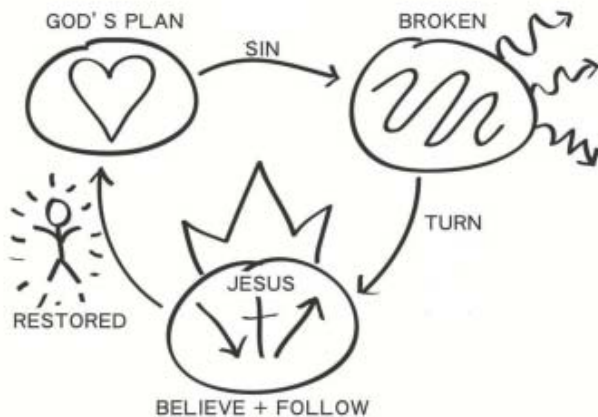
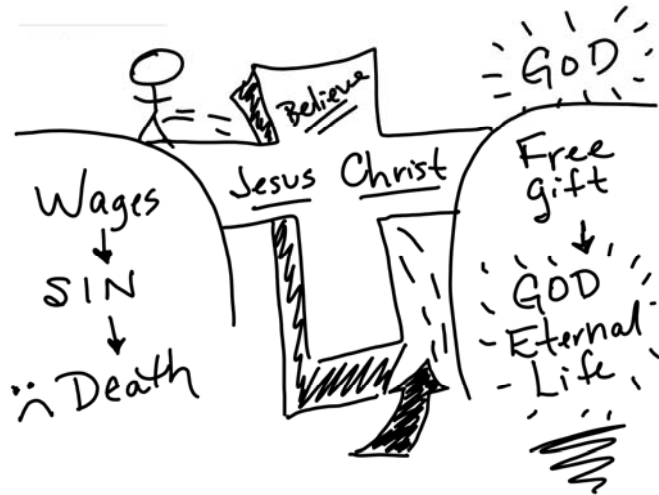


God's Story

The book of Romans tells us about the problem of sin and the way to approach God. Here is a simple way to understand and explain the solution Jesus gives. Believing the message of Jesus and turning from our sins to follow Him brings salvation and relationship with God through Jesus.

You can use these two simple drawings and four verses listed from Romans to share the good news of salvation with anyone. Start with your family and share with all your friends and neighbors.

THE GOSPEL STORY



Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

Romans 5:8

Romans 10:9-10

Commands of CHRIST



*An adaptation of George Patterson's 7 Commands of Christ**

Bible Study Method

Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

This picture of a sword helps us to teach any passage of the Bible. When we think of a sword we think of four questions we need to ask.

The arrow that points up is for God.

What do we learn about God?

The arrow that points down is for man.

What do we learn about man?

The sword also has two blades. The first blade makes us ask,

Is there a Sin to avoid?

The second blade makes us ask,

Is there a Command to obey?

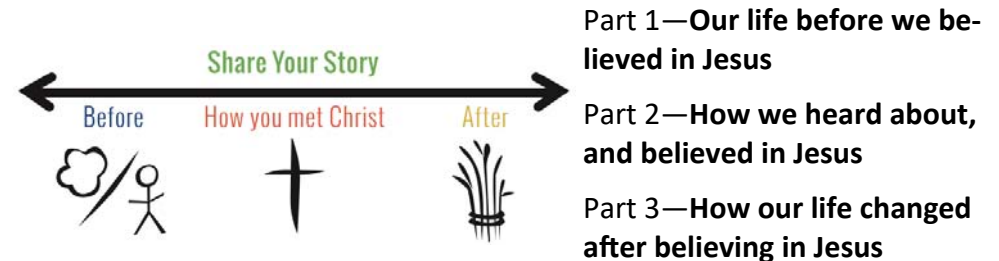
After reading or telling any story from the Bible, ask these four questions one at a time and search the story for answers. The answers you find will reveal the meaning of the story for our lives.



My Story

1 Peter 3:15 says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

Obedying Peter's instruction means being ready to share our story of salvation at all times. Everyone who knows Jesus as savior has three parts to their story. Your story is also known as your testimony.



We should practice our testimony using these three parts so that we can share it at any time with anyone. Practice telling each part using simple words our neighbors will understand. We should be able to tell each part clearly and quickly. The entire story should last about three minutes. Take time to practice with other believers to help them learn and tell their own stories as well.

On a piece of paper list the names of at least 25 people who need to hear your story of salvation. Search for the people you listed and be ready to tell them your story.



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Download resources at www.sanctuarybay.org
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Command #8 — Rest

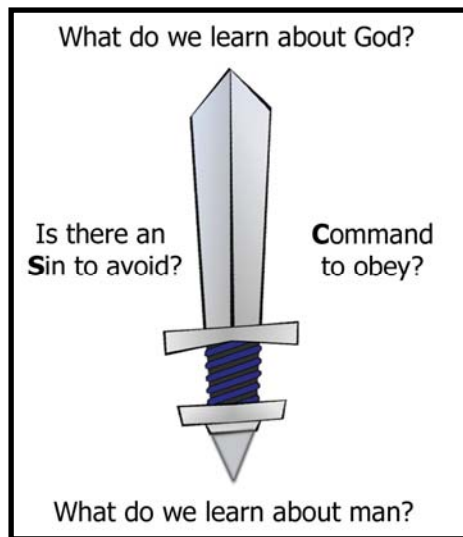
Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - Mark 6:31; Jesus says...

