

Where Can We Go to Find the Answers to Life?

Lesson One

What Are Some Common Questions We Have?

What's life all about?

Where can I go to find absolute truth?

Why am I here?

Is there a meaningful purpose for me in life?

How does one know what is right and what is wrong?

What will happen to me when I die?

What are some ways people use to try to find the answers to these questions?

Following our own thoughts and ideas

Reading books and literature

Taking advice and suggestions from others

Trusting what science and nature has to offer

**The typical result of following such advice is, we don't know
what direction to take. We need some clear directions.**

We need to discover the truth!!

Two Life-Changing Suggestions

1. Believing that God has communicated to us in the Holy Scriptures.

**The expression "Thus says the Lord" is used 424 times in the
Bible. When a true prophet spoke those words, it was with all the
authority of God Himself.**

1 Thessalonians 2:13

And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

2. Believing that knowing God personally is the key to finding the answers to life.

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus says the Lord, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things, "declares the Lord.

If there is a God trying to communicate with us, then we should be interested in finding out what He has to say. Here are a few things the Bible promises:

- ◆ eternal life to anyone who comes to God on His terms.
- ◆ strength to face trials on a daily basis.
- ◆ joy on earth and forever in heaven.

There is another option that some people have followed:

Believing there is no God!! But God has spoken about this option.

Psalm 14:1

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

To help lay a foundation, what are some facts about God?

He is all powerful
He created us in His image
He is in control of His universe
He knows all about you
He is everywhere present
He is holy

God is all powerful

Jeremiah 32:27

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?"

Matthew 19:26

And looking upon them He said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

He created us in His image

Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness... And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

He is in control of the universe

Isaiah 46:9-10

...For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure.'

He knows all about you

Psalms 139:1-4

O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar... And are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O Lord, You know it all.

He is everywhere present

Psalms 139:7-8

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You art there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You art there.

He is holy

Leviticus 19:2

"Speak to all the congregation of the sons of Israel and say to them, 'You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

Isaiah 6:1-3

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted... Seraphim stood above Him... And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

Some Other Attributes of God

Self-existent	Eternal	Perfect	Unchangeable
Righteous	True	Faithful	Merciful
Long-suffering	Light	Just	Spirit
Wise	Infinite		

Since God has revealed Himself in the Holy Scriptures, to get better acquainted with God, one needs to get to know them.

The Truth About You, Me and This World

Lesson Two

The truth is, we have all sinned. As a result of that, a huge separation exists between us and God.

It's not a bad thing for God to warn us about sin. It is similar to a doctor telling us that we have a life-threatening sickness, but he also knows of a cure.

What Does the Bible Have to Say About Sin? When Did It Enter the Human Race?

Although sin already took place in the universe (when Lucifer sinned), sin began in the human race with Adam and Eve.

God's special warning not to sin

Genesis 2:16-17

And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."

Adam and Eve disobeyed

Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

Some Consequences Of Adam and Eve's Sin?

They immediately died spiritually

They began to die physically

They began to experience extreme guilt

They tried to take care of the wrong they had done their own way

They immediately died spiritually

Genesis 2:17

But from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."

They began to die physically

Genesis 3:19

By the sweat of your face You shall eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."

They began to experience extreme guilt

Genesis 3:8-10

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

They tried to take care of the wrong they had done their own way

Genesis 3:7

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.

Two Alarming Facts

1. Everyone has sinned

Ecclesiastes 7:20

Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.

Psalm 14:2-3

The Lord has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men, To see if there are any who understand, Who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; There is no one who does good, not even one.

Is. 53:6

All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way;

What are some examples of sins?

Anger	Gossip	Stealing	Pornography	Cursing
Lying	Idolatry	Cheating	Murder	Drunkness
Immorality	Pride			

2. Sin has major consequences

Universal Consequences Of Sin

We are separated from God

We are spiritually dead

We are lost in sin

We are in debt to God

We are in danger of facing the eternal wrath of God

We are separated from God

Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save; Neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear.

We are spiritually dead

Ephesians 2:1-2

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air...

