

## HOW TO CONNECT WITH GOD & FOLLOW JESUS

### A. WHAT JESUS DID FOR US

1. Created Us – Psalm 139:13 – For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

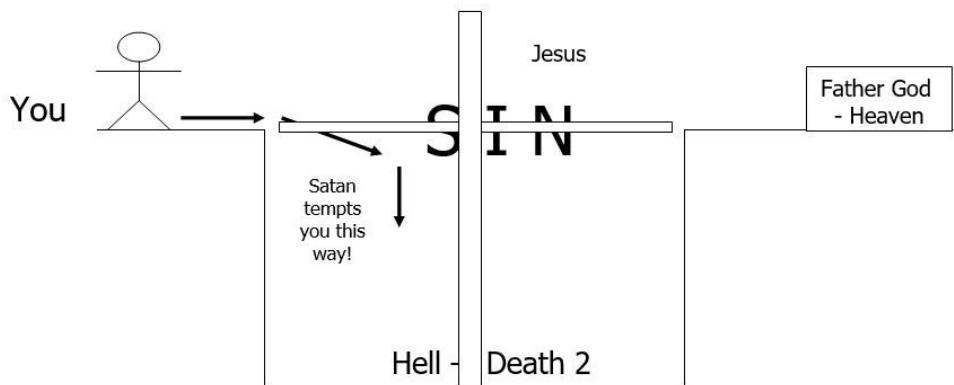
2. Loves Us – Jeremiah 31:3b – I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.

### B. OUR STRUGGLE & CONSEQUENCES, & JESUS GIFT & PAYMENT

1. Our Sin (Disobeying God) – Romans 3:23 – for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

2. Our Consequence of Death & Hell, God's Gift of Eternal Life – Romans 6:23 – For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (See also Rev. 20:14-15 – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Death is Hell)

3. Christ Death Payment for Us – 1 Corinthians 15:3b – Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures



### C. WHAT JESUS WANTS FROM US

1. Love Him – Luke 10:27 – Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

2. Follow Him - Matthew 4:19 - "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

## 5 STEPS WE TAKE TO FOLLOW JESUS IN LIFE, & ACROSS THE BRIDGE OF THE CROSS TO HEAVEN

1. BELIEVE & RECEIVE Jesus – John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 1:12 – Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

Receive Jesus HOLY SPIRIT – Ephesians 1:13-14 – And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

2. REPENT (U-Turn FROM My Sins/Disobedience TO God) – Acts 3:19 – Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord

3. CONFESS Jesus as Lord (Boss) of My Life – Romans 10:9 – That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

4. BAPTISM – Acts 2:38 – Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism (Like a Wedding) Unites Us with Jesus, as we Symbolically Die to our Old Life of Sin We were in Charge of & Bury it (Like a Funeral), & are Raised to a New Life (Like a Birthday) Putting Jesus in Charge & Following Him –

Romans 6:3-7 – 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. 5 If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— 7 because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

5. OBEDIENCE – John 14:15 – If you love me, you will obey what I command. (Following Jesus & Continuing to Believe, Repent, & Confess as Needed to Follow Him Well.)