Tell the story - Jesus sends out the Twelve and they return, from Mark 6:7-13 & 30-32.

Prayer - Jesus help me to rest in you, to find my identity in you and your completed work in me. Help me to stop and rest and not fall prey to the sin of busyness.

Assignment - Schedule intentional time to rest; to have a full 24 hour Sabbath day of refreshment.



Additional Bible reference for this command:

Mt: 11:28-30

The Bible begins with the amazing creative work of God. At the end of His creative work He give us the example and command to REST. Today, we are driven by the need for success and tend to get our identity from the work we do. However, Scripture tells us instead to get our identity from Jesus.

Command #1—Repent and Believe

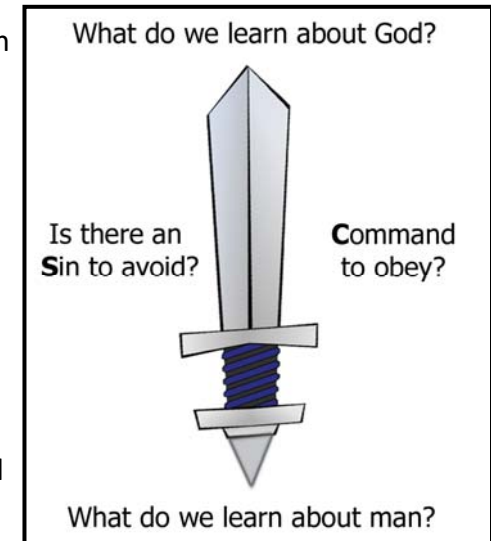
Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Mark 1:15, Jesus says...

Tell the story - Zacchaeus' Salvation from Luke 19:1-10

Prayer - Jesus I want to leave my old life of sin and follow you. I believe in you, become my Lord.

Assignment - Confess your sins before the Lord. Turn from them and live a new life.



Additional Bible references for this command:

What does repent mean? Repent means turning from sin and following Jesus.

What does believe mean? Believe means choosing to trust Jesus as Lord.

Why should we repent? Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Romans 10:9-10

Who should repent? Acts 2:38-41 - Everyone must repent for forgiveness.

What is assurance? 1 John 1:9 says that when we confess our sins Jesus forgives us and cleanses us. John 10:28 says that our salvation belongs to Jesus.

Command #2—Be Baptized

Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Matthew 28:19, Jesus says...

Tell the story - Phillip and a New Believer from Acts 8:26-39



Prayer - Jesus give me the strength to identify my life with you through the symbol of baptism.

Assignment - Go down into the water and receive baptism.

Additional Bible references for this command:

What is Baptism? Romans 6:3-4 - Baptism is a symbol of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. It means we also have died to our old life and been raised to live a new life with Jesus.

Why should we be baptized? Matthew 3:13-15 - Jesus received baptism, so should we. Receiving baptism means we identify Jesus alone as our Lord.

Who should be baptized? Acts 2:38 - Everyone who repents and believes.

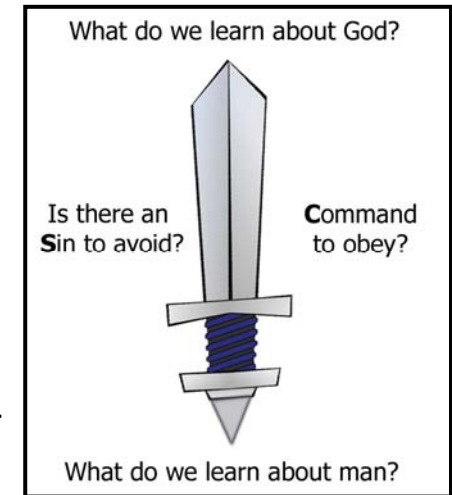
How should we be baptized? Matthew 3:16 - Jesus went down into the water; total immersion.

Command #7—Give

Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Luke 6:38, Jesus says...

Tell the story - The Widow Gives from Mark 12:41-44



Prayer - Lord everything I have is yours. Teach me to give. Show me needs that I can help with my time and money.

Assignment - Confess your sins before the Lord. Turn from them and live a new life. Decide this week with your family an amount of time and money you will give for the work of the church each week.

Additional Bible references for this command:

What should we give to God? Our money, our time, and our lives.

Why should we give to God? 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - Give generously and we will receive generously. God loves a cheerful giver.

How do we give to God? 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Cheerfully, not under compulsion; Matthew 6:1-4 - Secretly, not for recognition.

Who do we give to? 2 Corinthians 9 - A collection was given to a church; Acts 4:34-35 - The church gave to all who had need; 1 Tim 5:17; Phil 4:14-18; 1 Cor 9:4-18 - The church gave to support the church leaders.

