

2. Acts 8:12. The believers who were baptized in Samaria were:
 - Infants
 - Children
 - Men and women
3. Acts 22:16. Saul was told to be baptized:
 - To please his parents
 - That his sins might be washed away
 - To obtain a certificate
4. Galatians 3:27. We are baptized into:
 - The denomination of our choice
 - Christ
 - The local church
5. Colossians 2:12. Baptism is:
 - Sprinkling
 - A burial
 - Pouring

Please complete, detach, and mail this question sheet back to the return address below. After grading it we will return it to you with Lesson Five. We commend you for your interest in learning more about Jesus.

To continue learning more about JESUS—THE WAY, complete your contact information below and mail to:



**826 Liberty Pike
Franklin, TN 37064**

Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

**Find out more about the
Christians meeting at Parkway
on our website!**

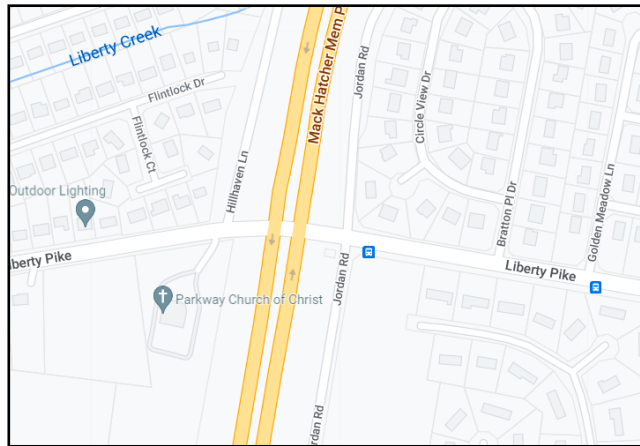
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The Christians at Parkway Welcome You!

OUR LOCATION

**826 Liberty Pike
Franklin, TN 37064**



OUR SERVICES

**Sunday Bible Study
9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.**

**Wednesday Bible Study
7:00 p.m.**

CONTACT US

**615-595-9818
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LESSON FOUR

JESUS, THE WAY TO FORGIVENESS

A popular idea is that sin is nothing more than a violation of human relationships. An action is considered sinful only if it is frowned upon by society, if it violates one's conscience, or if it is harmful to someone. Accordingly, the solution for sin is to make things right between people. When this is done they feel a peaceful release.

But there is more to sin than this. Sin is doing something that deviates from God's will.

All unrighteousness is sin... (1 John 5:17)

Sin may also consist of not doing what God wants.

Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. (James 4:17)

The grossest behavior toward another human being is sin only because it violates God's law. After committing both adultery and murder, the king of Israel David wrote:

Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight.... (Psalm 51:4)

This means that sin is more serious than many people realize, and it explains the penalty attached to it:

For the wages of sin is death.... (Romans 6:23)

It also means that no one is forgiven of sin until God grants forgiveness.

THE PROBLEM OF SIN

Making a sinner right with God is not a simple matter, because God is perfectly HOLY, and holiness makes any truce with sin impossible.

You love righteousness and hate wickedness. (Psalm 45:7)

God is also infinitely JUST, and justice demands that He punish sin with that penalty which His justice prescribes for the guilty — death.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. (Ephesians 5:6)

These facts involve humanity in a terrible predicament. All people sin, and the nature of God demands separation from sinful men and women and punishment by death.

We are helpless to solve the problem. We cannot deny the fact that we are sinners, and no good work we may do can make us innocent. For example, if someone commits murder they are not made innocent of that murder by living the rest of their life by the law.

Doing things God has required does not give us credit to apply against our sins. Jesus said:

“So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.’” (Luke 17:10)

SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM

The word death means separation. Once we have sinned, we are separated from God and become as dead men.

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.... (Ephesians 2:4-5)

God’s love and grace do not compromise His holiness or justice. The punishment of sin which God’s justice requires was met when God gave His own Son to receive the penalty due for the sins of all humanity.

For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of my people He was stricken. (Isaiah 53:8)

These words, written hundreds of years before Christ, were fulfilled in His death on the cross. A covering or protection from sin’s punishment is called a propitiation.

And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. (1 John 2:2)

Truly, Jesus is the way to forgiveness of sins.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. (Ephesians 1:7)

FORGIVENESS CONDITIONAL

Though Christ is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world, not everyone will be saved by Jesus because they seek their own way instead of His.

And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. (Hebrews 5:9)

Obedying Christ requires BELIEVING or having faith in Him. If Jesus is the way to life, we must put our trust in Him.

So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved...” (Acts 16:31)

This faith must be strong enough to create in us a resolve to turn from sin. This is REPENTANCE.

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent.” (Acts 17:30)

Our faith must be strong enough to prompt public CONFESSION.

For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation. (Romans 10:10)

And we must believe sufficiently to be BAPTIZED.

He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:16)

This baptism puts us INTO CHRIST where we are children of God by faith.

For you are all sons of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (Galatians 3:26-27)

It is when we are buried with Christ in baptism that God restores us from death to NEW LIFE.

Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:4)

Once we are in Christ and have received new life, we are to WALK IN THE LIGHT by continuing to follow Jesus as the way to forgiveness of sin.

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:7)

LESSON FOUR ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT JESUS.

Use the quotations in the lesson or find the verses in your own Bible from which to answer the following questions:

1. All _____ is sin. (1 John 5:17)
2. The wages (penalty) of sin is _____. (Romans 6:23)
3. The Lord loves _____ and hates _____. (Psalm 45:7)
4. When we have done all we have been commanded to do we are still _____ servants. (Luke 17:10)
5. God is rich in _____, has great _____, and saves us by His _____. (Ephesians 2:4-5)
6. Christ is the _____ for our sins. (1 John 2:2)
7. In Christ we have _____ of sins. (Ephesians 1:7)
8. Christ is the author (source) of salvation to all who _____ Him. (Hebrews 5:9)
9. God commands all to _____. (Acts 17:30)
10. Confession must be made with the _____ unto salvation. (Romans 10:10)
11. One who believes and is _____ shall be saved. (Mark 16:16)
12. The _____ of Jesus Christ cleanses (purifies) us from sin. (1 John 1:7)

Using your own Bible, find the answers to the following questions. Circle the correct answer.

1. Acts 2:38. Baptism is to be in the name of:
Jesus Christ
The man doing the baptizing
The church

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE REMAINING THREE LESSONS!

