

Read *Matthew 28:18-20*.

Jesus said that we shall go and make disciples. Not everybody becomes a Pastor or employed Missionary, but all Christians should be full-time witnesses of the Lord, wherever they are.

Jesus said: *"As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work."* John 9:4

To be a servant of Christ is a big privilege. He is really worthy that we devote our life completely to him. He has done everything for us, and we should not hesitate to give our life completely to him.

You have come now to the end of this course. Maybe you have already taken the step to receive Jesus in your heart. If this is the case, please inform us about it, so that we can help you to take the next steps. In case you have not yet taken the step, or you are not yet sure about it, feel free to ask us any questions, and we will try to help you.

If you have taken the step or not yet, carry on with the next Courses. Send us the exams from any place. But avoid mailing them from a country where the letters easily get lost. When we get your tests, we will mark and return them with a certificate and send the next course back to you. If you don't get any response from us, please write again and inform us about it. Sometimes letters don't reach us.

Please continue to study the courses wherever you are. Do them on the ship, at home and even when you join other vessels.

May God bless you as you continue to read his word.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 12".**

## ***Instructions to Students***

God gave us a very precious gift - the Bible. To read the "Word of God" opens a reality to us, which is hidden to those who don't study it. All of us should spend some time every day reading the Bible. If we do this with a prayerful and open heart, God will reveal himself to us. Our life will be changed completely. This correspondence course will be a help for you to understand the "Word of God" better.

### **Please read the following instructions:**

Begin with the first lesson. Study it carefully and take time to look up the Bible verses, which are given. This is important, because everything is based on the Scriptures. We used the "New International Version", but you can take another one if you wish. Try to memorise what you read. When you have finished the first lesson, go to the middle of the book and answer the first test. There are 10 questions given. Please circle either "**T**" = **True** or "**F**" = **False**. It is also possible to take an extra sheet of paper where you give your answers. Write for example: **Test 1:** Nr. 1 - T; Nr. 2 - F; Nr. 3 - F ... **Test 2:** Nr. 1 - F; Nr. 2 - F ... Thus you can leave the Test papers blank and somebody else - for instance your wife - can do it as well. If you have an E-Mail connection, you may send us the results this way.

If there is anything you can't answer, go back to the lesson and study this subject again. Those questions you really don't know, just leave and take the next one. Continue with lesson two and test two, lesson three and test three..., until you finish the complete book. Take out only the tests (or take your extra sheet of paper with the results), put them in an envelope and return them to our address below. Send us all 12 exams together and not one by one. If you are a seaman, we need your home - and company address, and the latest news regarding your vacation. Please inform us also if you would like to have the next Bible Course. Fill in all the details at the end of the last test. Ask us if you have any more questions.

When we get your tests, we will mark them and return the results to you. Don't worry about mistakes. You all learn by them. We will also include an answer key, certificate and the next book in our letter.

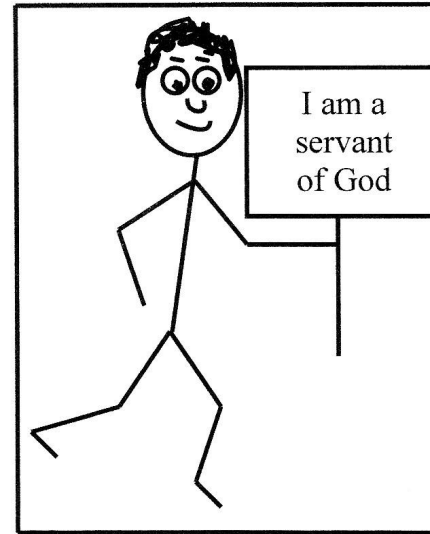
Begin straightaway! Study on the ship, at home and continue even when you join the next vessel. Take at least 20-30 minutes daily. We wish you God's blessing.

Please return the tests to the following address:

## Lesson 12

### To be a servant of God

14<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Everybody prefers to be the master and not the servant. But I can tell you that it is something wonderful to be a servant of God. Please open your Bible to *Philippians 2:5-11* and read these verses. This is really an amazing passage. Before Jesus requested us to become servants, he gave us an example. Though he had the same nature as God the Father, he humbled himself in a way we can hardly imagine. Let us learn from the King of Kings what it means to serve.

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Read *John 13:1-17*.

In verse 15 it is written: "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."

#### Why does God need servants?

God could do everything on his own, but he preferred to let us take part in building up his kingdom here on earth. Every child of God is to be a messenger of the Lord in words and actions. Both are necessary. We have to share the good news about Jesus Christ. The great gift of salvation is not only for us. We have to bring the gospel to all people.

Open your Bible to *2 Corinthians 5:17-21* and read the verses. God has committed a message to all who are already saved, in order to tell it to those who are still in darkness. Paul considered himself an ambassador of Jesus. An ambassador is somebody who represents a nation in another country. God wants us to be his representatives. A true Christian does not belong any more to this world. His home is now with God. But we are still on earth to bring the good news of Jesus to the nations.

produce fruit, but to remain close to Jesus. Then he will do it in us. Don't struggle to present God a good life. Better to allow him to take over and to change you. Be very honest to him, and just bring him your weakness.

Take a piece of paper and write the following short sentence on it: **“FOR THIS I HAVE JESUS“**. What does it mean? **“FOR THIS“** means: For my sin, my fear, my burdens, my weaknesses, my homesickness, my problems... **“I HAVE JESUS“**. It does not mean that Jesus takes away all problems, but that he will be with you. Fix this sentence at a place where you often look. It will help you to be reminded and your faith will be strengthened. To be close to Jesus is the only way to be protected from backsliding. To come back to Jesus is the only way to make a new start after backsliding. Jesus is merciful and gracious. He is willing and able to bring you to his destiny. The longer you know him, the more you will realise that you are dependent on him. Without him, we can really do nothing. He is our only hope and chance.

According to *1 Corinthians 1:30* Jesus is our salvation **and** holiness. He wants to save you **and** wants to keep you close to him, so that you will grow your spiritually.

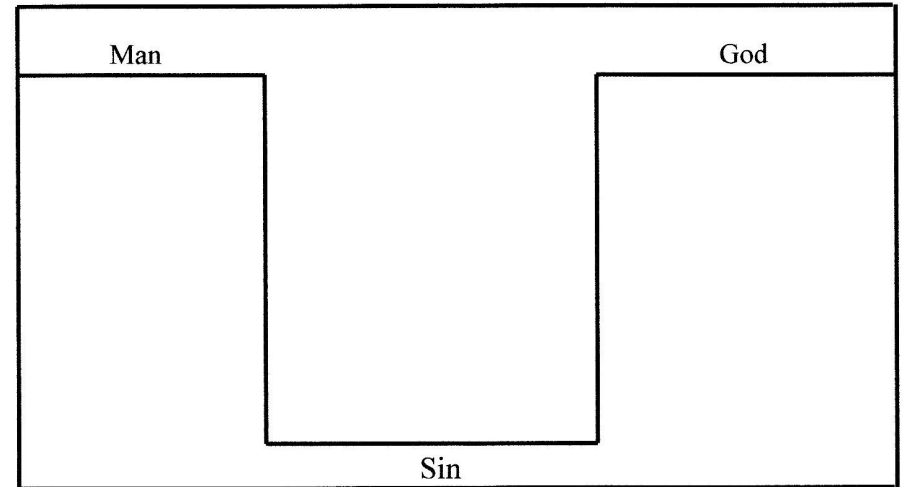
**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer “Test 11“.**

## THE BRIDGE

### Lesson One

#### The big gap

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Illustration:



Please look at the illustration. On one side is God and on the other man. Both are separated by a big gap. The name of the gap is “Sin“. Everyone will of course agree that we are all sinners, but many people don't understand how big this problem is. In the third chapter of the Bible we read how the perfect relationship between God and us was destroyed because of the disobedience of man.

