

## What Are You Going To Do About the Truth?

*“As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.” John 1:12*

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already.” John 3:16-18*

*“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him.” Revelation 3:20*

**WARNING:** To understand and agree with the above information isn't enough, however. By faith, you must open the door of your heart and invite Him to come into your life. This is how to do that:

(Sample prayer you can pray.)

*Jesus, I am sorry for all the things I have done wrong (my sins). I am opening myself to you. Please come into my life. Forgive me and lead me from now on. Thank you for taking my sin-earned death so I can have eternal life with you in heaven. Please sit on the throne of my heart each day and lead me moment by moment.*

If you just prayed that prayer, your destiny has changed from eternal death to eternal life.

## What's Next?

If you have made the life-changing decision to receive Jesus as your Savior and Lord, begin to grow in your spiritual life. Find a local church where Jesus is honored as Lord. Read God's word and talk with him daily.

# What is True?

According to Merriam Webster, truth is:

- the body of real things, events and facts:  
ACTUALITY
- the state of being the case:  
FACT

## Why is Truth Important?

It's important because falsehood has consequences both in this life and the life to come. Just as an example, consider traffic signals. The truth is: green means GO and red means STOP. If you doubt that statement, at your own risk, cease to stop when the light turns red and see what happens. Good luck! You're going to need it.

But what if there is something far more consequential than running red lights—such as what's *really real* and the truth about human life? Wouldn't you want to have that information? Would you reject it out of hand without considering the facts and consequences?

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## What Did Jesus Say About Truth?

John 8:32 "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

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

## Why Should I Believe Jesus?

Because He delivered on his claims. He claimed to be God's Son. He predicted his death by crucifixion to be followed by his resurrection from the dead 3 days following. Then He actually did it. Even his closest followers couldn't fathom this until they saw Him face to face after He was raised from death just as He said he would.

After his resurrection He was seen not only by his closest followers, but by over 500 people at one time. We have the written record of his life, works, and resurrection that was penned so soon after his death that people still living at that time could have refuted it; but, they didn't. And we have the witness of changed lives then and now by those who have trusted Him to save them from sin's consequences.

## How Does This Affect Me?

Consider what happened to cause a break in mankind's relationship with God the Father. Humans chose against God, and we keep on choosing against Him. This "away-from-God" behavior is called sin, and it naturally separates us from God and the life God intended.

*"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:23

*"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."*

1 John 1:8

We may resist a word like "sin," but it describes something true about every human. Despite being made to "be like God," we often act in ways that are anything but good. We're selfish, we "bend" the truth to our advantage, or we choose to hurt others in our anger. No one makes us sin; we choose it often and freely, even if we try our best to do the right thing.

**AND, sin comes with its own  
"compensation package."**

*"The wages of sin is death."* Romans 6:23

Like a salary earned from employment, sin earns wages that lead to death, both physical and spiritual. We are broken in our relationship with each other, with God, and even within ourselves.

## Is There Any Hope?

Here's the GOOD NEWS: God did not give up on us, even though we are the ones who broke his good creation. There's MORE to Romans 6:23. The full sentence reads: *"For the wages of sin is death, **but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**"*

God came to earth in human form to heal the brokenness that exists because of human sin. Sin earns us death, but Jesus (God) died on our behalf. Whereas we *earned* death, God *gives* us life through Jesus. *"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8

Through Jesus Christ, humans are restored to right relationship with God and begin the journey toward right relationship with all of God's creation. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them."* 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

