

Even though we are guilty and deserve hell, God in his love and mercy offers us forgiveness. It is a gift and therefore cannot be earned! While going to church, praying, living a 'good' life and doing good deeds are good things none of them can give us a perfect record before God.

How do I receive forgiveness?

1/ Acknowledge that you are guilty of disobeying God's law and accept that there is nothing you can do by yourself to earn your way to heaven.

2/ Be willing to turn away from any behaviour that offends God (God will help you do this).

3/ Through a prayer of faith (trust) give God control of your life.

If you are willing to accept Gods gift of salvation you must also accept the cost.

THERE IS A COST!!

Jesus warned us many times about counting the cost before deciding to follow Him (**Luke 14:28**). We must be willing to be and do anything that God asks of us. Remember though, that God is our loving Creator and can be trusted with our lives. As a Christian, God will teach, encourage and help you even in times of failure. As you surrender control of your will to God He gives you new desires and the power to change.

SUMMARY

If you have counted the cost of being a Christian, want to become a follower of Jesus and accept the gift He offers you then the following is a suggested prayer:

Jesus,

I confess that I am guilty of breaking Your laws many times (confess the events to God) and I am very sorry. I now turn away from those things that offend You and ask for Your forgiveness. I commit to live the rest of my life for You, Lord Jesus. I know that it is only as I surrender to You that I will be able to live the life that You want me to live. I ask You Holy Spirit to enter my life and make me the person You want me to be.

Thank You, Amen

To help you grow in your walk with Jesus read the Bible daily, obey what it says, join a Bible believing church and tell someone about your decision. Talk to Jesus as much as possible. He hears and answers prayer. For further information please contact:



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ARE YOU A GOOD PERSON?

(TEST INSIDE)

THE TEST

We have discovered that many people consider themselves to be 'good'.

Are you one of them?

How do we define what a good person is? We have prepared a test for you.

Please tick the boxes if your answer is 'yes' to the following questions:

1/ *Have you ever told a lie, exaggerated, told a half-truth?*

2/ *Have you ever stolen anything (the value is irrelevant)?*

3/ *Have you ever really wanted something someone else had e.g. money, looks, etc*

4/ *Have you ever thought about or had sex outside of marriage?*

5/ *Have you ever disrespected your parents by talking harshly to them?*

6/ *Have you ever used the name of 'Jesus', 'Christ' or 'God' as a swear word?*

7/ *Do you reject that the God of the Bible is the only true God?*

8/ *Have you made up a god to suit yourself?*

9/ *Have you ever hated someone and wished they were dead?*

10/ *Have you ever failed to set one day in 7 aside for God?*

If you have ticked 'YES' to just one of these questions the Bible says you are guilty of breaking God's perfect law.

THE PROBLEM

The Bible says '*...for all have sinned...*' *Romans 3:23*. We are all guilty. Be honest, do you think God who is holy (pure, perfect) and just, is going to let law breakers off without punishment? If a judge in a court of law let the guilty go

free he would be a corrupt judge. God is not a corrupt judge! Our lawbreaking is so serious that one lie is enough to separate us from God forever. Combine this with the fact that the entry level into heaven is purity (perfection) and we see that none of us deserve to go there.

THE CONSEQUENCES

The Bible says that '*The wages of sin is death...*' *Romans 6:23*. The punishment for our lawbreaking has been set at an eternity in a place called hell. Eternal separation from God is exactly what we deserve for our sin and neglect of our Creator. Tragically this is going to be the reality for many people when they die. But it doesn't have to be your reality.

While God is holy and just, He is also loving and merciful!

God's plan has always been to have a relationship with us, so that we could glorify and enjoy Him forever.

GODS SOLUTION

To make a way for this to happen, God made an incredible sacrifice. He sent His only son Jesus Christ into the world. While fully human and fully God, Jesus willingly obeyed and came to earth to take the consequences of our sin on Himself. On earth He lived a perfect life but despite this He was beaten, whipped, deserted and finally nailed to a cross and killed. This however was not the end. Three days later God raised Him from the dead and showed that Jesus sacrifice was acceptable.

So what does this mean?

This means that Jesus has made a way for us to be forgiven for all our disobedience.