



4 KEYS 4 KIDS



Discovering God's Heart!



Did you know that God wants you to know Him and be His friend?

It's true! God wants to be the Friend you can count on no matter what happens. He's the Friend who will help you be strong and the Friend who will help you make good choices. He's the Friend who has a plan for you that's more amazing than your dreams!

Think about it... He created the sun, the earth and everything on it. He knows how many fish are in the ocean and how many hairs are on your head! Wherever you go, God is there.

You are never alone. He's the most amazing Friend ever, and so much more!

So, how do you get to know Him?
There are 4 keys to discovering God's heart!





**GOD
LOVES YOU!**



Because God is Love, He loves you very much and wants you to know Him.



That's right! You are extra special to God and He wants a relationship with you!

YOU ARE LOVED!



The Bible is God's letter to us.
He writes about His love:

*For God so loved the world, that
he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish, but have
everlasting life.*

John 3:16

And that's not all !

YOU ARE GOD'S SPECIAL CREATION AND HE HAS AN AMAZING PLAN FOR YOU!

How cool is that?
God's plan starts with you
getting to know Him!

*And this is life eternal, that
they might know thee the
only true God, and Jesus
Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

John 17:3



BUT THERE'S A PROBLEM. . .



**SIN
KEEPES US
FROM GOD !**

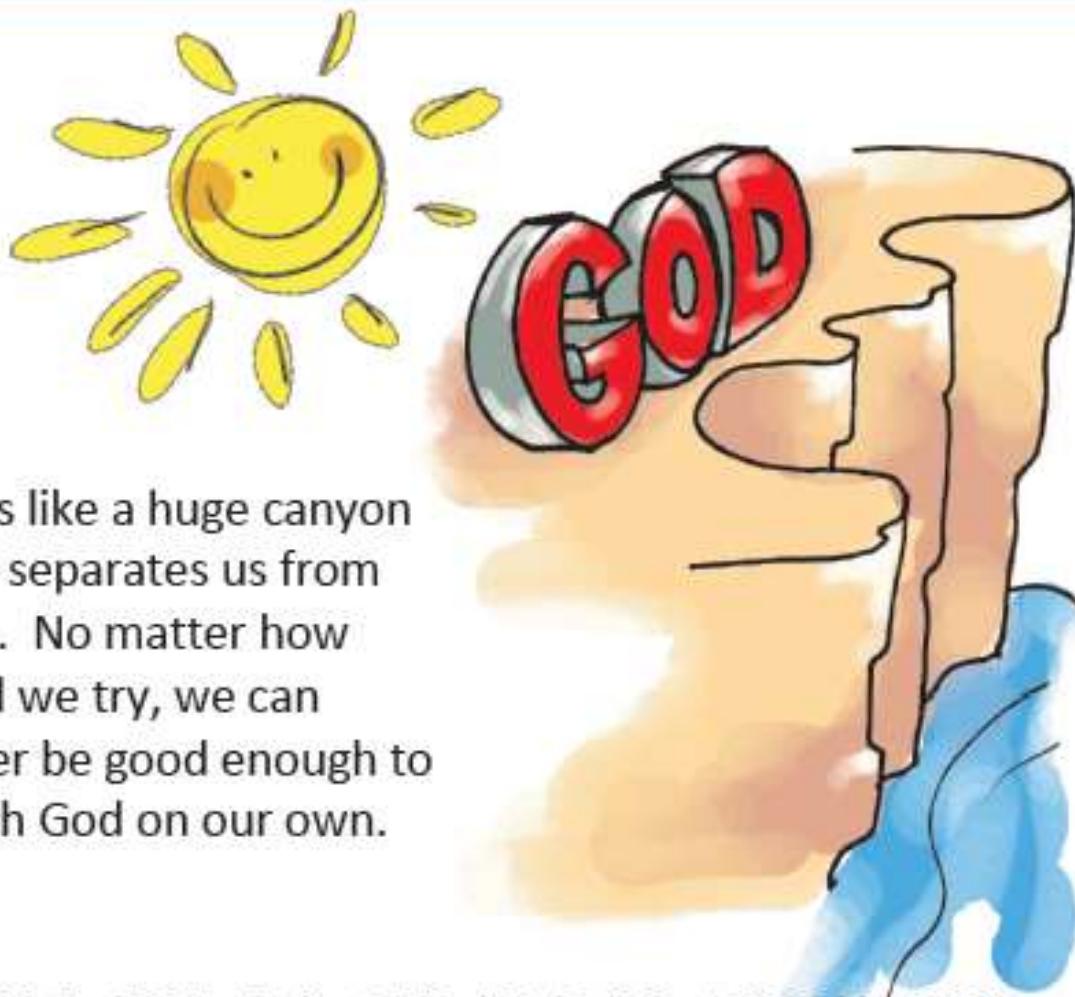
Because God is Perfect (Holy), everything He says, does or thinks is totally good and right.