Please open your Bible right now to the book of *Genesis* and read the complete third chapter.

God created man to have fellowship with him. He was very good to Adam and Eve. In the first and second chapter of *Genesis* we learn that God created a wonderful place for them. Nothing was lacking. They had enough to eat and to drink. They didn't have to fear danger, sickness or any problem. We can't imagine the peaceful harmony they had. In the beginning there was no gap at all between God and man.

But then something terrible happened. Adam and Eve preferred to disobey their creator. God never forced them to stay with him. He gave them both the freedom to choose. In fact, God commanded only one thing. He allowed

them to eat from all fruits of the wonderful garden except from one tree. But Adam and Eve made the wrong decision. The devil, in the form of the snake, tempted them. Both followed his suggestion. They ran away from God and stepped into the trap of Satan. Both of them thought that by disobedience to the Lord they could gain knowledge.

God told Adam and Eve in advance what would happen if they sinned:

*Genesis 2:16-17*

*God the Lord commanded man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."*

After they sinned they had to face three different kinds of death:

### **1. Spiritual death**

Loosing the relationship with God means to loose spiritual life. Adam and Eve were kicked out of Paradise and they lost fellowship with the Lord. They had to suffer spiritual death at once. Read *Genesis 3:23-24*. The Bible says that we are dead in our sins. Read *Ephesians 2:1-3*.

### **2. Physical death**

From the moment they sinned, human beings became mortal. They just lived a time on earth and then they had to suffer physical death.

### **3. Eternal death**

Physical death is not the end. Somebody who dies separated from God still has to face judgement. Like on a video film his life will be shown completely. Every single sin, which he has done, will speak against him. God will throw such a person into the lake of fire. Punishment in hell will last forever. There is no way to get out of it. Eternal punishment in Hell is also called "death" in the Bible.

In *Revelation 20:15* it is written:

*If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

In *Romans 6:23* we read: *The wages of sin is death.*

Not only Adam and Eve sinned. We have all made the same wrong choice. There is a gap between God and all human beings. This is really the main problem in the world. Please read *Romans 3:10-18*.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 1".**

What is backsliding? Am I already a backslider when I sin once? No, this is not the case. Even a sincere Christian is still not perfect. He needs the forgiveness of Jesus daily. But a person is in danger of sliding back when he hesitates to repent immediately. If somebody - after he became a child of God - allows the devil to regain control over his life, then he brings himself into a dangerous position.

### **How does a person know that he is in danger of becoming a backslider?**

There are different signs:

- He will lose his joy and his peace of heart. Remember with how much joy the first Christians met together. In *John 14:27* Jesus promises to give us inner peace, independent of the circumstances. But this is not the case if we remain in our sin and refuse to repent.
- The fruit of the Holy Spirit will stop to grow in our life. Read *Galatians 5:22-23*. Realise the wonderful things he will give you and the development of your Christian life, which will happen. But a backslider will not see much fruit of the Spirit in his life.
- Read *Revelation 3:15-16*. If the heart is no longer burning, if there is not much love for Jesus and the brothers and sisters, if it is divided and not fully committed to Jesus, then backsliding has already started.

### **What are the reasons of backsliding?**

- Sin, which is not confessed to the Lord. The big problem is not to stumble and fall, but to remain standing. Some people hesitate to repent of their sins to Jesus, because they feel ashamed that they are still so weak. But we should come with great confidence to Jesus, who is able and willing to forgive every day what we have done wrong.
- Others start to take it easy with sin. But to disobey God wilfully is very dangerous. He will not forgive, if we don't mean it sincerely. Please read the complete *Psalms 51*. King David wrote these words, after he became very guilty. Make this Psalm your own prayer, if you feel the burden of sin in your life.
- Again others refuse to forgive their brothers. But then their sin will not be forgiven by God. Read *Matthew 6:14-15*.
- Lack of fellowship with God. Please read *John 15:4-5*. Jesus does not expect anything from us other than to remain close to him. He even said that we can do nothing without him. It is not our part to

Why it is important for you to look for fellowship with other Christians? This is the place where the children of God meet each other and worship their Saviour. If you are not in a church with much spiritual life like you read in the book of Acts, look for such a group. Ask God in prayer to guide you to find the right one.

#### 4. Sharing your gifts with others

Please read *1 Corinthians 12:12-30*.

Paul compares the fellowship of true Christians with a body. Different members have different gifts. All receive something, and all share what they got from God. They share their spiritual and material gifts with each others.

#### 5. To keep the commandments of God

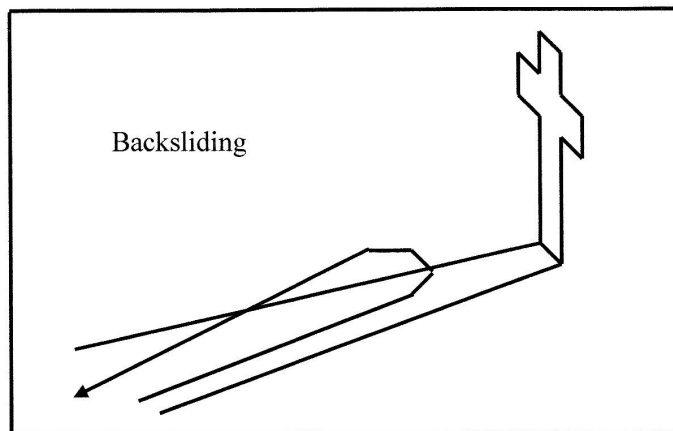
A child of God loves to keep his commandments because he loves his Father. The heart is full of gratitude towards Jesus because of all that he has done for us. It might happen that a Christian struggles with some sins, but his desire is to follow the footsteps of Jesus. Please read *John 14:15-21*. A person who has realised that his sin caused Jesus to suffer so much can't easily disobey God anymore. He will always try to do good in order to please the Lord.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 10".**

