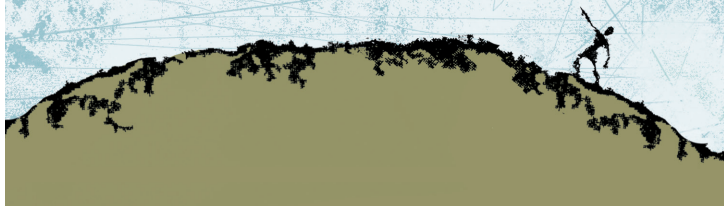


**HOW  
GOOD**  
are you





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# HOW WOULD YOU — *rate your* — **GOODNESS** ON A SCALE FROM 1-10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Usually people give themselves a six or seven.

They think, "I'm not as good as some people  
(I'm no Mother Teresa) but at least I've never murdered  
anyone! God knows I'm a pretty good person and  
because of this he will accept me into heaven."

*What do you think?*

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible teaches that getting to God by trying to be a good person is impossible (ROMANS 3). It's like trying to jump from one end of the Grand Canyon to the other. Some of us could jump further than others, but none of us would make it.

## WHAT'S THE STANDARD?

The reason we think we're good enough to get to God is because we compare ourselves to other people. But when we compare ourselves to God and his standard, the Ten Commandments, we all fall short. Here's a quick test to more accurately rate your goodness.



AHHH!

## CHECK THE LAWS YOU'VE BROKEN

- ☐ **1** You shall have no other gods before me.  
*Is loving God your first priority?* (MARK 12:30)
- ☐ **2** You shall not make for yourself an idol.  
*Are you devoted to anything more than God?*
- ☐ **3** You shall not take God's name in vain.
- ☐ **4** Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- ☐ **5** Honor your father and mother.
- ☐ **6** You shall not murder.  
*Anger towards another is murder.* (MATTHEW 5:21-22)
- ☐ **7** You shall not commit adultery.  
*Lust is adultery of the heart.* (MATTHEW 5:28)
- ☐ **8** You shall not steal.
- ☐ **9** You shall not lie.  
*Including answering these questions!*
- ☐ **10** You shall not covet.

If getting to God depends on being good we've got a serious problem! We'll take a closer look at our problem and God's solution in the next 3 points...



## 1 OUR PROBLEM

# WE ARE SINFUL & WE BREAK GOD'S LAW

— *sin separates us from God* —  
**& BRINGS HIS JUDGMENT**

### WE ARE SINFUL

*"No one is good – not even one...  
For all have sinned; all fall short of God's  
glorious standard."* (ROMANS 3:10, 23)

God created people to bring him glory and enjoy life in relationship with him. However, each of us has turned against our Creator by violating his standard and living our own way, which is sin. God is holy. He is completely good and must respond in fierce opposition to our sin.

### SIN BRINGS JUDGMENT

*"Because of your hard and  
unrepentant heart you are  
storing up wrath for yourself  
on the day of wrath when  
God's righteous judgment  
will be revealed."* (ROMANS 2:5)