SIN is anything we do, say, or even think that isn't totally good and right. It's like saying "no" to God.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

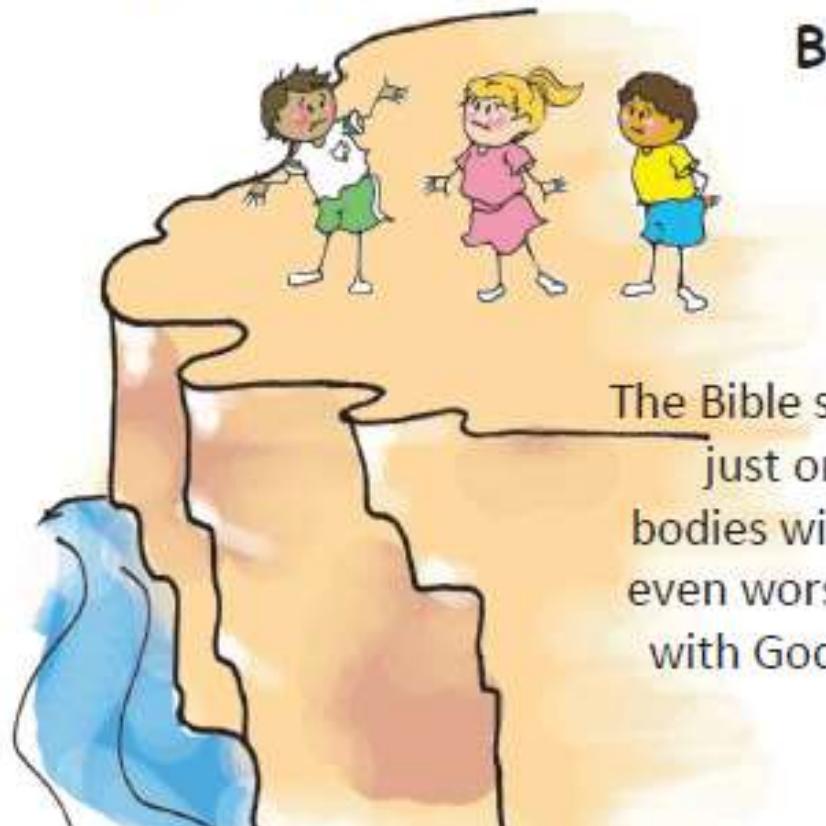




Sin is like a huge canyon that separates us from God. No matter how hard we try, we can never be good enough to reach God on our own.

**WE ARE ALL SEPARATED FROM GOD
BECAUSE OF OUR SIN.**

WE CAN'T FIX OUR SIN PROBLEM, BUT GOD CAN!



The Bible says the penalty for just one sin is death. Our bodies will die someday, but even worse, our relationship with God is dead right now.