## Lesson 11

### Backsliding

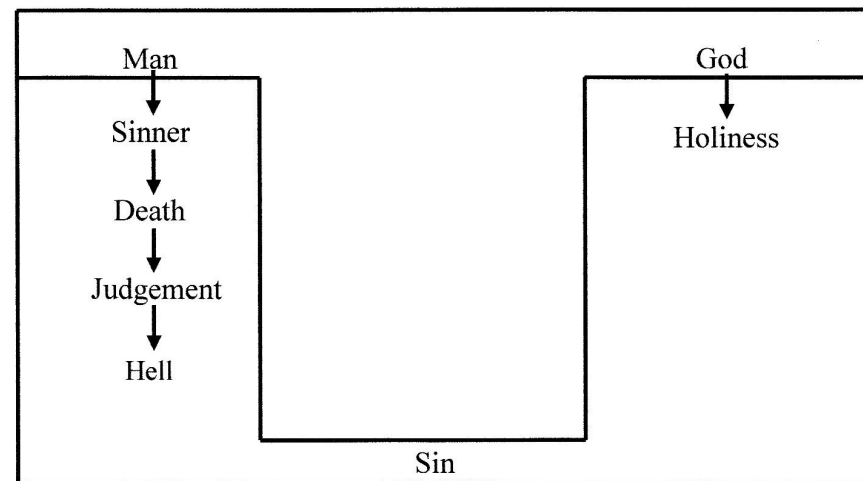
13<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



## Lesson 2

### God and Man - two different natures

2<sup>nd</sup> Illustration:



Please have a look at the second illustration. This lesson will help you to understand why God and man are so far from each other. The problem between God and us are not only single sins. It goes much deeper. We and God have different natures. He is by nature holy and we are sinful. This is like black and white, like hot and cold. It does not fit together at all. Let us think about the deep difference between God's holy - and our sinful nature.

#### 1. God's holy nature

God said in *Isaiah 40:25*:

*"To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One.*

God is above everything and everybody. He is almighty, pure, sinless and without any fault. He can't lie. He is faithful to his own words and promises.

Moses said to the king of Egypt: *"You will know there is no one like the Lord!" (Exodus 8:10).*

Later he sang in a song: *"Who among the gods (so called gods) is like you, O Lord? Who is like you - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?" (Exodus 15:11).*

Hundreds of years later king David said: *"How great you are, O Sovereign Lord! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears". (2 Samuel 7:22)*

Please now take your Bible and read the following verses. They give us insights about God's holy nature.  
*(1 King 8:23-24; Psalm 89:6; Isaiah 40:18).*

Only when we get an idea of God's greatness and holiness, can we understand our sinfulness. In fact, it is his holiness, which demands punishment of our sin.

## **2. Our sinful nature**

Most people would agree that they make some mistakes. But many of them still think deep in their heart that they are not really bad. They compare themselves with others and come to the conclusion that they are better than most.

But God has a different point of view. We have a sinful nature already the moment we are born. It goes much deeper than to believe that just a few mistakes and weaknesses are our problem. King David wrote the following words when he felt the burden of his own sin as never before:

*"I know my transgressions (evil deeds) and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." (Psalm 51:4-6)*

*"My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden, too heavy to bear."  
(Psalm 38:4).*

We are not to compare ourselves with an apple with a little fault, which is easily cut out. Because our complete nature is sinful, we are rather like a totally rotten fruit.

Maybe you ask: "Are there no differences? Is a very religious person not better than a murderer?" Of course he is! But consider the following verse:

*Whoever keeps the whole law (of God) and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. (James 2:10)*

One sin already spoils us. We should keep all commandments of God. If we sin once, we are already lawbreakers. Remember what happened with Adam and Eve. After they had sinned only one time, they had to leave Paradise. The Lord never allowed them to return. The line between God

We'll give you a simple example. Somebody who is a Cadet and wants to become a Captain might struggle hard in order to reach his goal. Once he is a Captain he still does many things, but not so that he can become a Captain. Because he is already one, he is just acting like a Master. It is similarly with a true Christian. He will do all those things you can see on the illustration, but not to become saved. He is already a child of God; therefore he does it as an expression of his Christian life. ***We are not saved by good works, but they will be the result of our salvation.*** You might ask yourself if God demands many hard and difficult things after he has saved a person?

No - what he expects is not difficult, but just normal. Why is this the case?

## **1. Prayer**

Please remember what a new-born Christian is. He is a child of God, loved by his father. As every good human father desires close relationship with his children, so God with us. To pray is not a hard rule, which we have to fulfil. It just means to talk with God in a very personal way. Therefore it is much better if you don't just repeat again and again prayers, which others wrote down. Better to tell him what is on your heart. Praise him for what he is. Thank him for what he gave you. Bring your problems and sorrows to him. He will care and answer. Confess your sins, and he will forgive. To pray daily is not a hard rule, because a true Christian loves to talk with his Father in Heaven.

## **2. Reading the Bible**

Reading the Bible means to give God the opportunity to talk with me. A seaman cannot talk every day with his children because of his job. But his desire is to do so. And maybe you even spend a lot of money to talk with them by phone once in a while. Even more God wants to listen to our prayers and speak to us through his word. He wants to comfort, encourage, teach, advise and guide you. Through the Bible you get to know him better and better. A Christian usually loves to read the word of God. It is like a communication of two persons: When you pray, you talk with God; when you read the Bible, the Lord talks to you.

## **3. Fellowship with other born again Christians**

Please read *Acts 2:42*.

The early Christians loved the teaching of the word of God, prayer and fellowship with other Christians. It never came into their minds that it is something difficult, or that they must follow hard and boring rules. Please open your Bible and read *Acts 2:42-47* and *Acts 4:32-35*.

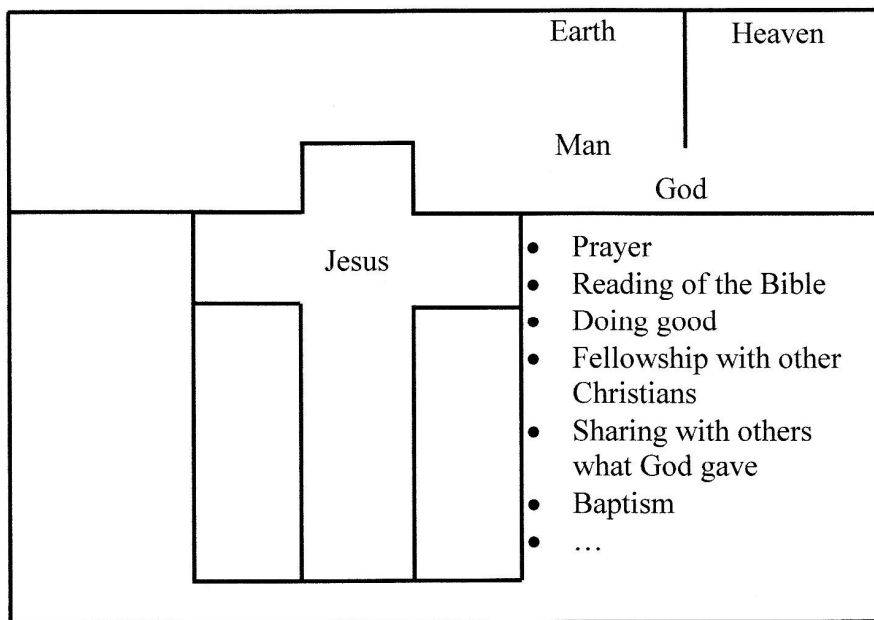
When you read your Bible, you will discover more and more promises. Keep them in your heart as a wonderful treasure given from Jesus to you.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer “Test 9”.**

## Lesson 10

### *A wonderful relationship with God and other Christians*

12<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Have a look at illustration No. 12. At the right side there are several things written, which a child of God should do. For example pray, read the Bible, do good, have fellowship with true Christians, share with others what God gave, be baptised (by the way, the Bible never speaks about baptism of babies, only of those who accepted the Lord)... Are you surprised to read this, after we explained to you before that those things cannot save us? They will certainly not bring us to heaven, but they will be the normal expression of a Christian life.

and man was cut. It was too late. Suddenly there was this big separation, which you can see on the second illustration above.