Command #6—Lord's Supper

Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Luke 22:19-20, Jesus says...

Tell the story - Jesus' Last Meal from Luke 22:7-20



Prayer - Lord show me the sins I have committed. Forgive them. Thank you for giving your body and blood for me.

Assignment - Receive the Lord's Supper.

Additional Bible references for this command:

What is the Lord's Supper? 1 Corinthians 11:26—A symbol of the Lord's death.

Why do we eat the Lords Supper? 1 Corinthians 11:26—His body was broken, His blood was spilled for us.

How do we receive the Lord's Supper? 1 Corinthians 11:27-29—We must examine ourselves, confess our sins to God, and remember Jesus died to give us forgiveness.

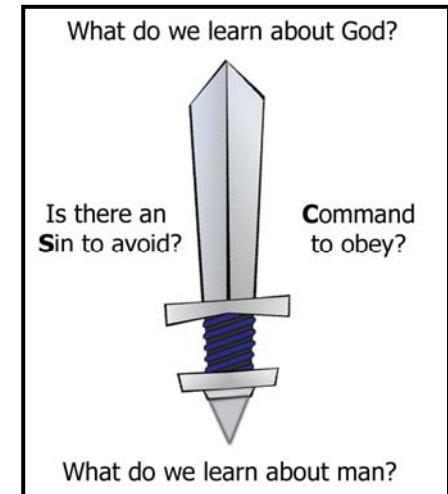
Who should receive the Lord's Supper? Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:27-29—Baptized disciples devoted to Jesus who examine themselves.

Command #3—Pray

Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus says...

Tell the story - Jesus teaches about Prayer from Matthew 6:5-15



Prayer - Lord teach us to pray. Give us pure motives. May your will be done in us.

Assignment - Start and finish each day by giving thanks to God and presenting your requests to Him.

Additional Bible references for this command:

What is prayer? Talking with God our Father.

Why do we pray? Matthew 6:9-13—God hears us. We desire His will to be done on earth.

How do we pray? By simply talking with God; "Give us today our daily bread" - pray for needs; "Forgive us our debts" - pray for forgiveness; "Deliver us from the evil one" - pray for the ability to resist temptation.

Command #4—Go...Make Disciples

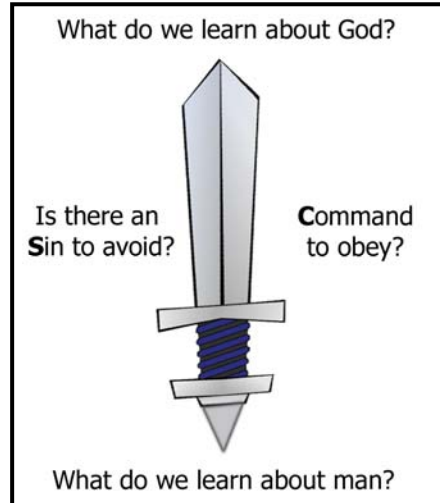
Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus says...

Tell the story - The Samaritan Woman from John 4:4-42

Prayer - Lord make me bold to share what you have done in my life. Give me your words to share in my community.

Assignment - Learn how to share My Story and God's Story from the last page of this booklet. Also pray for opportunities to share with the people who are on your list of friends and neighbors who need to hear your story. Share with them.



Additional Bible references for this command:

Who should we share with? John 4:16—Our families, friends and neighbors.

What should we say? John 4:29—The woman shared her story and God's story.

Who is qualified to go? John 4—The Samaritan woman was. I am, you are, every believer is qualified.

Command #5—Love

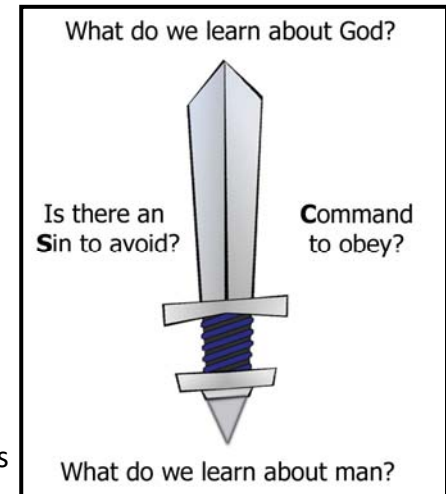
Pray - The Holy Spirit is our teacher. Pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds to understand and learn what He wants us to know from this Bible story.

Command - In Matthew 22:37-39, Jesus says...

Tell the story - Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37

Prayer - Lord help me to love you by obeying you. Lord help me to love others so they might learn that you love them also.

Assignment - Take time each day to intentionally show love by helping your neighbors.



Additional Bible references for this command:

What is love? John 15:13 and 1 Corinthians 13

Why do we love? John 13:34-35—Because Jesus loved us first. Love teaches the world about Jesus.

Who do we love? Matthew 22:37-39—First we need to love God. Then we need to love our neighbors.

How do we love? John 14:15—Loving Jesus means we obey Jesus. John 21:17—Loving others means telling them what God has done for you.