

God's Bridge

A young boy in a red shirt and blue pants stands on a wooden bridge that spans a deep, dark chasm. The bridge is made of light-colored wooden planks and has a dark wooden post with an arched opening. The background shows a vast, flat landscape under a sky with large, golden-yellow clouds. The overall scene is symbolic, representing a path to a better life.

to
Eternal
Life

1.

Why did God create you?

When God created the first people, Adam and Eve, He wanted them to love Him and live for Him and obey Him at all times. This is why God created you.

The Bible says...

"God saw all that He had made, and... it was very good."

Genesis 1:31a

"Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

Revelation 4:11

"Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

1 Corinthians 10:31



2.

Everyone has a problem: Sin

Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. As a result, all people since Adam and Eve also choose to sin against God instead of loving Him, living for Him and obeying Him. The Bible says...

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 3:23

"There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one."

Romans 3:10-12

What does it mean to sin against God?

Sin is breaking any of God's laws in the Bible. We sin by doing what God has told us not to do. God says we should not lie; but sometimes we don't tell the truth, do we?

We also sin by not obeying what He has told us to do. God says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." We don't always obey, do we?

Have you sinned against God? You are not alone. Everyone has, and we deserve to be punished for it.



3.

Sin has a punishment: Death

When Adam chose to disobey God, God punished him for it. Instead of living forever, he would die. Instead of having everything given to him in the garden, he now had to work hard for his food. Our sin and disobedience deserve God's punishment as well.

The Bible says...

"Therefore, just as through one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned."

Romans 5:12

"For the wages of sin is death..."

Romans 6:23a

"It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment."

Hebrews 9:27

Death is more than just dying and being buried in the ground. That is called our physical death. Death also includes being eternally separated from God in a place of eternal punishment. That place is called Hell or the Lake of Fire. That is called the "second death" or "eternal death."

"And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

Revelation 20:15



SEPARATION
FROM GOD

4.

Then how can I have eternal life in Heaven?

People have tried many different ways to get to Heaven, but the Bible says there is only one way to have our sins forgiven and to be able to go to Heaven.

Many people think they are right with God, but they do not read what the Bible says:

"There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

Proverbs 14:12

Thinking you can do good works to earn God's favor is wrong as well.

"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy,"

Titus 3:5a

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9

Some think if their parents or friends are Christians, then they will be, too. But that is not right either.

It is only because God shows us mercy or gives us grace that we can have hope. How can we have eternal life?



Helping
Other People ↑

DEAD END

Going to
Church ↑

Being
Good
↑

5.

Christ made the payment: He was our Sinless Substitute

Jesus Christ, God's sinless Son, was sent by God the Father to the world in order to live a sinless life for us and to pay the penalty for our sins by dying on the cross. The Bible says...

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:8

"For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God."

1 Peter 3:18a

Christ paid the penalty for our sins when He died on the cross. So, you may be thinking: "THEN HOW DO I CROSS THE BRIDGE TO ETERNAL LIFE?"



6.

We are given forgiveness by turning and trusting

How do you cross the bridge to eternal life? You must repent of your sins and put your trust in Jesus alone as your only hope of eternal life. The Bible says...

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away." Acts 3:19a

The word repent means to confess your sins to God with a sorrowful spirit and with the desire to not keep sinning, but to obey God and do His will.

You place your trust in Jesus Christ by doing the following. First, you believe that He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for your sins, and rose from the dead. Second, you call upon Him to be your personal Lord and Savior.

"Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Acts 16:31a

"For whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13



7.

We are given God's promise: Eternal Life

Jesus Christ said,

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life."

John 5:24

If we listen to God's Word, and believe that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, we are given eternal life.

God's promise of salvation has three parts.

The person who believes:

1. Has eternal life in Heaven
2. Does not face judgment or punishment for his or her sins
3. Has passed out of death into life. In other words, we do not face eternal death, but we are given eternal life.

This is good news!

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Will you turn from your sins
and believe in Jesus as your
Lord and Savior today?

To do so, you must . . .

1. Admit that you have sinned against God, decide that you want to obey Him and ask Him for forgiveness.
2. Believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God Who died for you on the cross, rose from the dead, and is Lord.
3. Call upon Jesus to be your Lord and Savior.

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