’ll do one for you.

“Blessed with all spiritual blessings” This means that I have every spiritual blessing that I can think of and even those I am not aware of. I don’t have to work to get them. God has given them to me as part of my salvation package. Wow!!! What an awesome God!!!

READ ROMANS 5:1-10

Romans 5:1: Therefore having been _____ by faith.

"I got an 'A+' on my test." This is past tense. It is already done. You don't have to keep working on your test. You don't have to retake it. You can take comfort knowing that it is in the record books.

We HAVE BEEN justified. This is also in past tense. It is already done. We don't have to keep working on our salvation. We don't have to do it over again. We can take comfort knowing that God considers us positionally righteous in Christ. We are secure through Christ.

Romans 5:1: we have _____ with God.

My best friend and I only had one fight in our lives. I don't remember it. He does. The story is that he crashed my new bike into the side of my house, and we had an argument. Most of the time our friendship has been...well, friendly. Our friendship is peaceful.

We have peace with God. Hostility and disagreement existed between God and man. Jesus Christ paid the price to take the anger and strife away. God is not angry with us for our transgressions anymore. No strife exists between us and God. We are at peace with God. Nothing will disturb that peace, because the Father was satisfied with the work Christ did for us. The war is over! We are securely God's possession.

Romans 5:2: we have access by faith into this grace in which we _____

"Red Rover, Red Rover, Send Juaniqua on over." Have you ever played Red Rover? The idea of the game was to have two lines of people facing each other. The members of your team would join hands while someone from the other team tried to break through your joined hands. Your team stood together to resist the person trying to break through.

We stand in grace. Sometimes in Red Rover the other team was successful in breaking through your line. Nothing is going to knock us from our stand in grace. Nothing is going to deny us access. The standing and access were given to us when we believed and it is a continual thing. We are secure in Christ.



Romans 5:2: we rejoice in _____ of the glory of God.

"I hope I get an ipod for my birthday." "I hope Danica talks to me today." "I hope I do well in my baseball game." "I hope get a good grade on my test." "I hope I get a deer on opening day." You may have expressed something similar to these. We say we hope something happens, and we mean we REALLY want it to be true. This is not what the word means in the Bible. The Bible uses the word "hope" to mean "an assurance that we look forward to." We don't have it yet, but we absolutely are going to have it some day.

In the passage, we don't have the glory of God yet, but we look forward to it. Some day it is absolutely going to be ours. Since this is true, we take joy in our assurance given to us by God.

Teenagers want more responsibility, so now it's your turn. Look up the following verses and fill in the blanks. In the space below the blanks, write what impact this has on your security in Christ.

Romans 8:35-39: What can separate us from the love of God? _____

Romans 8:35-39 We are more than _____ through Him that loved us.

Colossians 2:10: In Christ we are _____ .

Colossians 3:3-4: Our life is _____ with Christ in God.

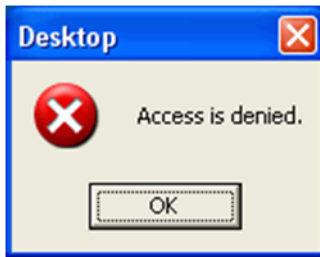
Take time to consider all the truths you have learned in this lesson. Write down the influence they have on your life.

RETURN LESSON TO:



NAME: _____

LESSON THREE - IDENTITY



High school is known for cliques (pronounced "clicks"). You have the jocks, the smart ones, the preps, the punks, the drama club, etc. To fit into a clique, you must identify with the group. Who you identify with will cause you to be labeled. High school cliques are based upon what you do and how you look. This isn't God's way of labeling people. If we have trusted in Christ, God identifies us with what Christ has done.

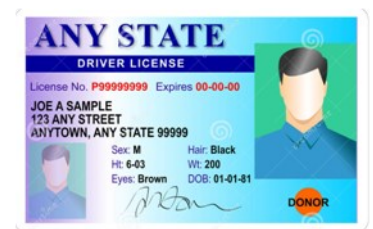


***THINK ABOUT IT:** Have you ever been rejected by someone, denied access to a club or a program, or cut from the sports team or drama club? Has anyone ever told you that you are worthless or that no one likes you? How did it feel? What did you do?*

READ GALATIANS 4:4-7

A driver's license not only lets a person drive a car, but it lists facts about that person. The Holy Spirit is like our driver's license. He testifies who we are in Christ.

What are the differences between being a young son/daughter and an adult son/daughter?



Can you think of some benefits that you look forward to when you become an adult son/daughter? (For example, you don't have to sit at the kid's table at Thanksgiving.)