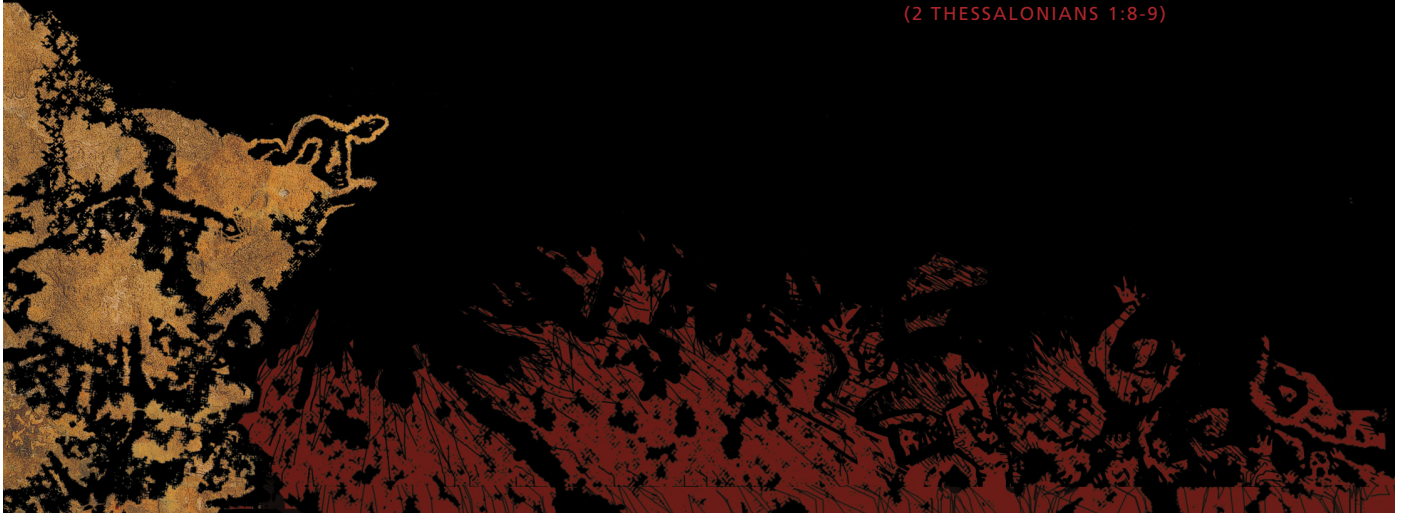
God



## THE FINAL JUDGMENT

for those who die in their sins is eternal  
separation from God in hell.

(2 THESSALONIANS 1:8-9)



**JESUS LIVED A SINLESS LIFE**  
— in love —

**JESUS DIED**  
**AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR OUR SINS**

### **GOD'S LOVE**

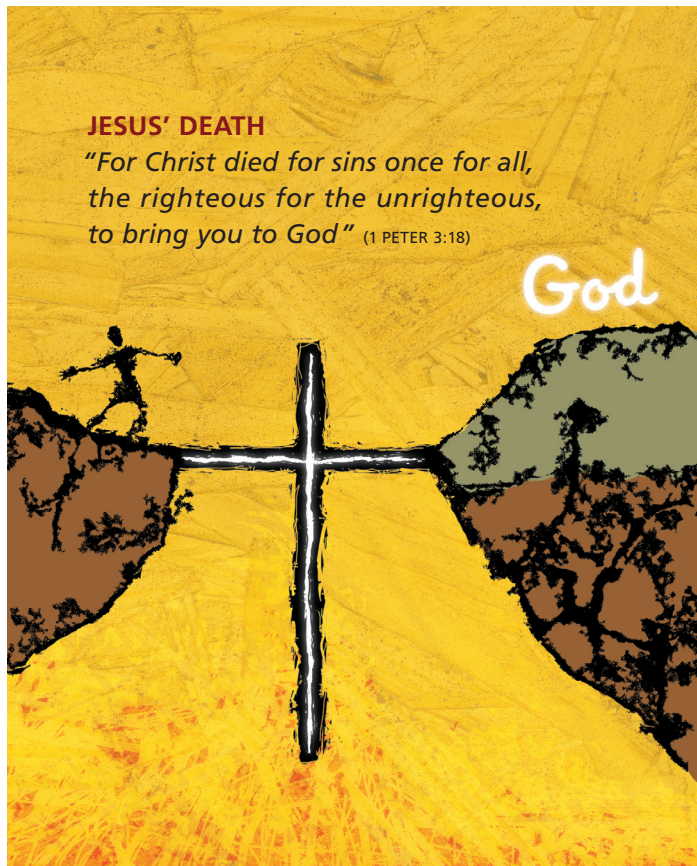
*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." (JOHN 3:16)*

Even though we turned against our Creator, he loves us and sent his Son, Jesus, to save us from his judgment. On the cross, God the Son endured the holy wrath we deserve so we could be forgiven and accepted by God.

### **JESUS' DEATH**

*"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" (1 PETER 3:18)*

God





## JESUS IS ALIVE TODAY!

After three days in a tomb Jesus rose from the dead and was seen by hundreds of eyewitnesses. Having conquered sin and death, he returned to heaven and now reigns as ruler over all.

(1 CORINTHIANS 15)

*It's not enough to  
simply know these truths...*

### 3 YOUR RESPONSE

YOU MUST TURN FROM YOUR SINS &

# TRUST IN JESUS ALONE

— only then will you be —  
**FORGIVEN & ACCEPTED BY GOD**

## TURNING FROM SIN

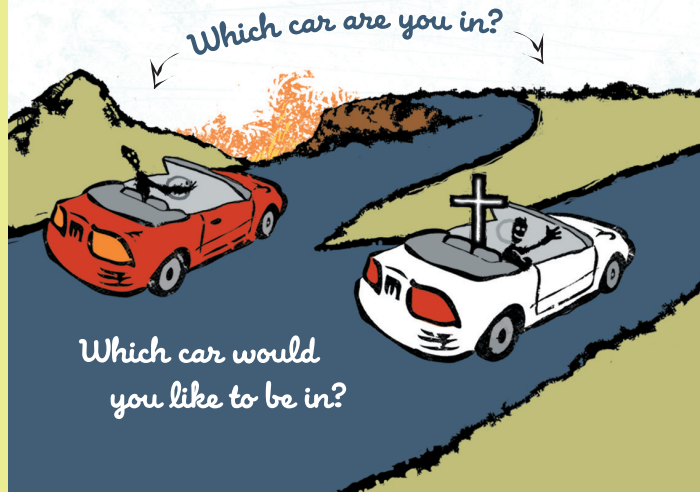
*"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out" (ACTS 3:19)*