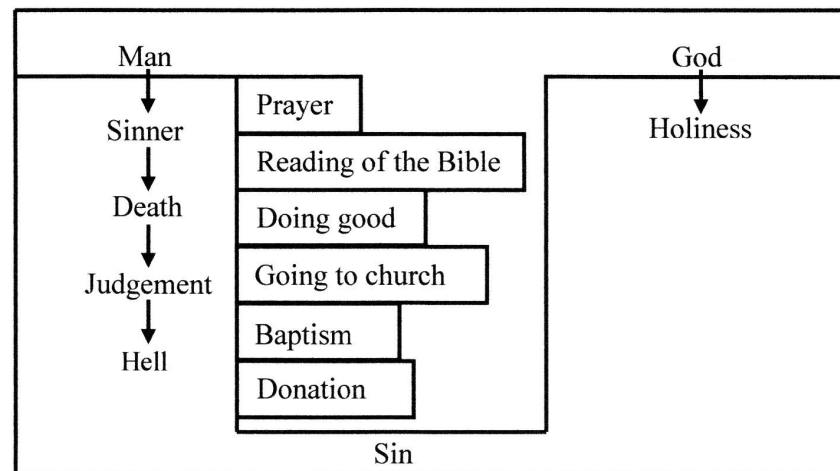
We'll give you another example: Suppose a person commits just three sins per day, either in mind or words or actions. How many sins is he committing per year? More than 1.000! Suppose he is 30 years old: there are at least 30.000 sins in his life. In fact, most people commit many more than 3 sins a day. And every single sin counts against us at the day of judgement.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer “Test 2”.**

## Lesson 3

### *How to come back to God*

3<sup>rd</sup> Illustration:



Most people believe in God. They are sure that there is a heaven and a hell. Nobody, of course, wants to go to hell. Because of this, many start with different kinds of religious activities. Through their being religious they try to win the favour of God in order to come closer to him. They build different kinds of religious bridges in order to overcome the gap.

Let's have a look at the third illustration. You can see six different kinds of religious bridges. They are only examples. Other kinds of good works are also possible. The big question is: Do they bring us back to God? Can we

go to heaven if we observe those things? The first bridge is:

### **Prayer**

We should pray every day. Many times the Bible tells us to do so. We talk with the living God by prayer. He allows us to bring our requests to him and we in return praise his goodness.

But many people think their daily prayers, which they repeat again and again can save them. Their hope is to win the favour of God by means of following religious rules. To pray daily is indeed necessary. But it is wrong to assume, that the amounts of minutes or even hours, which we spend in prayer, can wipe away our sins.

### **To read the Bible**

When we pray, we talk with God. When we read the Bible, he talks with us, because it is the word of God. Everything we know about God, is revealed through the Bible. It is God's revelation to us. Because of this, everyone should take time daily to read the Scriptures. But can our daily reading of the Bible, which we present to God as a religious activity, take away our sins? Can we go to heaven by it?

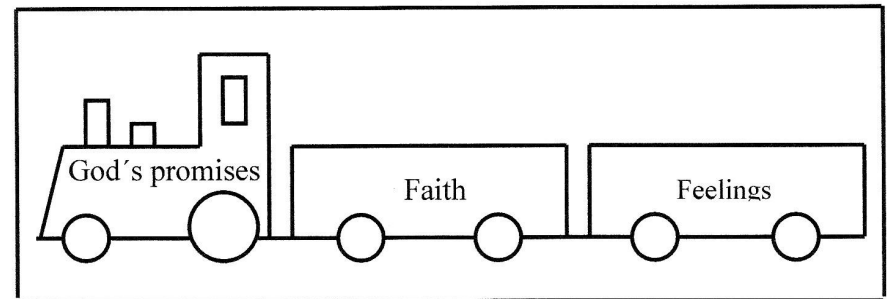
To read the word of God every day is necessary, but does not mean that the sin problem is already solved. The reason we should read the Bible is not that we go automatically to heaven by doing it. But by reading the Bible, we learn how God saves us.

### **Doing good and keeping the commandments of God**

Most of the people we talk to think that they have a chance to go to heaven, if they do good. They hope to be justified when they keep the commandments of God. There is no doubt at all that we should be very sincere in following what God said. But we have to ask the question again: Will this give us eternal life? The answer would be "Yes", if we could keep all the commandments of God. But because nobody is able to keep the law of the Lord 100%, no one can be saved by doing it. Please now take time to read some verses from the Bible, which will make it very clear to you:

- *Romans 3:23-28*
- *Galatians 2:16*
- *Galatians 3:10-11*
- *Ephesians 2:8-9*
- *Titus 3:5*

### 11<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Try to get the meaning of Illustration No. 11. Let's compare the life of a true Christian with a train. What will bring us forward? Can you be sure that you are saved because your feelings are now wonderful? It is certainly very nice to have great feelings. But the problem is that they are not stable. Sometimes they are up and sometimes down. If you rely too much on your feelings, you will be like a wave on the sea. You can't trust them, because they are not under your control.

Is our faith the most important? Well, faith is very important in connection with our salvation. But sometimes our faith is weak. Even faith is not always as stable as it should be. Does it mean that salvation is still uncertain for children of God if the faith is temporary weak? No, because everything stands on the promises of God. Only that which God has done for us can give assurance of salvation. If the life of a true Christian is compared with a train, only his promises can draw it forward and bring us to his destiny. Our faith will just hang on to the promises and the feeling might follow. But never base your life on anything else than Jesus and his true word!

When doubts come, remember what the Bible says. We'll give you a few examples regarding other promises on which you should stand. Please read the following verses:

- *1 John 1:9*: If somebody confesses his sins, they will be forgiven.
- *Revelation 3:20*: If somebody invites Jesus into his heart, he will come in.
- *Matthew 28:20*: Jesus will always be with us.
- *2 Timothy 2:13*: God remains faithful, even if we are sometimes faithless.
- *Matthew 6:33*: All the things of daily life will be given to us, if we seek his kingdom first.
- *John 15:7*: God will answer our prayers.



Start again with a look at the illustration. God and men are now united. Even if you have not yet taken the step, please carry on studying this book. Be aware that the gap is still between Jesus and you, but it will be still beneficial for you to continue. Pray to God, that he might enlighten you, so that you become ready to receive Jesus.

If you asked Christ to come into your heart, you are now on the other side of the separation. You are a child of God and belong to his family. Remember *John 1:12-13*. Here it is written: *"All who received Jesus, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."*

This is the most important decision you have ever made. It will last into eternity and is a reason for great joy. In *Luke 15:10* it is written: *"I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."*

Please take your Bible, open it to the first page, and write down the date and: "Today is my spiritual birthday." In the same way that you remember your physical birthday, it is great not to forget the date of your spiritual one.