This passage tells us we are not simply children of God, but we are full-grown children with access to all the riches of Christ. The word “adoption” in verse 5 is a word that speaks of our being recognized as full-grown adult children.

Some of you may have moms or dads that aren’t around. God the Father is never going to leave us. He will never be mean to us. He will never call us names. He will never hurt us. Father God will never kick us out of His family. He is a kind and loving Father. The term “Abba” is one that speaks of a close, loving relationship. If you have trusted in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ to save you, you are always going to be identified as a full-grown child in God’s family.

Look up the following verses and answer the questions.

Ephesians 1:1-6: He made us _____ in the beloved.
How is this different from the high school cliques we mentioned?

Ephesians 2:1-4: In your own words, tell how these verses describe you before you trusted Christ.

We were _____ in trespasses and sins.

Ephesians 2:5-7: In your own words, tell what a merciful God did to you when you accepted Christ.

“Quickened” means “made alive.”

2 Corinthians 5:17: What does it mean to be a new creation? What old things have passed away?

Colossians 2:13: He forgave you of _____ trespasses. Is there anything He hasn’t forgiven you for?

“Trespasses” are our sins against Him.

Philippians 3:20: Our conversation is in _____. Where is our eternal destination?

“Conversation” means “citizenship.”

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20



We are _____ with a price. When you pay a lot of money for something, you take extra care not to lose it.

What was the last thing you paid a lot of money for? How did you treat it?

God paid the price to save us from sin. The price that was paid was the life of Jesus Christ. ***If God bought us by giving His Son to die for our sins, do you think God would just throw us away?***



Since Jesus paid the price, what are we told to do in verse 20?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:13-27

Let's start with the analogy Paul is using – the human body. You don't have to take a human anatomy class to get Paul's point. Consider your eyes, nose, ears, mouth, hands, and feet. Do they all do the same thing? No. Each of them works in the way they were created to work. They function together as a unit for the benefit of the entire body.



What if the foot decided to have a pity party after deciding it wasn't as important as another body part? Is the foot less important just because it is not the hand? Doesn't the foot have an important role to play?

What if the eye were the only part of the body? Would the body function as well? **What would be missing?**



The human body does not have cliques where the head group doesn't talk to the arm group. They don't refuse to work with one another. The human body was created for all of its parts to be functioning together. Some parts may be used more than others. Some parts may be more prominent than others, but they are all needed. (By the way, another result of death entering the world is that sometimes our body parts don't function in the way they were created to function, which is why we have handicaps and diseases.)

Paul is using the human body to explain what God is doing today with those who have believed in Christ. When we place our faith in Christ's work, the Holy Spirit takes us and identifies (baptizes) us with a spiritual group called the Body of Christ. We didn't feel this happen. We didn't get a confirmation email. We have something better. We have the assurance of God's Word that it happened. This is part of our identity.

Paul is comparing the members of the Body of Christ to members of the human body. You may sometimes feel like you are less important than someone else. You may be overly sensitive to your differences. God assures us in this passage that we are all needed. All of us have a part to play in the functioning of the Body of Christ.

This isn't a quick and easy answer. Consider the ways that the parts of the human body and the individuals in the Body of Christ should function alike. Write down your thoughts.

Think back on all the ways you are identified in Christ. All of them are important and amazing, but which ones personally affect you the most?

RETURN LESSON TO:



NAME: _____

LESSON FOUR - TRUTH

You are bombarded on all sides with statements about truth. The world's belief can be summed up by a movie character who said, "Truth is nothing. What you believe to be true is everything." In other words, we determine what is true by believing hard enough. Even a well-known scientist writes, "Black/white absolute truth doesn't exist in real science." To state it differently, the truth changes over time. It is a fact that what we UNDERSTAND has changed over time (hello, science). It is also true that our PERCEPTION of something may differ from day to day (I'm talking to you, movie guy). In contrast, there is an absolute truth, which means something that is absolutely true. The absolute is God's Word, the Bible.



THINK ABOUT IT: If truth were fluid (a.k.a. it changes), what would that do to reality? What would be the point of studying subjects in school? Wouldn't it mean that there could be different truths? We could both look at the same animal. I could see an elephant. You could see a giraffe. Could we both be right? If the teaching that there isn't really anything that is true were right, how would that change how you live your life?

