

“The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They replied, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved...” –Acts 16:29-31.

You hear a lot of different ways to be saved from the world around. Write down what you or others have typically thought as the way to heaven:

Now, in light of your answers read Proverbs 14:12 and write down the warning it gives about all these other ways:

“There is a way that seems right to a man but in the end it leads to death”

The Bible says there is only one way. It is through the Savior, Jesus Christ. Let's look more closely

Lesson 1: The Need for Salvation

All of us humans have the same need. That's because we all have the same problem.

Romans 3:23 says ***“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”*** So what is the problem we “all” have? _____

Read the following verses and then for each verse circle whether it is teaching that you are righteous or unrighteous:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Romans 3:10 | righteous | unrighteous |
| Ecclesiastes 7:20 | righteous | unrighteous |
| 1 John 1:8 | righteous | unrighteous |
| Mark 10:18 | righteous | unrighteous |

The question is: “*How is sin a problem for me?*” First, and maybe most importantly: the result of sin is death. Both physical and spiritual. Read the following verses and circle whether the verse refers to spiritual or physical death:

Ephesians 2:1 says, “***As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins***”
(circle one) spiritual death physical death

James 1:13 says, “***Then after desire has conceived it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, gives birth to death.***”
(circle one) spiritual death physical death

Look up the following and do the same: Romans 5:12; 6:23; John 5:24; Genesis 2:16-17;

Sin creates other problems too. Read the following verses and below each one fill in the blank to see other ways sin affects you.

1. Isaiah 59:2 says, “***But your iniquities have separated you from your God...***”

“I am _____ from God”

2. John 3:18 says, “***Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in God’s one and only Son.***”

“I am _____ already.”

3. John 3:36 says “***Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him.***”

“God’s _____ remains on me.”

Read the following passages that list types of sins and write down next to each passage which ones you identify with:

Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28,

Mark 7:20-23

Galatians 5:19-21

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Ephesians 4:25-31

Romans 1:18-32

2 Timothy 3:1-5

We may be tempted to look at these lists and think because we don't do the "bad" ones that we're okay. In other words, we overlook the sins on the list we commit but feel good for not committing other ones. I used to think this way too, but, I've learned this is wrong for several reasons:

First, my sins are listed along with the "bad" ones, which means that my sins are just as wicked as far as God is concerned.

Secondly, James 2:10 says, "**For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.**" This means that no matter what sin I commit I'm guilty of committing sin.

Third, all sin is committed against God personally. James 2:11 says, "**For He who said 'Do not commit adultery also said 'Do not murder'.**" The point is that God sets all the rules and breaking any of His rules is rebelling against Him.

Questions like this might be coming to mind: "So, I have a sin problem but can't I do something about it myself?" The Bible talks about this too. Read these verses and see what you find:

Galatians 2:16

Question: Can you be saved by being religious? Yes No

Jeremiah 17:5

Question: Can you be saved by trusting in yourself? Yes No

Isaiah 64:6

Question: Can you be righteous by yourself? Yes No

John 5:39

Question: Can reading and knowing the Bible save you? Yes No



Finally, after going through this Lesson write out some of your take-aways about your own sin and whether you can save yourself