Though you are of course still here on earth, you are now on God's side. Death will be just the gate for you to change from this life with Jesus to eternal life in heaven with him.

How it is possible to know for sure that a person, who received Christ, is saved? The answer is very simple. It is because salvation does not depend on what you have done, but on what Christ has done for you. What you do will never last, but what Jesus has done will be forever. He did everything for your salvation, and you have just received it like a wonderful present. Now you have to learn to base your new life on the promises of the Bible. Read the following verses, which prove that those, who are in Christ, are saved for sure:

- *John 5:24: "he will be not condemned..."*
- *Romans 5:8-10: "...how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath..."*
- *Romans 8:1: "...no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."*
- *Romans 8:38-39: "...nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God..."*
- *1 John 5:11-13: "...you may know, that you have eternal life..."*

Why is it not possible to go to heaven by keeping the commandments of God? There are at least three simple reasons:

- We are just not good enough. We are not able to keep the commandments of God as we should. His standard is 100%. Somebody who reaches 99% fails already. And we are all well below this perfect standard of the Lord.
- All our good works that we do cannot take away even one single sin we have done.
- Remember *James 2:10*. One sin, which we have committed, makes us guilty of breaking *all* commandments of God.

If we take the Bible we have to notice that good works will not bring us closer to heaven. We should do them, but they can't justify us. And this fact brings us in big troubles, because sin must be punished! God's holiness demands it!

### **Going to Church, Baptism, giving donations...**

We are sure that you have got the message already. Follow the things mentioned above, because they are very important. However don't expect that they can be the bridge for your salvation. Please notice the following important sentence:

***To follow the rules of God is not the reason  
of our salvation - however the result!***

We cannot be saved by keeping God's commandments but it will follow our salvation. Good works can't be counted against our sins. It is not only the sin, which we commit that is the biggest problem, but our sinful nature; our sinful heart. God's holiness requires a greater and more perfect sacrifice than all our religious activities are able to provide.

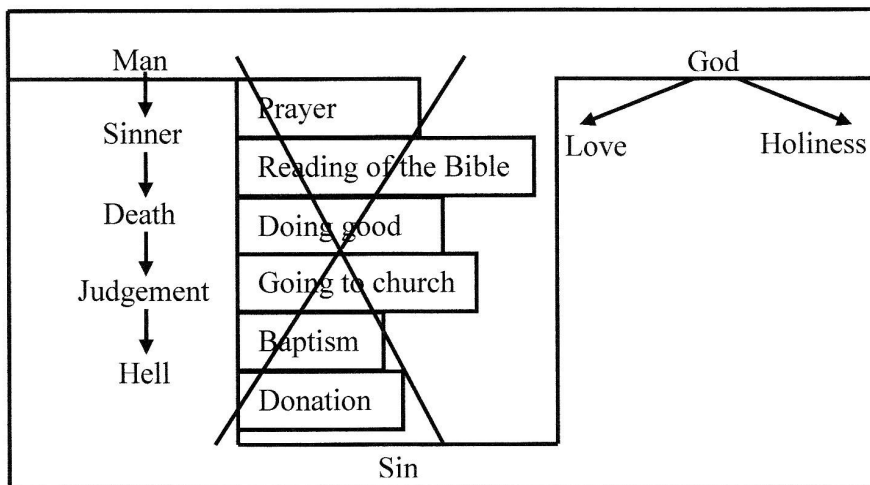
Have a look again at the third illustration. All the bridges, which we build, are too short. We are still on the wrong side, which ends in hell. Is there no hope for us?

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 3".**

## Lesson 4

### God's love

4<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Look at the right side of illustration No. 4. You have learned already that God is *holy*. It is one main part of his nature or character. The other main side of his nature is *love*. Both sides - his *holiness* and his *love* - have the same importance.

Please now study some verses about his love. The most famous verse about it is written in *John 3:16*:

Jesus said: *"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."*

To love somebody who is kind to us is easy. To love somebody who doesn't love but who doesn't harm us, is more difficult. To love somebody who sinned a thousand times against us seems to be impossible. But God still loves us, even though we have sinned so much. We certainly don't deserve God's grace. But his compassion is with us and he wants to give us eternal life.

Please read *Romans 5:8*:

*God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

*"Dear God, I am coming to you. I have lived for a long time without you. I have been in control of my life and have done many things, which were not according how you would have liked it. I am guilty. (Here you should mention specific sins you can think of.) I am sorry for these. Please forgive me. I ask you to set me free from all bondage to sin and the devil. I want to belong to you alone.*

*Dear Lord Jesus, I am counting on you. Thank you that you have given your life for my sins. Please enter my life through your good Holy Spirit. I want to become God's child. I want you to be with me always.*

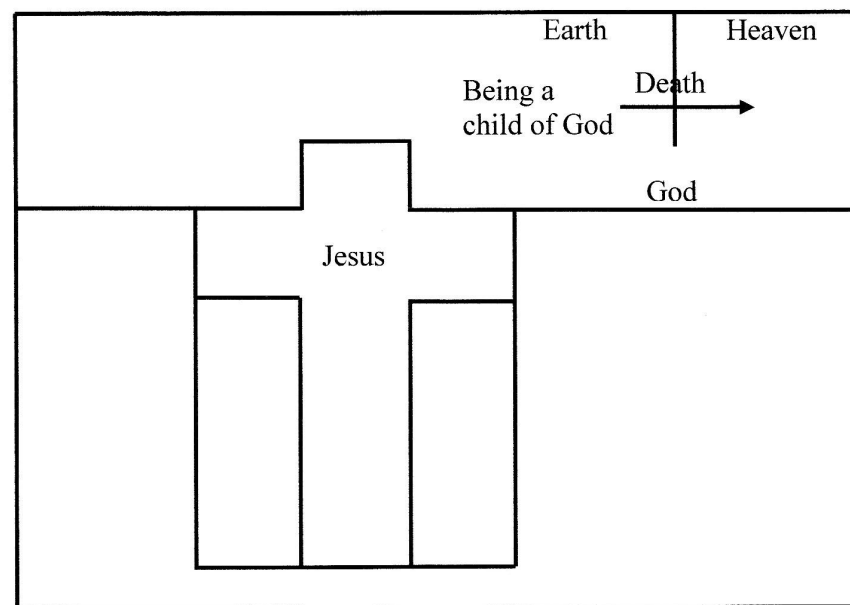
*I ask you to be my guide from now on. Please go before me and show me the way I should go. Please change me where you think I need to be changed. I am willing to obey you. Thank you for everything you did for me! Glory, praise and worship be to you alone! Amen!"*

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 8".**

## Lesson 9

### On the other side of the separation

10<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



- Do you believe with all your heart that Jesus is the **only** way to salvation? Underline: **YES NO**
- Do you believe that no church, religion, or other person and not even your religious activities can be the bridge to God, but Jesus alone? **YES NO**
- Do you really feel sorry about your sins? Are you honestly willing to repent and turn away from them? **YES NO**
- Are you willing to invite Jesus into your heart in order to receive spiritual life? **YES NO**
- Are you willing to surrender all parts of your life to Jesus? Your thoughts, words, actions, family, friendships, job, money, time, habits and even your religious background and opinions to Jesus? Are you willing to obey and follow him in all things with a sincere heart until the end of your life, even though you will not be perfect? **YES NO**

If you have answered only one question with “**NO**“, then you are probably not yet fully prepared to receive Jesus. In this case, carry on studying this book, and the following Bible Courses, which we will send you. Read, pray and seek God, and he will certainly reveal himself to you. Write to us and ask if there are any more questions. Explain what the hindrance is so that we can help you. Don’t feel shy or ashamed to do it.