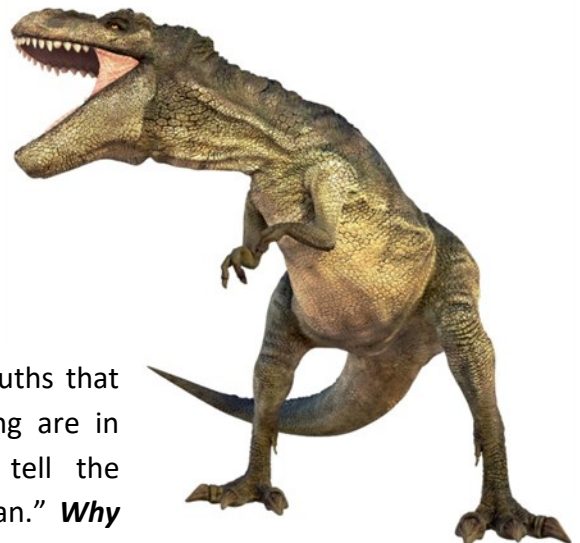
READ JOHN 17:17

This verse makes no mistake that God's Word is _____.

If you've watched a TV program about dinosaurs, you've heard statements referring to the animals living millions of years ago. The timeline of the Bible informs us that all land-dwelling animals, including dinosaurs, were created about six thousand years ago on Day Six of creation week.

Whom do you trust? The popular view? Or, the God who wrote the Bible?

Scientists state that science is constantly learning new truths that sometimes show previously held beliefs about something are in error. One scientist titled his article, "Pssst! Don't tell the creationists, but scientists don't have a clue how life began." ***Why then do you think they refuse to even consider any evidence of a Creator?***



This same author's reason for dismissing Creationism was "Who created the Divine Creator?"
Why isn't this a problem for us?

A Harvard evolutionary scientist said, "We take the side of science in spite of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, in spite of its failure to fulfill many of its extravagant promises of health and life, in spite of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism." Let me summarize his statement. He said, "We believe in evolution despite not having any real evidence, because we refuse to believe in God.

I'll ask you once again, why do you think most evolutionists refuse to even consider any evidence that points to a Creator?

READ 2 TIMOTHY 3:15-17

When did Timothy start knowing the Holy Scriptures? _____

Do you think you should start knowing the Scriptures now or later? _____



The Bible was NOT created by men. These verses say, "All Scripture is given by _____ of God." The phrase "inspiration of God" means "God breathed." Some of your Bible's may even say, "All Scripture is God-breathed."

Here's something to try: Try to talk while holding your breath.

Couldn't do it, could ya? God wants us to know that He gave the words to men that He wanted them to write. The words of the Bible are God's words. They are His truth.

What is the Bible profitable for?

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

The Bible is sufficient, which means it is all we need, for all areas of our life. This doesn't mean that we shouldn't learn about math, science, language, history. It does mean that we understand these subjects filtered through the absolute truth of God's Word. Let's give you an opportunity to put this into practice on the next page.

In your own words, tell how the Bible applies to...

Science? (HINT: see Colossians 1:16)

Language? (Psalm 109:30)

Music? (Psalm 150:6)

Math? (1 Corinthians 14:40)

Physical Education? (1 Timothy 4:8)

Health (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

History? (Isaiah 49:9-10)

Civics? (Psalm 33:12)

Other subjects? (1 Corinthians 10:31)

We've talked a lot about creation versus evolution, but the Bible speaks of more issues than just that one. ***Look up each of the verses and use your own words to state what the Bible says on the different issues. I'll help you with the first one, because it may be the hardest.***

World says, "You create your own truth."

2 Corinthians 13:8 says, "We are unable to do anything against the truth. We can only work on behalf of it." This means that we cannot create things contrary to the truth, because what is true is true regardless of whether we believe it or not. We must decide to accept the truth and promote it.

World says, "The Bible is for people who aren't smart."

Proverbs 1:7 says,

World says, "Abortion is okay."

Psalm 139:15 says, "My framework was not hid from thee, when I was privately knit together in my mother's womb."

Exodus 20:13 says,

World says, "Homosexual marriage is fine." They also say, "Transgender is a choice."

Matthew 19:4-5 says,

World says, "Let your heart decide."

Jeremiah 17:9 says,

Psalm 119:105 says,



The Bible is the most amazing book ever written. Its pages contain words of life. Reading the Bible is important to your *spiritual* growth in the Lord. If we want to do what God wants us to do, we need to know our Bibles.

RETURN LESSON TO:



NAME: _____

LESSON FIVE - SERVICE

Stan had attended church his whole life. Soon after his sixteenth birthday, he switched schools and getting his first job. He made new friends. His new friends didn't go to church, and they seemed to be having fun. Stan made a decision that he was going to live the way he wanted to live. He stopped reading his Bible and praying. He created all sorts of excuses to get out of going to church. He just wanted to hang out with his unsaved friends and have fun. He knew that a lot of what he was doing was not honoring to God, so he tried not to think about it too much. It was fun for a while, but there came a point when Stan started to feel empty. He realized his life just didn't make any sense. The things that seemed to be so fun were causing trouble. He began to go back to church, read his Bible, and pray. He was surprised to learn that Christians could also have fun! They laughed, went fishing, and played softball. He was soon reminded of the joy found in knowing the Lord. It was a true, lasting joy that he didn't find in the activities of the world.