We are lost in sin

Luke 19:10

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

We are in debt to God

Colossians 2:13-14

And when you were dead in your transgressions..., He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt... having nailed it to the cross.

We are in danger of facing the eternal wrath of God

John 3:36

"He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

**There Is Good News!!!
All of our sins can be forgiven!!!**

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.

Until we are forgiven, all of sin's consequences remain in effect upon us. If we are never forgiven, God says we will suffer the consequences for our sins for all eternity in hell.

God has spoken about the horrible consequences of sin and we need to realize that the world stands guilty before Him

God's Wonderful Grace

Lesson Three

**Since sin is that which separates us from God,
how does God forgive our sin?**

What are some options?

By being a good person
By doing good works
By doing religious things
By living a moral life
By praying everyday
By obeying the ten commandments

**None of these works are able to
forgive your sins!!**

We cannot obtain forgiveness of our sins by our own works

Titus 3:5

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

Ephesians 2:8-9

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, that no one should boast.

In answer to the question, How does God forgive sin?

It is according to the riches of His grace
It is by faith
It is by us repenting of our sin
It is through Jesus the Messiah
It is through His blood

It's according to the riches of His grace

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.

It is by faith

Galatians 2:16

Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Messiah Jesus, even we have believed in Messiah Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Messiah, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.

It's by us repenting of our sin

Acts 17:30

...God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent.

It's through Jesus the Messiah

Acts 13:38

"Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him (Jesus) forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

It is through His blood

Colossians 1:14

In whom we have redemption, through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Why is blood necessary?

Because that's what God established

as the means for forgiveness.

Leviticus 17:11

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.'

We see this truth illustrated throughout the Bible:

Adam and Eve

Genesis 3:7

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.
(there is no blood with fig leaves)

Genesis 3:21

And the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.
(there is blood with an animal skin)

Passover

Exodus 12:13

'And the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Jesus

1 Peter 1:18-19

knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of the Messiah.

What is one to conclude from all of this?

- ◆ That there is only one way to obtain true forgiveness of our sins.
- ◆ The one way is through Jesus the Messiah, no matter what our background is.
- ◆ One cannot get to God without going through Jesus.

John 14:6

**Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father, but through Me.**

1 John 2:23

**Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the
one who confesses the Son has the Father also.**

God has done all that is necessary for all of our sins to be forgiven and to find deliverance from the eternal penalty of our sins.

Where Do I Go From Here?

Lesson Four

All of this information calls for a personal response!!!

What does God desire my response to be?

As I hear the truth, I believe it

As I believe the truth & receive it

That I confess my need for Jesus

That I respond to all that God has told me with faith

As I hear the truth, I believe it

John 5:24

"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.

That I believe the truth, I receive it

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.

That I confess my need for Jesus

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

That I respond to all that God has told me with faith

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Who can respond to this message?

Joel 2:32

"And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

However, before one calls upon the name of the Lord, they must realize some things that are very important.

What must be realized before one can correctly call upon the name of the Lord?

- ◆ Only God's plan for forgiveness works.
- ◆ I must come to Him His way. His way includes:

a narrow gate and a single door
a broken and contrite heart
abandonment of self effort
turning from our evil ways & turning to God

God's way is so narrow and precise, there is actually a great danger of missing it.

What happens to a person when they do call upon the name of the Lord?

Some Results of Personal Faith in Messiah Jesus

All my past sins are immediately forgiven
I am born into God's family and given eternal life
I am given eternal life
I am delivered from God's eternal wrath
I desire to walk in obedience to God
I am promised a home for all eternity in heaven

What About YOU???
**Will you call upon the name of the
Lord for the forgiveness of your sins?**

Acts 4:12

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

John 5:24

"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."

Why not pray right now and tell God you need to be forgiven of your sins? Here is a sample prayer. "Dear God, I know that I have sinned and I deserve to be punished. I believe Jesus died for me and rose from the dead. I now trust Jesus alone as the one who can totally forgive me of all my sins and deliver me from your wrath. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. In Jesus' name, amen."