Another suggestion is to review the first eight lessons again to fully understand so that your heart gets prepared to make this step. But anyway, whether you would like to receive Jesus now or later, try to finish the book and return all twelve tests to us.

Only if you answered all questions with “**YES**“, we encourage you to kneel down and pray to Jesus. You can do it now, using your own words or follow the suggested prayer below. Express to him what is on your heart. Confess your sins, ask him to enter your heart and surrender your life completely to him. You can talk to Jesus as to a friend. You don’t need a prayer book or anything else. Come to him just as you are. Believe that he will do according to his promises. Take the step right now!

Here is a sample prayer that may be of help to people who do not know how to start a conversation with God.

Once Jesus illustrated to the people God’s amazing love by telling them a parable. You may know it already, but please take your Bible again. Read and meditate about the wonderful truth Jesus teaches us by this parable. It is written in *Luke 15:11-32*.

The father in this story represents God. He gave us life and so many good things. He raised us up and supported us with food, drink, a job, health... Even the difficult events in our life were allowed by God. By them he taught us many lessons and helped us to trust him more. His love, grace, provision and kindness surrounded us.

Now let’s have a look at the boy who ran away from his Father. He has a name. Just put in your own name. We all sinned often by disobeying God. We hurt our Father in heaven thousands of times. With every sin, which we have committed, the separation between God and us became bigger.

The son in our story took the money his father gave him, and lived a wild life (*verse 13*). You can imagine what he did. He went into the clubs and bars, losing control by drinking too much alcohol. By smoking he harmed his health. He took several women and lived in impurity. (We are providing a modern interpretation of the story). It was a very bad lifestyle.

This young man lived a life, which is very similar to that of most seamen. Sailors told us that around 80% of them take girls in the different ports. Many of those men are religious. They claim to believe in the Lord. However their behaviour is rather to be compared with the lifestyle of the son in our story. And even if you don’t do all these things, there is still much sin, which you have already committed in your life.

After all the money was gone, the young man realised his big mistake. When he sat in the dirt among the pigs, he deeply realised his sin. He knew very well that he didn’t deserve to be called a son of such a good father (*verse 18*). But still he decided to return to him.

How did his “Daddy “react? Please read *verses 22-24* again. He was already waiting for him. Maybe he went outside every day to watch in case his lost son would come back. In his loving-kindness he accepted him as his son again. Full of mercy he embraced him and gave him clean clothes and organised a wonderful celebration.

With this story Jesus taught us: “**Look - this is God!**“  
Beside holiness love is the other side of God’s nature. Love includes such things as: kindness, grace, mercy, compassion, forgiveness...

Please open your Bible and read three more verses about God's love:

- *Jeremiah 31:3*
- *Ephesians 2:4-5*
- *1 John 3:1*

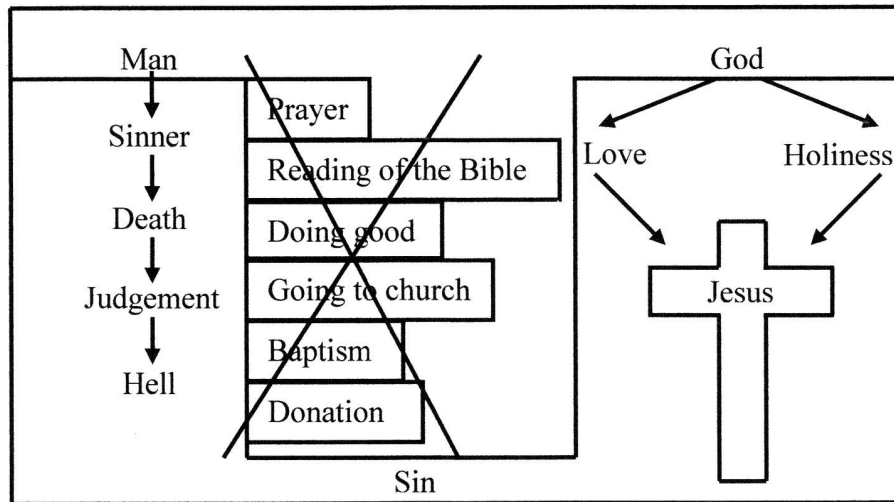
We are all evil sinners, and we all deserve to go to hell. But because of his love God wants to save us. Please read *1 Timothy 2:3-4*.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 4".**

## Lesson 5

### The Bridge

5<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Start again with a look at this illustration. God's *love* and his *holiness* are the main sides of God's nature. But now there seems to arise a problem. Do you still remember what you have learned about God's holiness (Lesson No. 2)? **"It is the holiness of God, which demands the punishment of the sinner!"** And please recall what you have learned about God's love (Lesson No. 4)? **"It is the love of God which wants to save the sinner!"** What will God do? Will he follow his holiness and disregard his love? This would mean every human being has to go to hell. But this is not possible. How can God disregard his love?

However when you repent of your sins you must feel really sorry about them. To confess sins, merely as a traditional religious activity, can't help you. It has to come from your heart.

The good news of the Gospel is that we are saved by grace. ***Grace means to receive something that is not deserved!***

### 3. To receive Jesus in your heart.

Please turn to *John 1:12-13*. Here we learn that besides believing in Christ we have to receive Jesus in our heart. What does it mean? Please open your Bible to *Revelation 3:20* and read the verse.

Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart, and he waits for you to open. He will never break it down but is willing to enter your heart through the Holy Spirit if you invite him by a simple prayer.

### 4. To become "Born Again".

Another illustration the Bible uses is the "New Birth". Please read *John 3:3-5*. According to the words of Jesus it is impossible to see the kingdom of God, unless the experience of a new spiritual birth takes place. To be "born of water", means, that your sins are washed away. And to be "born of the Spirit", means, that the Holy Spirit enters your life.

Why do you need a spiritual birth? Remember what you have learned in the first lesson - that we are all spiritually dead because of our sins. A spiritually dead person needs spiritual life! But nobody can produce spiritual life by himself. It will be given to him in the moment Jesus enters his heart through the Holy Spirit.

Another proof is written in *Titus 3:5*. Paul speaks here about a "rebirth" - a second birth, which saves us, and not the good things, which we have done. (New Birth - compare as well *James 1:18* and *1 Peter 1:3-23*).

### 5. The Practical Step

God is calling you, and he wants you to receive Jesus in your heart. The Lord does not expect from you the guarantee of a perfect life in future, but a sincere heart. He did everything for you. Are you prepared to let Jesus into your heart? We will now ask you a few questions. Please give after each one your personal answer and underline either **Yes** or **No**.

