

**What Does It Take For Imperfect
People To Get To Heaven?**



It Is Possible To Understand What It Takes To Go To Heaven!

“I write these things to you...that you may know that you have eternal life.” - 1 John 5:13

For this to make sense, we must first understand some things about God and some things about people.

What are some character qualities that come to mind when you think about God?

God Is Love - 1 John 4:8

But God is also Holy, or perfect in every area.

- 1Peter 1:16

That means He is:

Pure - Habakkuk 1:13

Righteous - Psalm 11:7

Just - Romans 2:5-8

Now, what are some character qualities that come to mind when you think about people?

People Are Not Like God - We Sin

Test yourself using a few of the 10 commandments:

- How many lies have you told?
- Have you ever stolen anything?
(It doesn't matter how small)
- Have you ever looked at someone with lust?
(Jesus said that is the same as adultery - Matt 5:28)
- Have you always honored your parents?
- Have you ever taken the Lord's name in vain?

**If God judges you based on the 10 commandments would you be innocent or guilty?
What is the result of breaking God's laws?**

Us

Sinful



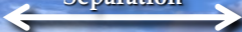
...your iniquities
have made a
separation
between you and
your God, and
your sins have
hidden his face
from you so that
he does not hear.

- Isaiah 59:2

God

**Loving
Holy
Pure
Righteous
Just**

Separation



Not Only Does Our Sin Separate Us From God, but...

“...the wages of sin is death...” - Romans 6:23

Then, if we die without dealing with our sins we will end up in hell forever.

“So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” - Matthew 13:49-50

Us

God

← **Sin** →

Separates us
from God



Death
Eternal Destruction
In Hell

Loving
Holy
Pure
Righteous
Just

Sinful

**What Can We Do To
Save Ourselves?**

We Can't Do Anything To Save Ourselves

Because God is holy and his standard is perfection, even our best efforts fall short.

“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.”

- James 2:10 (NASB)

“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

Even Our Best Attempts Fall Short

Us

God



Good Works →

Religion →

Philosophy →

Doing Our Best →



Hell

Loving
Holy
Pure
Righteous
Just

Sinful

What Is The Solution?

God Sent His Son Jesus To Die In Our Place

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God” - 1 Peter 3:18

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” - Romans 5:8

God's love and justice were both demonstrated at the cross. Jesus, as our substitute, willingly suffered the punishment that we deserve. Because he died in our place and rose again, we can have forgiveness and eternal life as a free gift.

Us

God

Jesus

*"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
- Jesus (John 14:6)*

**Loving
Holy
Pure
Righteous
Just**

Sinful

**Does Everyone Receive
The Gift Of Eternal Life?**

**Only Those Who Repent And Believe In
Jesus Christ Receive Eternal Life In Heaven.**

Repentance is a firm decision to turn from sin and to turn toward God. True repentance is a change of mind that results in a change in direction.

“...the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” - Jesus (Mark 1:15)

“Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out” - Acts 3:19

“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

True Believing Is More Than Just An Intellectual Understanding Of Facts.

True faith involves a realization that:

- I have broken God's laws and deserve His judgment.
- There is nothing I can do to remove the guilt and penalty of my sin.
- The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the only solution for my sin.

Do You Agree With Those Statements?

You Must Make A Deliberate Choice To Receive Jesus Christ As Your Lord And Savior

“...his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” - John 1:11-12

If you would like to repent, believe in Jesus, and receive him as your savior, you can simply talk to God expressing:

1. I am a sinner. I want to turn from sin and turn to you.
2. I believe that the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the only solution for my sin.
3. I receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
4. Please forgive me for my sin, take control of my life, and make me the person that you want me to be.

Does This Express Your Desire? If so, pray and tell God.

Next Steps

Growing in your relationship with God is very important.

Here are a few suggestions:

1. Take a few minutes each day to read the Bible and pray.
2. Start reading the book of Matthew which is the beginning of the New Testament rather than starting in Genesis. The Old Testament is a very difficult place to start.
3. Get connected with a good Bible teaching church so others can help you grow. Check-out the back page for recommendations.



If you would like to develop your relationship with God, please come visit us at Darby Creek Community Church. You'll find friendly people, cool music, awesome youth groups, great children's ministries, and practical messages. If you have been in church all your life or never at all, you are more than welcome. We are all imperfect people who are pursuing an awesome God!

For more info call or text Charley Charlton at 614-499-1162

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