## TRUSTING IN JESUS

*"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them." (JOHN 3:36)*

### THINK OF IT LIKE DRIVING A CAR.

The red car represents a self-directed life where you're in the driver's seat. The white car represents a Christ-directed life where you trust Jesus for forgiveness and let him decide which way to go.





## JESUS IS CALLING YOU TO TRUST HIM

You can do that right now. Read over the prayer below to see if it expresses the desire of your heart. If it does, pray to God with faith and He will save you.

**Lord Jesus, I admit that I'm not good. I have broken your laws and lived my own way. Thank you for living a perfect life and dying as my substitute. Today I turn from my sins and trust in you for God's forgiveness and acceptance.**

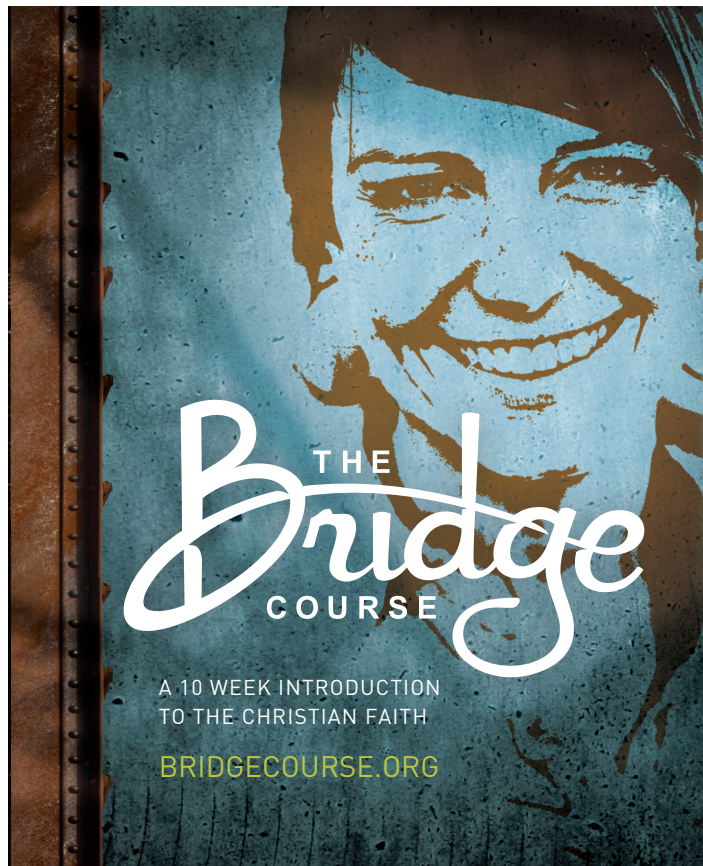
## THE NEXT STEP

**The Bridge Course:** If you aren't ready to trust Jesus, but would like to explore the issue further, you're not alone. Many people feel that way. Check out the messages at [www.bridgecourse.org](http://www.bridgecourse.org) for answers to the big questions of life.

**Church:** If you just trusted Jesus, that's great! Please know that God doesn't expect you to live the Christian life on your own. He's designed the church to be a dynamic, life-changing community where you'll be cared for and encouraged. Take the next step. Find a good church where the Bible is clearly taught and its truths are lived out with passion and authenticity. We'd love to have you join us or help you in your search (*see back cover*).

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (EPHESIANS 2:8-9)*





## WHAT IS THE BRIDGE COURSE?

The Bridge is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a fun, relaxed way. Each week begins with a meal followed by a talk addressing common questions about life and God. Afterwards there is a small-group conversation where you can ask questions or sit back and listen. There's no pressure and no one will force you to believe anything.

## WHO IS IT FOR?

The Bridge is for everyone, especially those wanting to explore the Christian faith, those who want to brush up on the basics, newcomers to the church and new Christians.

## WHERE CAN I ATTEND?

To find out locations and times for a course near you or to register, visit **[bridgecourse.org](http://bridgecourse.org)**

**YOU'RE INVITED**