As usual, start with a careful look at the illustration. You can see how a person changes from the one side to the other side of the gap. He forgets about all his religious bridges and through a spiritual birth he changes to God's side. His sins are forgiven and he becomes a child of God. Now we have to ask the question: What does the Bible teach us how to experience it in a personal way?

Please take your Bible and open it to *John 1:12-13*, and read those verses. They are very important. They tell us that nobody is automatically a child of God. In fact, by nature we are all just creations of God, but not yet his children. However it is possible to become one. How?

### **1. To believe in Jesus.**

Faith is in fact the main condition. Please read *Hebrews 11:6*. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Well - you might say - of course I do believe in Jesus. But be sure: millions believe somehow in Christ without being saved. Why is this the case? Most of the people believe just in theory that he is the Saviour. But in practise, they still try to save themselves. Remember the illustration No. 3. Think about all the different bridges people try to build (good works, prayers, reading the Bible, giving money...). They hope to gain salvation by doing those things and forget the only real bridge - *Jesus*.

If you believe in the right bridge, but don't put your feet on it, you will still be on the wrong side. Likewise - if you believe that Jesus saves, but try to save yourself, the sin-gap is still between God and you. In fact, when the Bible speaks about faith in Christ, it means that you have to put all your trust and confidence for your salvation in him alone. Be aware that you can bring Jesus nothing else than a sinful life. Expect that he is able and willing to forgive all your sins. Trust that nothing has to be added to the salvation, which he already provided for you at the cross.

Another reason why many people who have "some kind of faith" in Jesus are still not saved is their lack of sincerity. Only when we come with an honest, sincere and humble heart to him, can he give us eternal life.

### **2. Realisation and confession of your sins**

Please read *Romans 3:23* and *6:23*. Remember: sin is the big problem between God and you! It is this gap, which separates you from him, and will bring you, without Jesus to hell. Because of this, sin must be confessed. (*Acts 2:38, 1 John 1:9*). The Bible says that you should confess sins directly to Jesus. He died for your sins, and he alone is able to forgive them. Tell him in a prayer your sins by name and also ask for forgiveness of those sins, which you may have forgotten, or of which you are unaware.

Or will God follow his love and neglect his holiness? This would mean that everyone can go straight to heaven. This is not possible. How can God forget his holiness? Is there no solution for this problem? How can the love and holiness of our Lord be satisfied? God himself solved this big problem.

### **God's solution:**

God sent his own son, Jesus Christ, to earth. Jesus preached the word of God; he demonstrated love and healed the sick. But this was not the main reason for his coming. Jesus came to die on the cross for our sins. He was punished for the sin we had committed.

Already in the Old Testament - several hundred years before Christ was born - God sent the prophet Isaiah to speak about the sacrifice of Christ for us. He didn't mention the name "Jesus" yet it is obvious that he speaks about him. Open your Bible to *Isaiah 53:1-10*, and read the verses.

It is easy to realise that the prophet is talking about nobody else but the coming Christ. This passage is one of the most amazing ones in the Bible. Jesus is the solution for our big problem! It is God's holiness, which demands the punishment for our sin. And because Christ was punished for our sin, the holy requirements of God were perfectly satisfied. And because Jesus died for our mistakes, God's love, which desired to save us, was also satisfied.

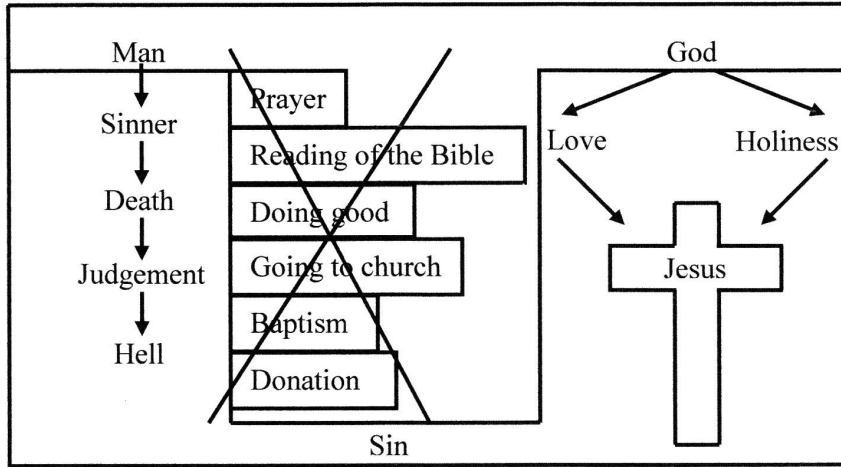
Have a look at illustration No. 5 again: See the cross of Jesus. Here the love and holiness of God came together. Our sin was punished and His love broke through. Jesus suffered the hell, which we deserved. 2000 years ago God built already a bridge for us. The gate to heaven is now open!

Have a careful look at illustration No. 6 (next page) and try to understand what the sacrifice of Jesus means for you:

The name of the big separation between God and us is "Sin". Christ died for them. This means that he is the bridge between God and us. Many people think that their good works and the sacrifice of Jesus together would save them from hell. But remember the following verses, which you read before. Please study them again: (*Romans 3:23-28; Galatians 2:16; Galatians 3:11-12; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5*). You can be saved only by faith in the grace of the Lord, not by observing the law!

In *Acts 13:38-39* the apostle Paul said: "Therefore, my dear brothers, I want you to know, that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses."

6<sup>th</sup> Illustration



The law of Moses are for example the 10 commandments. We have to keep all of them as best as we can. But the New Testament teaches us that we are not justified by doing it. Justification comes alone through Jesus. He paid the high price to satisfy God.

**An example:**

Suppose there is a big, deep river with a strong current. You have some business to do on the other side. A bridge is available, constructed by an excellent architect and built by well trained bridge-builders. But instead of using this bridge you start to make your own. Though you are neither an architect nor have you any idea how to complete such a building, you ignore the existing bridge. You start your project, but it collapses. You do it again and again, but never get it finished. In the meantime thousands of people are using the bridge and you are still on the wrong side.

What is the meaning of this little story? God himself built a bridge, which is strong enough to bring us to him. Most people know about it. They know that Jesus is the Saviour, they believe in him, and they appreciate and even love him. But they are still busy struggling with their salvation instead of coming to Christ the Saviour. To know about a bridge, without using it, cannot bring somebody to the other side.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer “Test 5“.**

bad example. Jesus never promises that it is easy to follow him. Sometimes problems even start when we ask him to be the Captain and Pilot of our life. The reason is that perhaps your family, relatives, friends... can't understand that you don't want to do any more what they do.

