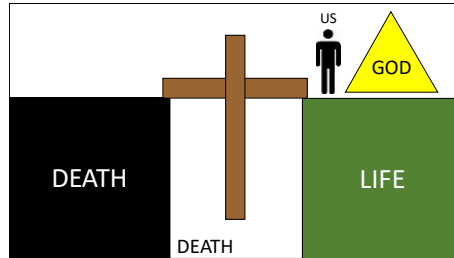


That's how we can be sure that death is not the end for us. In fact, it's the beginning of eternal life with God, what the Bible calls heaven.



So, how do we cross that bridge? How do we accept the free gift of God's grace, the forgiveness that Jesus offers us?

MEMORIZE

John 3:16 – “For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”

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Leader Signature

We accept this grace by BELIEVING. Believing is more than just saying that Jesus existed, that He died on a cross. Believing is...
...admitting that you are a sinner, and asking God to forgive you.
...choosing to live your life – for the rest of your life – no longer for you, but for God. On our own, we can't do this, but if we ask God, He promises to help us do it.

Have you crossed the bridge from death to life?

“ROAR” (that's lion for “Well done!”)

..... (name of Clubber) has finished
“The Bridge to Life.” Well done!

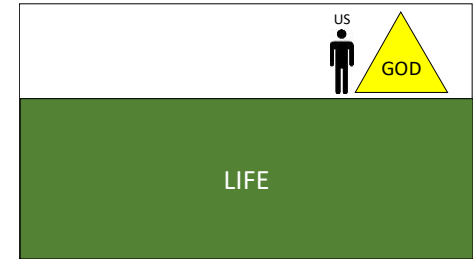
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16 THE BRIDGE TO LIFE



Have you ever watched the News (which, sadly, is mostly bad) and thought, “Is this how life is supposed to be?” The short answer is “no.” God always meant for life for us to be different. In the beginning, the world was perfect. Life was perfect. God and people were together. They were friends.

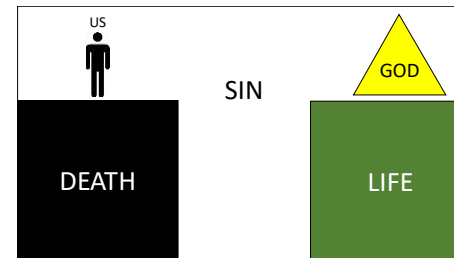


God gave people just one rule. And He said, “If you break this rule, you will die.” God was not just talking about physical death, but also spiritual death – separation from Him forever. Breaking His rules is called “sin.”

REVIEW

Romans 3:23 – “For everyone has sinned. We all fall short of God's glorious standard.”

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Leader Signature



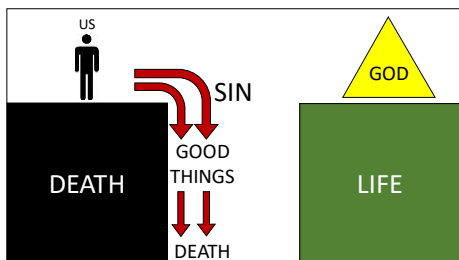
Sin separates us from God. Sin makes life hard. And sin, in the end, will destroy us. It's like sin makes a large canyon between us and God, that's impossible for us to cross.

REVIEW

Romans 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

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Leader Signature

Many people try to get to God, to life, across that canyon ... on their own. They do good things for others. They pray. They go to church. They read the Bible and memorize verses. They give to their church or to people in need. And, all of those things are good, but they're not good enough. They won't get us across that canyon. No one can cross that canyon on their own. We need help, God's help.



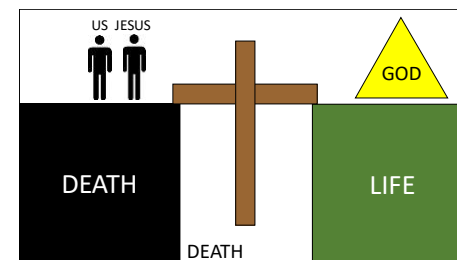
MEMORIZE

Ephesians 2:8-9 – “God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”

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Leader Signature

So, over 2000 years ago, God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, to help us, to be the Saviour of the world. Jesus came that very first Christmas, as a baby. As a human, He knows what it's like to be us. To be tired. To be hungry. To be lonely. To be hurt by others. And, according to the Bible, Jesus never sinned. Because of this, Jesus was able to give His life in place of ours.

You see, according to the Bible, only a perfect life could take the place – could die – for an imperfect life. Jesus died on the cross, that very first Good Friday, to take away our sins, to give us life. It's a gift, what the Bible calls grace. And it's all because God loves us!



REVIEW

Romans 5:8 – “But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”

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Leader Signature

Jesus' death on the cross made a bridge between sinful us and perfect God. Isn't that amazing! God made a way for us to walk with Him today, and to be with Him forever. But, in order to be saved from our sins, we must cross the bridge from death to life. We must accept the gift of His grace.

MEMORIZE

1 Peter 3:18 – “Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but He died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but He was raised to life in the Spirit.”

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Leader Signature

The news gets even better. Jesus died for us, but He didn't stay dead. Three days later, on that very first Easter Sunday, He came back to life, as the verse above says.