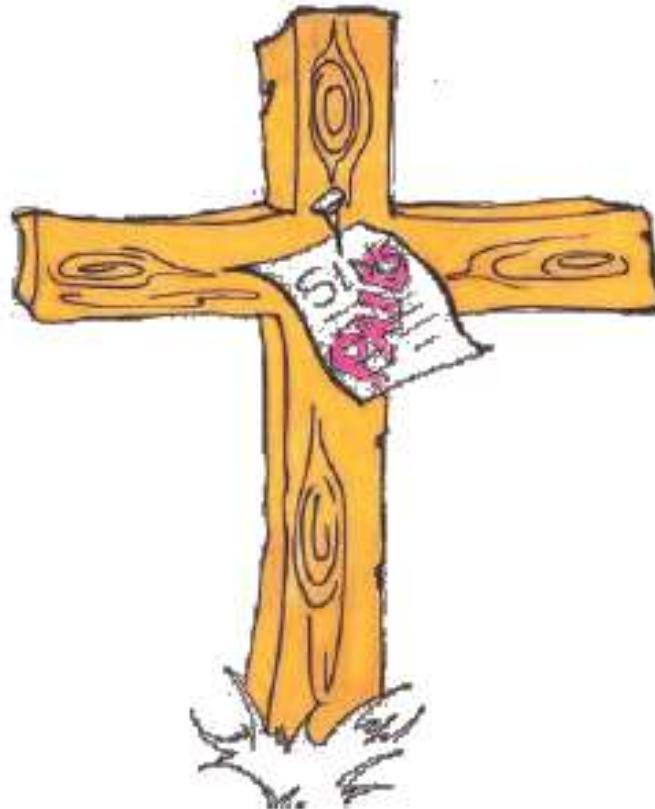
For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:23



**ONLY JESUS
CAN FIX
OUR SIN PROBLEM !**

BECAUSE GOD IS MERCIFUL, HE PROVIDED
THE ONLY WAY TO FIX OUR SIN PROBLEM.



The Bible says:

*But God commendeth his love
toward us, in that, while we were
yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

Romans 5:8

GOD'S SON, JESUS, PAID OUR SIN PENALTY.
HE DIED IN OUR PLACE.

JESUS DID WHAT WE COULD NEVER DO. . . HE CAME BACK TO LIFE!



The Bible says it this way . . .

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scripture.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

THAT'S WHY

JESUS

IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD!

Jesus says in the Bible:

... I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

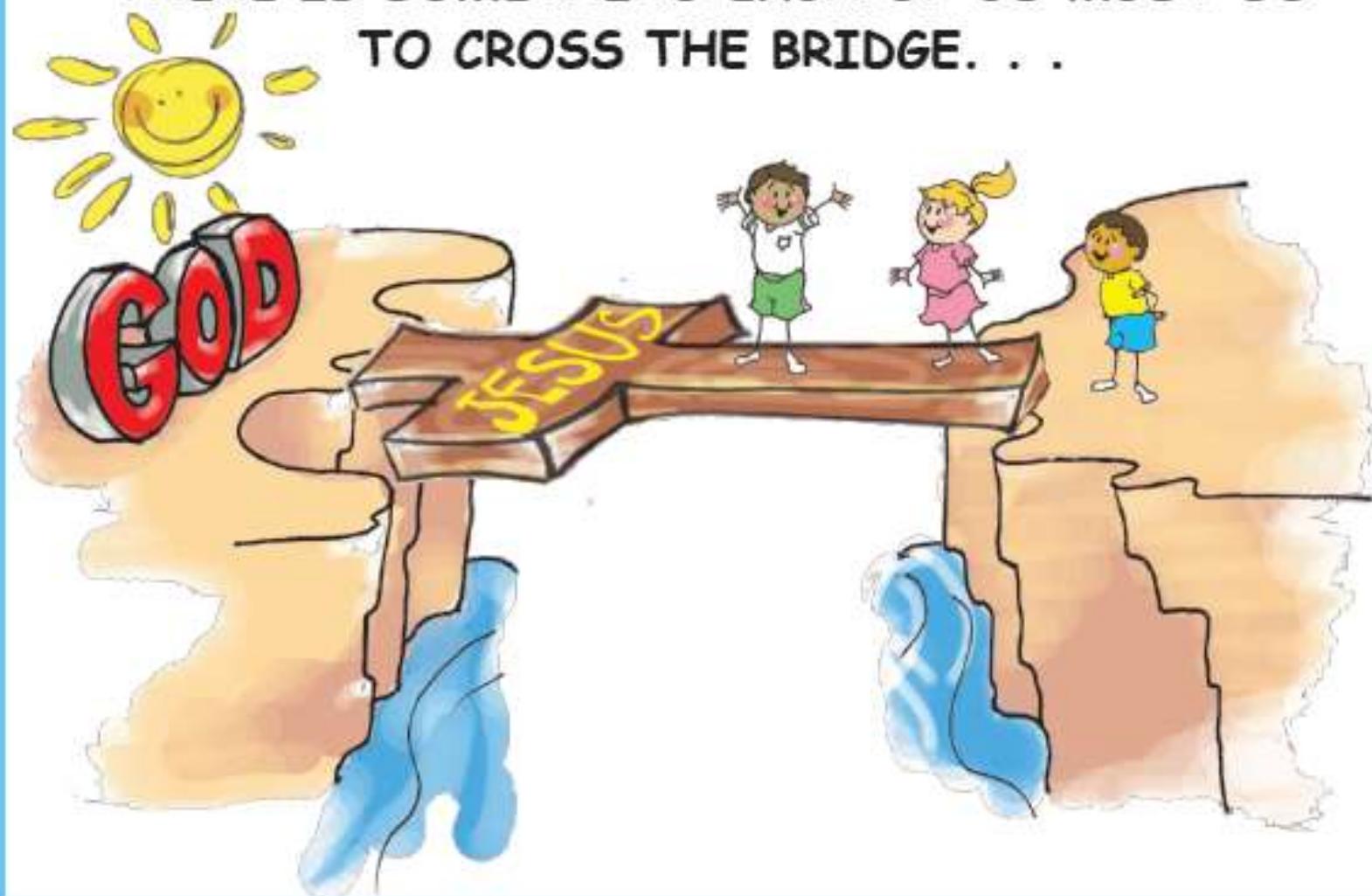
John 14:6



WHEN JESUS DIED FOR
OUR SIN, HE BECAME THE
ONLY BRIDGE FOR US TO
CROSS OVER TO GOD.

A lot of people know these things, but that's not enough.

**THERE IS SOMETHING EACH OF US MUST DO
TO CROSS THE BRIDGE. . .**





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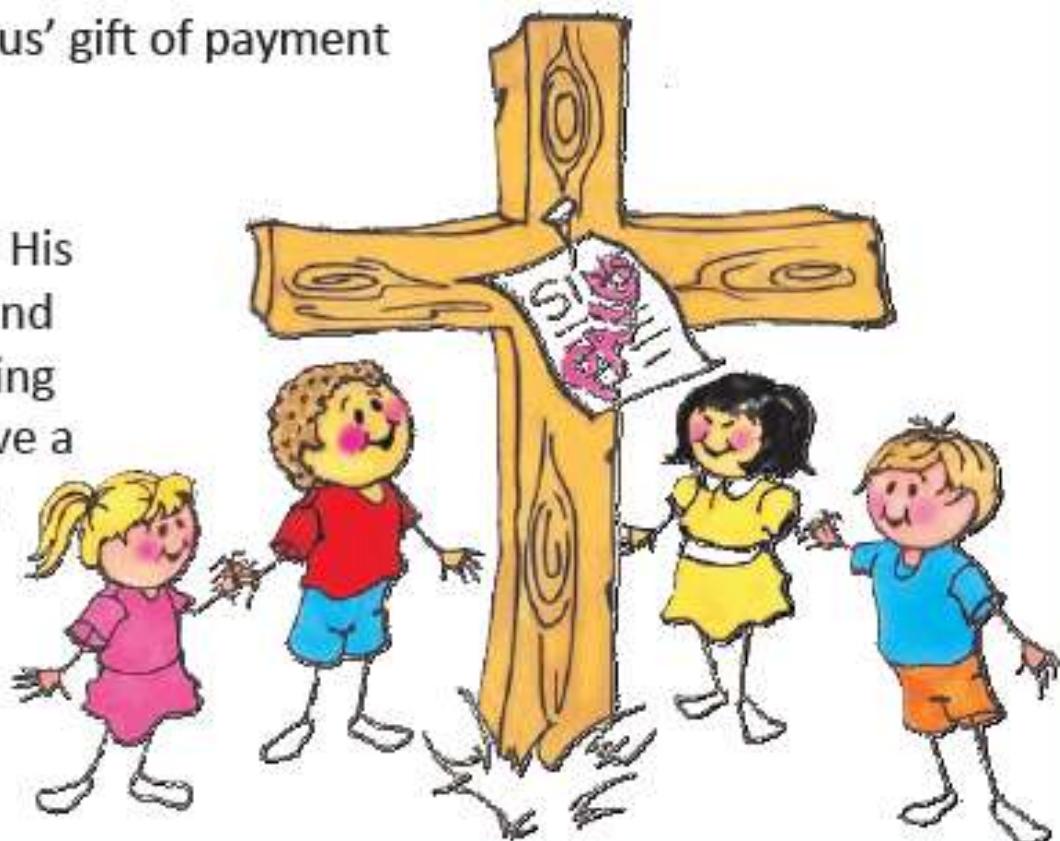
**YOU MUST
SAY "YES"
TO JESUS !**

BECAUSE GOD IS PERSONAL, EACH OF US MUST ACCEPT JESUS CHRIST AS OUR SAVIOR AND KING!

God didn't make us robots. He won't force us to accept Jesus' gift of payment for our sin.

Only when we accept His payment for our sin and ask Christ to be the King of our life, can we have a relationship with Him that will last forever.

Only then can we discover His amazing plan for us!



WHAT LIFE DO YOU WANT?

*Apart from God,
life is full of **our**...*



*With God, life is full
of **GOD'S**...*



IF YOU WANT TO KNOW GOD, YOU MUST ACCEPT JESUS!

No one can do it for you. Only you can ask Jesus to forgive your sin.

The Bible says:

*But as many as received him, to them gave he power
to become the sons of God, even to them that
believe on his name:*

John 1:12

Do you believe that Jesus paid the
penalty for your sin? Do you want a
relationship with Him now and forever?
If you said, "yes," God's heart is bursting
with joy!

SO WHAT'S NEXT?



WE RECEIVE JESUS THROUGH FAITH .

Faith means you trust and believe in Him.

The Bible says:

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9



**JESUS GAVE YOU THE BEST
GIFT EVER WHEN HE PAID
THE PENALTY FOR YOUR SIN!**

YOUR NAME IS ON THE GIFT!

What if someone gave you a present but you never opened it? Does the gift do you any good? No!

Jesus' gift to you works the same way. It's not enough just to say you **believe** in His gift. It's not even enough to be happy about the gift. You have to choose to reach out and **accept** His gift and trust that it becomes yours!



HOW DO YOU ACCEPT JESUS' GIFT?



If you **believe** that Jesus is God's only Son, and that He died for your sin and rose from the dead, all you have to do is:

Tell Him you're **sorry** for your sin.

Ask Him to help you change.

Accept His gift of forgiveness.

Ask Him to be your Savior and King!

YOU CAN ACCEPT JESUS' GIFT RIGHT NOW THROUGH PRAYER!

Listen to Jesus' promise to us in the Bible:

*For whosoever shall call upon the name of
the Lord shall be saved.*

Romans 10:13

Prayer is simply talking with God.

God knows what you're thinking and feeling. He's not expecting fancy words. What makes Him happy is hearing us speak from our heart. You can use your own words, or you can repeat a prayer like this. . .





Lord Jesus, I need You and I want to have a relationship with You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sin. I open the door of my life and accept You as my Savior and King. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me the gift of You being my perfect Friend here and in Heaven. Please take control of my life and help me be the kind of person You want me to be.

Amen.

Do you agree with this prayer? If you do, you can pray this prayer right now and let God know you want to begin a relationship with Him. Jesus will come into your life, just as He promised.

THE BIBLE PROMISES ETERNAL LIFE TO ALL WHO ACCEPT JESUS CHRIST .

Eternal life means our relationship with God doesn't stop when our bodies die on earth. God is our Perfect Friend now, and forever in Heaven!

The Bible says:

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

1 John 5:11-12

**Aren't you glad Jesus made a way for you
to be His friend forever ?**

CHAPTER 2

THE NEW YOU!



THE BEGINNING OF
AN AMAZING ADVENTURE!

**THE MOMENT YOU ACCEPTED JESUS' PAYMENT
FOR YOUR SIN AND PLACED YOUR TRUST IN
HIM, SOME AMAZING THINGS HAPPENED!**



**Christ came into your life and He
will never leave you.**

(Hebrews 13:5)

Your sins were forgiven.

(Colossians 1:14)

You became a child of God.

(John 1:12)

You received eternal life.

(John 5:24)

YOU BEGAN THE GREAT ADVENTURE THAT
GOD CREATED FOR YOU!



*Therefore if any man be in
Christ, he is a new creature:
old things are passed away;
behold, all things are
become new.*

2 Corinthians 5:17

DO NOT DEPEND ON YOUR FEELINGS!

Our feelings are important to God, but they can go up and down like a roller coaster! What do you do when your feelings don't go along with God and His Word (the Bible)? Look at the train...



FACT: The engine is the truth of God and the Bible. Because God is totally truthful, you can trust the Fact that He loves you. The Bible says so.

FAITH: The train car is your faith. Faith is trusting in the *fact* that God and His promises in the Bible are true. You trust the *fact* that God loves you no matter what.

FEELINGS: The caboose is our feelings. We can't depend on them to always show us the truth. You may not always Feel that God loves you, but that doesn't change the *fact* that He loves you no matter what.



Can a train run without the engine?
That's a silly question! Of course not!

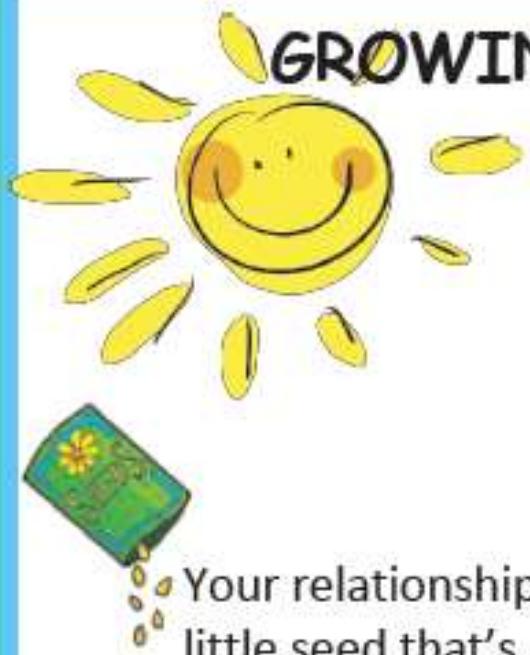
Can the caboose pull the train?

No way!



When your feelings (the caboose) go against God and the Bible, don't let them run your life. Put your faith (trust) in God and the Bible. Do what He says, and your feelings will follow along. . . just like the caboose on the train. (John 14:21)

GROWING STRONGER EVERY DAY!



Your relationship with God is like a little seed that's beginning to grow. Just like new plants need certain things to grow strong, our relationship with God needs some things to grow strong too.



HERE ARE SOME TOOLS THAT WILL HELP. . .

Pray—Talk with God every day. You can tell Him anything and He will help you! (John 15:7)

Read the Bible & Trust God's Promises—It's the best way to get to know God. You can start by reading the Book of John. (I Peter 5:7)

Obey God—This isn't always easy, but God promises to help us as we try to make good choices. (John 14:21)

Tell Others about Jesus' gift so they can know Him too!
(Matthew 4:19 and John 15:8)

Holy Spirit—God's Holy Spirit now lives in you. Allow Him to help you obey God and live a life that is pleasing to Him.
(Galatians 5:16-17 and Acts 1:8)

ONE MORE THING. . .

BECOMING A PART OF A GOOD CHURCH IS IMPORTANT!

God says that we are to get together with others who have invited Jesus into their lives, and help each other grow in our relationship with Him! (Hebrews 10:25)



Have you ever watched a fire burn? When the logs are piled together, the fire burns brightly! If one log is pulled out and set off to the side on some rocks, what would happen to its fire? It would fizzle out and the log would turn cold.

LET GOD'S LOVE SHINE. . .

Just as a fire burns brightly when there are many logs together, it's also like that with God's people. When we spend time together, our love for Jesus burns stronger.

Going to church is a great way to spend time with others who have invited Jesus into their lives! If you don't know where to go to church, ask someone to help you find a church that teaches about Jesus and the things you've learned today.



Today I asked Jesus to forgive my sin and become my King. I became a child of God!

Name: _____

Date: _____

To help you remember when you received Jesus into your life, write your name and today's date on the lines above.

Congratulations! You are now a new child of God! May God bless you in your new adventure with Him!

Now that you have the keys
to discovering God's heart,
share them with a friend!





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