THINK ABOUT IT: The Bible talks about “enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season.” (Heb. 11:25). Sin can be very enticing. It certainly appeals to our flesh, but the fun only lasts for a short time. Make the choice to live for the Lord to experience deeper joy and lasting peace with eternal results. Living for Christ does not

make all of our troubles go away (seriously, read Hebrews 11:25), but throughout all the turmoil and sadness, there is a Savior who loves us and gives us the strength to live for Him.

READ COLOSSIANS 3:16-17

Everything you do should please God.

What are some ways you can honor God when you are with your friends?

What are some places you should go and shouldn't go?

What are some ways you can honor God when you are at work?

What are some ways you can praise God even at home?



READ GALATIANS 5:16-25

What are some of the actions that characterize the flesh?

The Holy Spirit living inside of us is the One who can help us do godly things.

Give an example of how each of the Spirit's fruits may be seen in your life.

LOVE

joy

PEACE

LONGSUFFERING

Gentleness

goodness

FAITH

MEEKNESS

temperance



READ 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-6

What should be the first thing that we do?

Prayer is talking to God the Father. We can pray to Him in the name of Jesus Christ. Prayer involves supplications (requests), prayer (talking), intercessions (requests on someone else's behalf), and giving of thanks.

In difficult times, what is there to be thankful for? (HINT: think of previous lessons.)



Many Christians claim to be seeking God's desire for their lives. They ask God to show them and wait for Him to speak. However, God's will is recorded for us in the Bible. When we choose to step out in faith to follow the clear instructions found in His Word, the personal specifics become clearer (e.g., Should I be a missionary?, Whom should I marry?).

One of God's desires is found right here in our passage.

What does verse four say God's desire, or will, is?

If this is God's desire, what should our desire be?



List some ways you could express God's desire.

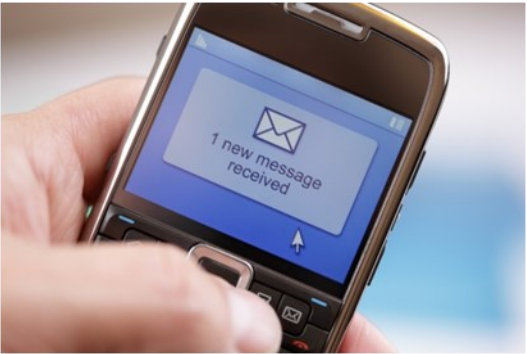
Who is the only mediator between God and man?

How many people did He die for?



God wants everyone to live with Him for eternity. He has done everything He can to make that possible. He sent His Son as the ransom (to pay the price) to make this happen. It is up to each individual to accept life through Jesus Christ. God has chosen each believer to get this message out to everyone and help other believers grow in the Lord.

READ 2 TIMOTHY 2:15



We should all want to be unashamed workmen. This means God is honored by what we do. To honor Him we need to serve God in the correct way. We serve Him in the correct way by “_____ the Word of Truth.” This phrase means we separate the Bible where God wants it to be separated. While the entire Bible gives us beneficial lessons, there are some portions that were written with us in mind. Other books were written for someone else (the nation of Israel).

Have you ever received a text from a friend that was meant to go to someone else? It can be a little confusing and awkward, right? There are some things in the text that may make sense, but the context is just confusing.

The same is true of the Bible. Most of the Bible deals with a message God wrote to a nation called Israel. You are not Israel. The message wasn’t written directly for you. God’s special message for you is found only in the Bible books of the Apostle Paul. To rightly divide means we read Paul’s books as a text meant for us, and when we read the rest of the Bible, we read them like a text meant for someone else.

Here is an example:

James 2:24 says, “Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.”

Romans 4:5 says, “But to him that works not, but believes on Him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.”

So, which is it? Are we justified (declared righteous) by works and faith, or are we justified not by works but by faith alone?

We need to rightly divide. We recognize that James was not writing directly to you but to the “Twelve Tribes scattered abroad” (James 1:1). Paul was writing to you as a member of the Body of Christ. You are saved by grace through faith alone, not of works.

If you haven’t accepted the payment of Christ, do so today. Thank Him for all He has done for you. Get in the Scriptures. Read the entire Bible, but realize God’s instructions for you are found in Paul’s letters (Romans – Philemon).

RETURN LESSON TO: