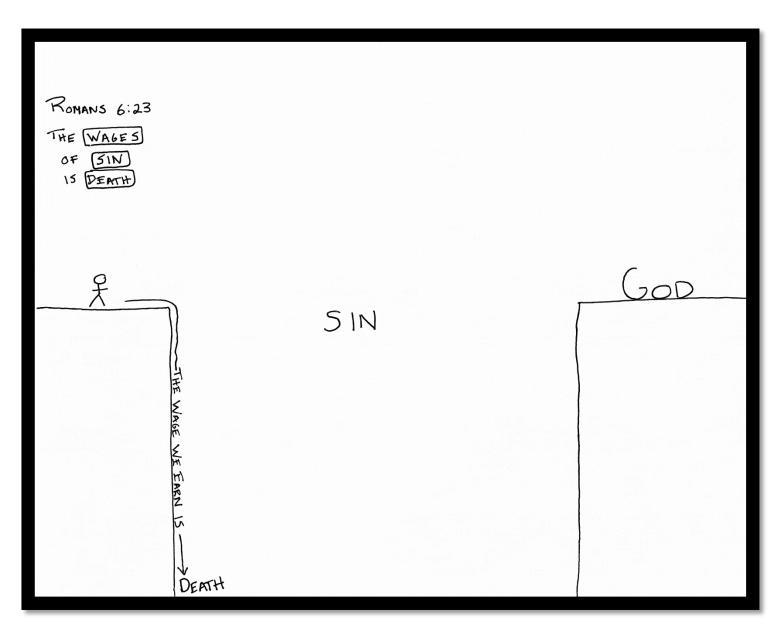
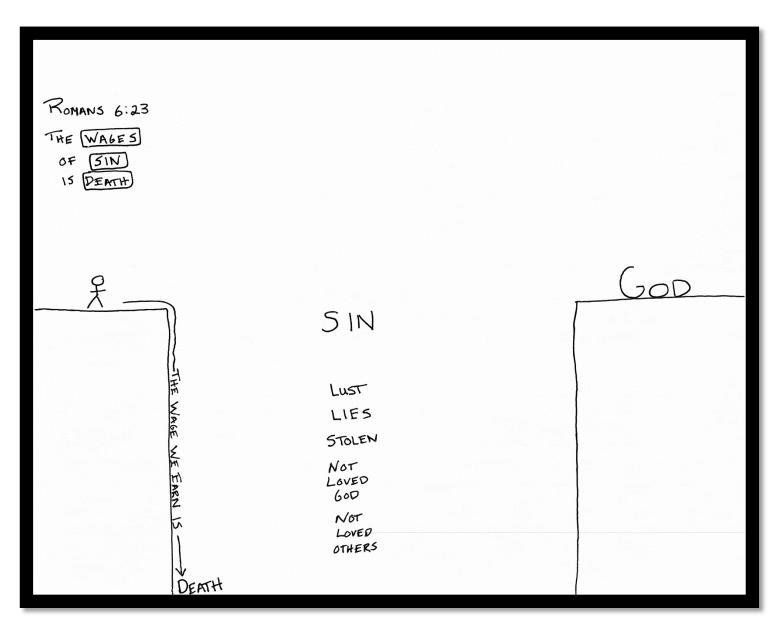


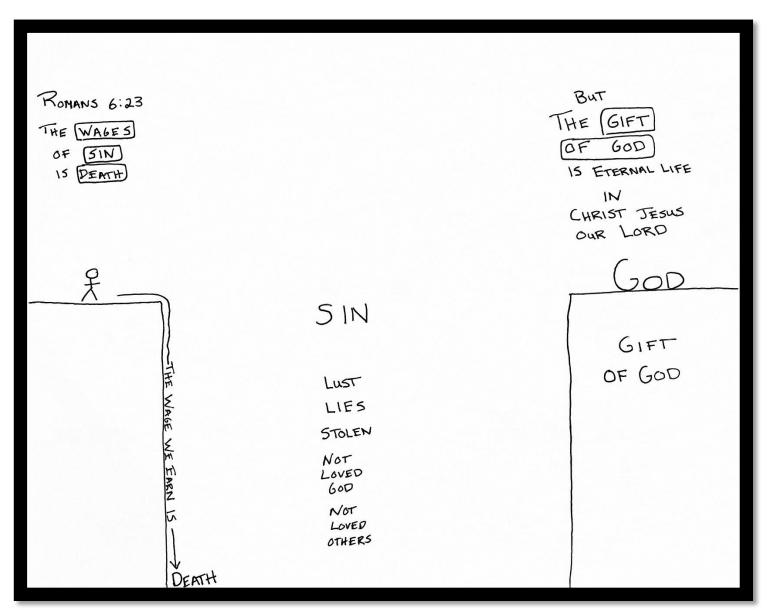
The Scriptures state in Romans chapter six verse twenty-three that "the wages of sin is death" and to draw this out as a picture it would be similar to a canyon where you are on a cliff and what is separating you from God is SIN.



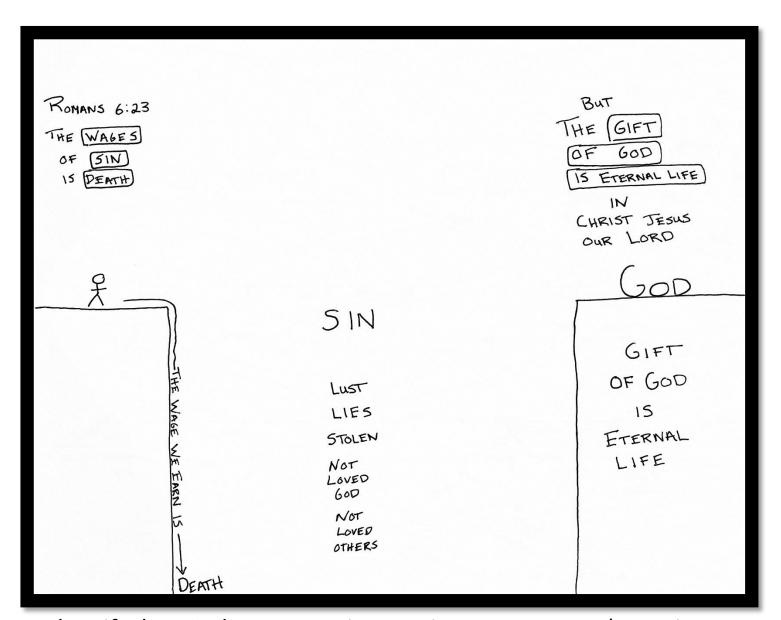
Now, when you work at a job you are working to earn a wage. Well, what this Scripture verse is saying is that the wage we all earn for our SIN is DEATH (meaning separation from God forever).



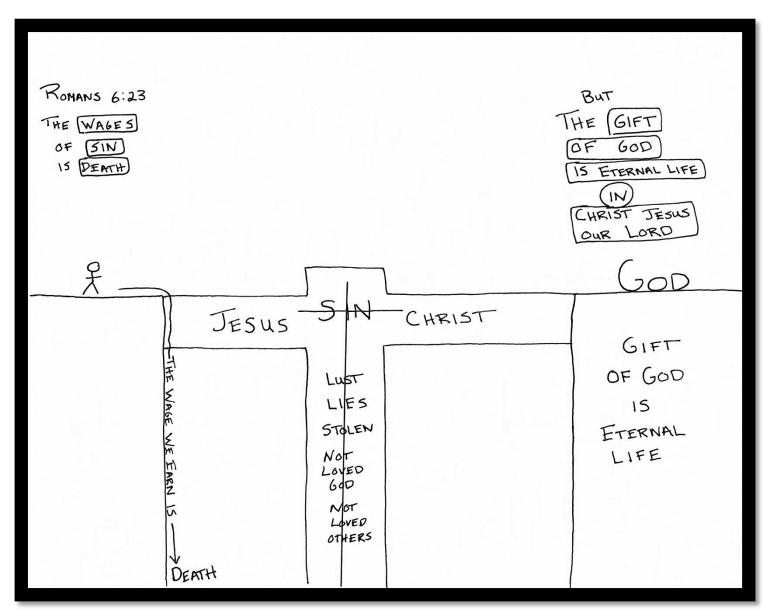
You see all of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God because we have all lusted after someone, we have all told different lies, we have all taken something without someone else's permission (stolen), and we have not Loved God fully and we have not Loved Others fully, etc.



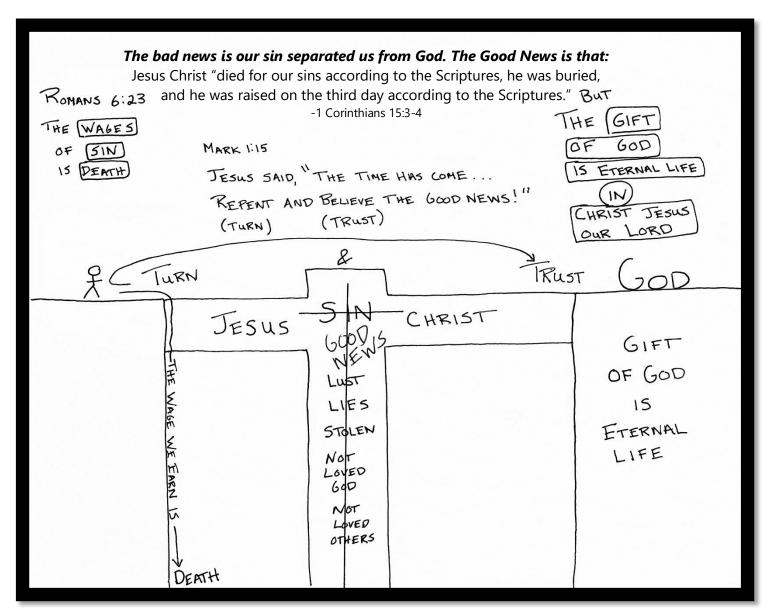
Now that was the bad news. But this verse continues and it states "but the GIFT of GOD is ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD." So, unlike a wage which we earn, God is offering you a free GIFT and this free GIFT is given directly from God.



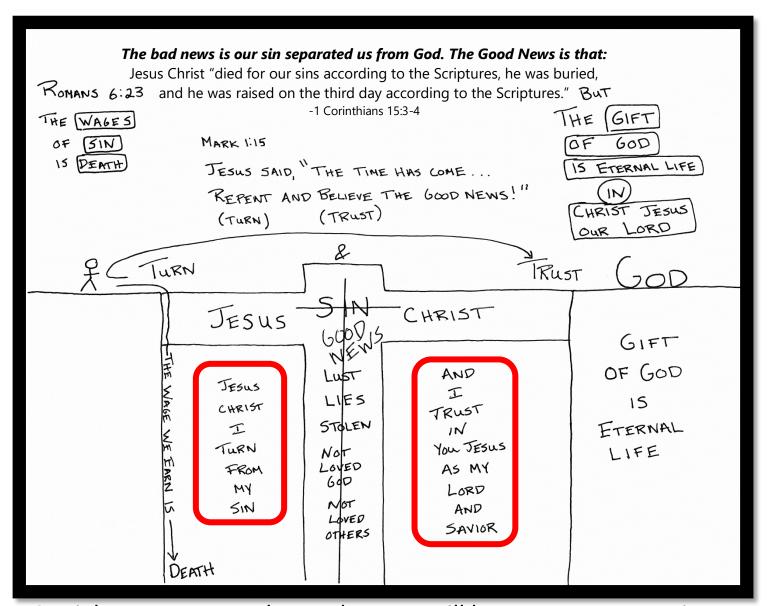
The gift that God wants to give you is ETERNAL LIFE (meaning a life with God where there is no more pain, no more suffering, and no more sin forever)!



Notice that this ETERNAL LIFE is given IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. You see when Jesus Christ died on the cross, was buried, and rose again from the dead He paid for all of your sins and made a bridge so that you could cross from DEATH to ETERNAL LIFE.



Now like any gift you have to receive the gift and Jesus told us how to receive this gift. You see in the Scriptures in Mark chapter one and in verse fifteen Jesus said, "The time has come . . . REPENT and BELIEVE THE GOOD NEWS!" Meaning right now is the time to TURN from your sins and TRUST in THE GOOD NEWS and THE GOOD NEWS is that Jesus Christ "died for our sins according to the Scriptures, he was buried, and he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."



So right now you can know that you will have ETERNAL LIFE in heaven where there will be no more pain, no more suffering, and no more sin by accepting the GIFT OF GOD and you do this by praying to God and saying something similar to "JESUS CHRIST, I TURN FROM MY SIN AND I TRUST IN YOU JESUS AS MY LORD AND SAVIOR." As Jesus said, "THE TIME HAS COME" - meaning right now. Therefore, are you willing to pray this right now? As the Scriptures state: "If you confess with your mouth that 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9-10).



Section 1 - God's Solution

God's Solution - God paid the penalty for our Sin:

Jesus Christ "died for our sins according to the Scriptures, he was buried, and he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."-1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Eternal life is a gift from God. It cannot be earned:

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."-Romans 6:23

Eternal life cannot be earned by any amount of good works. It is only by faith [trust] in Jesus as Lord and Savior that we can have eternal life: "By grace [unearned favor] you have been saved through faith [trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior]—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God —not by works, so that no one can boast."-Ephesians 2:8-9

"If you confess with your mouth that 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."-Romans 10:9-10

In Jesus Christ you are permanently forgiven forever by God:

"God made him [Jesus Christ] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him [Jesus Christ] we might become the righteousness of God."-2 Corinthians 5:21

You can know that you have eternal life:

"God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."-1 John 5:9-13

Nothing can separate you from God's love in Jesus Christ:

"Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."-Romans 8:38-39



Section 2 – Four Terms

Four Important Terms to Understand



Sin: this is hostility towards God in our affections, our mind, and our will. Sin is the worship of yourself, the worship of others, and the worship of any created thing in this world.

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

- Romans 3:23

"The mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the Law of God, for it is not even able to do so; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

- Romans 8:7



Justification: takes place when *the penalty for sin* (past, present, and future) has been paid for in Jesus Christ – this happens when you, by the grace of God, repent of your sins and trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior - you are then declared "NOT guilty!" and you are justified in Christ.

"Therefore, since we are justified [past tense] by faith, we have peace [present tense] with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

- Romans 5:1



Sanctification: this is the cleansing process that continues from when you are justified until you are glorified. During this time *the power of sin* in your life to control you has been broken and as you grow in Christ you experience the blessing of being washed by The Holy Spirit through God's Word.

"Sanctify [spiritually wash] them by the Truth;
Your Word is Truth."

- Jesus. John 17:17



Glorification: this happens once you are in heaven and it is there with God that you are completely set free from *the presence of sin* in your life. Once you are justified in Christ, God already knows you as glorified in Christ because God knows both the past, the present, and the future. Thus, we can approach God with confidence because we can know that God already knows us as perfect in Christ.

"Those He [God] justified, He also glorified."

- Romans 8:28-30

"He [God] will wipe every tear from their eyes.

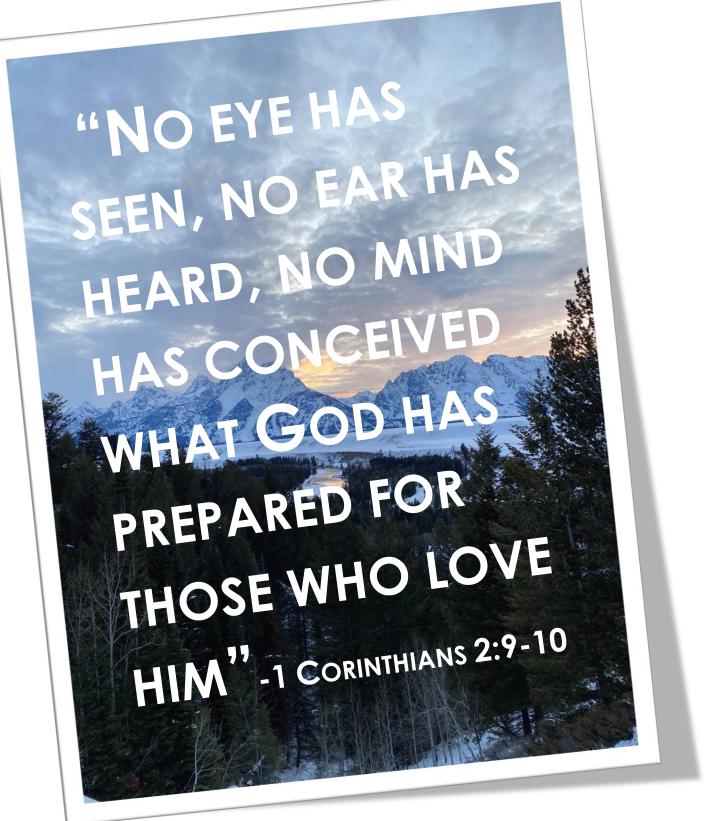
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

- Revelation 21:4

"The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and will bring me safely into His Heavenly Kingdom, to Him be the glory for all time. Amen."

- 2 Timothy 4:18







Section 3 – Next Steps

What is next?

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, that person is a new creation. The old has gone, the new is here!"

-2 Corinthians 5:17

- 1. Experience the adventure and joy of knowing God and growing in your relationship with God and with God's family in a healthy local church that teaches from the Scriptures/the Bible.
- 2. Find out what the Christian life is all about by asking the Lord Jesus to teach you to obey all that He commanded.
- 3. Obey the Lord Jesus by following His example and being baptized (by water immersion).
- 4. Read and obey the Scriptures (the book of Matthew is a good place to start). It is a good idea to get a print version of the Bible for your personal study but to get started today here is a link to copy and paste for free digital Bibles along with a free Study Bible commentary:

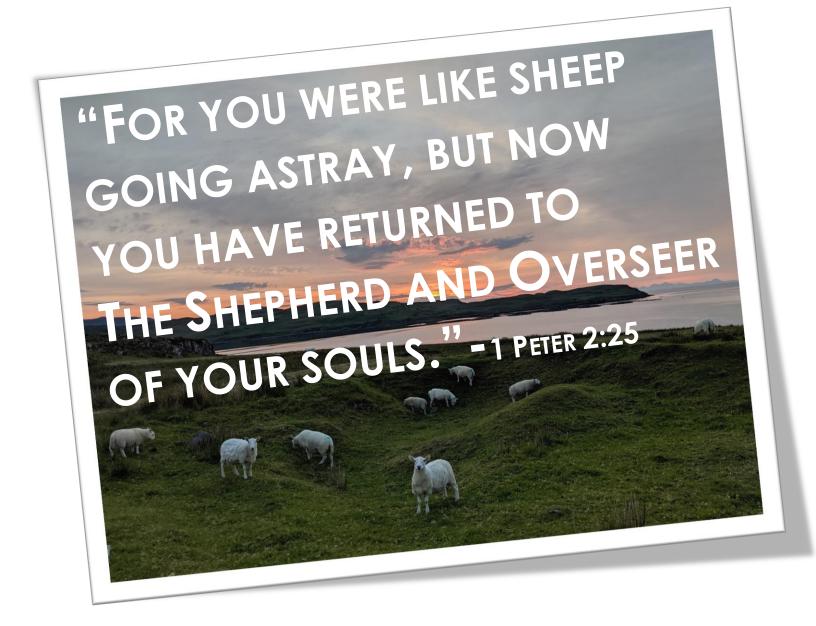
 http://www.mystudybible.com/
- 5. Share the good news with others.
- 6. Live for the Lord Jesus.

As the Scriptures state:

"Those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again."

- 2 Corinthians 5:15







Section 3 – Next Steps – The Great Commission

Jesus Christ's mission for the rest of your life is summarized in what is called *The Great Commission* where Jesus Christ states:

"All authority

in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, *make disciples* from all the nations,

[note: the first step in making disciples is sharing the good news]

<u>baptizing them</u> [disciples of Jesus Christ]
in the name of the Father and of the Son and

of the Holy Spirit,

teaching them [disciples of Jesus Christ] to obey everything I have commanded you.

And <u>behold</u>,
I am with you always,
to the very end of the age."

- Jesus Christ, Matthew 28:18-20



Section 3 – Next Steps – The Great Commission

Over time you will better understand everything in the memory aid map below. However, in the meantime it is simply summarized on the next page.

A Theology of Jesus Christ's Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20

I. The Declaration

All authority

in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

[Jesus Christ is the omnipotent (all-powerful) God and King of the universe (Rev. 4:8; Phil. 2:6-11; Dan. 7:14)]

II. The Exhortation

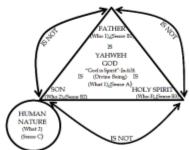
Go, therefore,

(A) make disciples from all the nations,

[Note: the first step in making disciples is sharing the good news about Jesus Christ the Savior King (See Mk. 1:15; Mt. 4:17, 10:7, 11:28-30; Jn. 3:16-21; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Rm. 1:2-4, 3:23, 6:23, 10:9-11; Eph. 2:8-9; Acts 17:24-31; Gal. 2:16; Tit. 3:3-7)] [What is a disciple of Jesus Christ? In Matthew 4:19 Jesus Christ states:

"Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."

- 1. Come, follow me A disciple of Jesus Christ the Savior King is one who has repented of their sins and trusted in Jesus Christ alone as their Lord (God) and Savior. Christ is the only Master Leader and Master Teacher whom they follow (Mt. 16:24-26; 23:8-12).
- 2. I will make you fishers of people A disciple of Jesus Christ while being transformed by Jesus Christ is on mission with Jesus Christ to make disciples of Jesus Christ who make disciples of Jesus Christ (in the home, in the church, and in the world).]
- (B) baptizing [IMMERSING IN WATER] them [DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST] into the name [SINGULAR NOT PLURAL, ONLY ONE GOD (Is. 42:8, 43:10-13, 45:5)]



of the Father [WHO 1] of the Son (WHO 2) and of the Holy Spirit wно з

[Yahweh God is One God that Is Three Persons (The Trinity). In an analogous way, a triangle is one three-sided shape that is three points and this is not a contradiction. Therefore, the purpose of this diagram is simply and only to show that it is NOT a contradiction that Yahweh God is One What and is Three Persons. Plus, the Son added a Human Nature (NOT the subtraction of God). These are NOT contradictions. (Dt. 6:4; Rm. 1:1-5; 2 Cor. 13:14; Jn. 1:1-18; Jn. 14-17; Eph. 3:14-21, Ph. 2:6-11)]

teaching (Intentionally training) them (DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST) to obey [Lk. 11:28; Mt. 7:24-27; Jn. 15:9-13; 1 Jn. 3:21-24, 5:2-4; 1 Pt. 1:22; Rm. 16:25-27] everything [Mt. 5-7; Mt. 24:35; Jn. 14:6, 17:17; Col. 2:3; 2 Pt. 1:3-4, 20-21; 2 Tim. 3:16-18] I have commanded you. [Mk. 12:30; Jn. 13:34; Mt. 22:39; Lk. 6:27; Jn. 14:15]

III. The Promise

And behold [IMPERATIVE COMMAND - MEANING: DO THIS!]

I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

[Yahweh God is the personally caring omnipresent (always present) God (Rev. 4:11; Ex. 3:1-20)] [Note: in most English translations LORD, with all caps stands, for the Hebrew name Yahweh]



Section 3 – Next Steps – The Great Commission

Jesus is on the throne, and we are never alone. Our responsibility is found between these two truths.



Jesus is on the throne



Make disciples



Baptize believers



Teach them to obey Christ



We are never alone

Ref. Matthew 28:18-20



Section 3 – Next Steps – The Christian Life

What is the Christian life about?

It is only through Jesus Christ! Jesus' Method. Jesus' Motivation. Jesus' Mission.



It is only through Jesus Christ! He is both fully God and the perfect human. Jesus Christ is *The Good News* - The Savior King - born of a virgin, died for our sins on the cross, buried in a tomb, and resurrected on the third day.

Trough, Cross, Empty Tomb, Crown.

"The time has come," Jesus said.

"The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" - Mark 1:15

"I am <u>The Way,</u> and <u>The Truth</u>, and <u>The Life</u>; no one comes to the Father but through Me." - Jesus, John 14:6



Clean

Water

Only

Way

Jesus' Method:

Come to Jesus. Be Yoked to Jesus. Learn from Jesus through God's Word.

"Come to Me,

all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take My Yoke upon you

and

Learn from Me,

for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My Yoke is easy and My burden is light."

- Jesus, Matthew 11:28-30

"Sanctify [spiritually wash] them by the Truth; Your Word is Truth." - Jesus, John 17:17



Jesus' Motivation:

Love the LORD and others as Jesus did.

(a) Love the LORD: "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." - Jesus, Mark 12:30

(b) Love the Church: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." - Jesus, John 13:34-35

(c) Love your neighbor: "Love your neighbor as yourself." - Jesus, Matthew 22:39

(d) Love your enemies: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." - Jesus, Luke 6:27-28

(e) By obeying God's Word: "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor [the Holy Spirit] to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of Truth. The world is unable to receive Him because it doesn't see Him or know Him. But you do know Him, because He remains with you and will be in you." - Jesus, John 14:15-17



Jesus' Mission:

Make disciples of Jesus that make disciples of Jesus (in the home, in the church, and in the world).

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, <u>make disciples</u> from all the nations,

[note: the first step in making disciples is sharing the good news]

baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And behold, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- Jesus, Matthew 28:18-20



To better understand the handouts on The Great Commission and the handout on What is the Christian life about? see

the *free* PDF handout called:

A Guide for Life

From 1T3Life.org