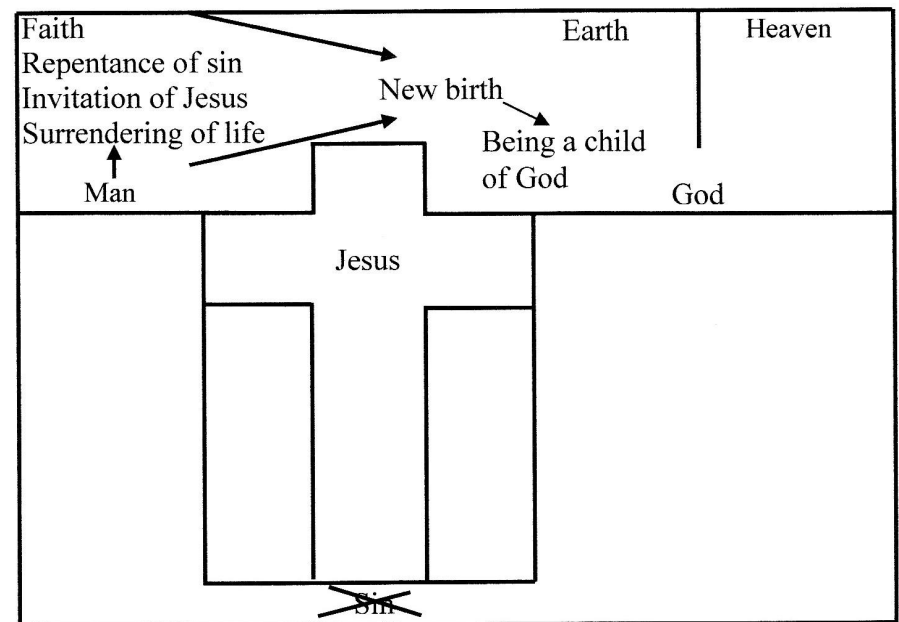
- Your religion: Maybe this point will surprise you. But if you read the Bible carefully, you might discover that not everything you learned in your religion agrees with the word of God. Sometimes religions are full of traditions, which contradict the Bible. If God enlightens you, then you have to obey him, and not what you were taught in the past. It is not always easy to stop what you have believed from your childhood. Even your closest relatives might misunderstand you. But if your life is like a ship, and Jesus is Captain / Pilot, then you prefer to let him determine the direction.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer “Test 7“.**

**Lesson 8**

**To step over the bridge**

9<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Be sure, when Christ comes into your life, you will not be the same as before. Please open your Bible to *2 Corinthians 5:17*. Here it is written:

*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.*

Maybe you remember that we said before, that observing the law of God will not save you, but that observing the law will be the result of your salvation. You will not be perfect and sinless, but your desire will be to follow only the footsteps of Jesus and nobody and nothing else. It is not always easy to obey Jesus, but you will still try to do it, because you love him.

Please now study *John 14:21*.

It is impossible to love Jesus, without having a big desire to obey his perfect will.

The Bible says that everybody who is saved is the "Temple of the Holy Spirit". Please read *1 Corinthians 3:16-17*. And the Spirit's Temple is holy. The Apostle Paul writes in *1 Thessalonians 4:7*:

*God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.*

However be aware that you can't live a holy life in your own strength and by your own struggles. Salvation (the beginning of the Christian life - when you receive Jesus in your heart) and the growth in holiness (the rest of your life as somebody in whom Jesus dwells) are only possible through the grace of Jesus. Please read *1 Corinthians 1:30*. However you need a willingness to obey him. If this is not the case, you can't be a true Christian.

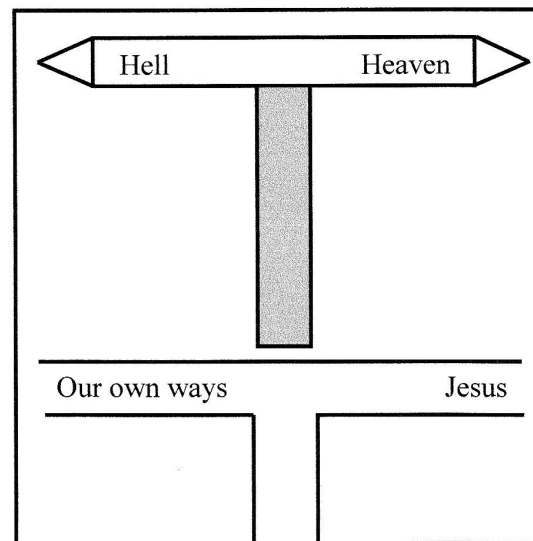
If Jesus is the Captain of your life, it will have very practical results. We'll just give a few examples:

- Your thoughts and words: Before you had many evil and impure thoughts in mind and words on your lips. But now you allow Jesus to control them.
- As somebody who accepted Christ as his Saviour, you will treat your wife, children, friends, crew mates... in a different - more loving way.
- You will no longer waste money, time... You know that those things are given by God, and you are responsible to him for how you use them.
- You will quit bad habits, and actively start to do good. You can't join your friends any more when they go to evil places. Even if they laugh and mock, you will rather obey Jesus than to follow their

## Lesson 6

### Jesus - the only way

7<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Jesus wants to be your bridge to salvation. Before we explain to you later how to be saved through Jesus, you should first get to know him better. In *John 14:6* Jesus said about himself:

*"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

Jesus claims to be the only way back to God the Father. Many people can't believe this. They agree

that Christ is the founder of a religion, that he did many amazing things, that he demonstrated God's love, that he healed the sick, that he was a good example to others. But they become very angry that he claims to be the only way back to the Father. However it is a matter of fact that nobody else but Christ can save us.

Why is Jesus so unique? Why is he different from the founders of religions? This lesson will challenge you, because there are many Bible verses, which you should look up. But don't get too tired to do it. The best way to get to know Jesus is to study what amazing things the Bible teaches us about him.

#### 1. Jesus is God.

He came for around 33 years to earth and lived as a human being in order to be our sacrifice for sin. Because of this Jesus is sometimes called "*Son of Man*". The Bible also says, that he is the "*Son of God*". But in the same moment the Bible leaves no doubts that he is also "*God*". Take time to read the following verses, which prove it clearly:

- *Isaiah 9:6*: This is a prophecy about Christ. He is called "God".
- *John 1:18*: "The One who is at the Father's side (Jesus) is God."

- *John 20:28*: Thomas called Jesus "God". Jesus didn't correct him.
- *Romans 9:5*: Christ is called: "God over all".
- *Philippians 2:6*: Jesus is called: "...in very nature God". He has the same nature as God.

Here are even more verses, which prove that he is God. *John 1:1-14*; *John 10:30*; *John 12:45*; *John 14:7-9*; *Colossians 2:9*; *Hebrews 1:8-9*.

## 2. Other verses, which prove that Jesus is unique.

- *John 4:14*: Jesus said that he gives the water of life.
- *John 6:35*: Jesus is the bread of life.
- *John 8:12*: Jesus is the light of the world.
- *John 10:9*: Jesus is the door to salvation.
- *John 10:14*: Jesus is the good shepherd.
- *John 11:25*: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.
- *John 15,4-5*: Jesus is the wine, we are the branches.

## 3. Jesus - different from ordinary human beings.

- *Luke 1:35*: Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit.
- *Matthew 1:23*: He was born of a virgin.
- *Matthew 28:20*: Jesus is everywhere.
- *Matthew 28:18*: Jesus has unlimited power.
- *John 21:17*: Jesus has all knowledge.
- *Hebrews 13:8*: Jesus does not change like a human being.
- *John 1:3*: God created all things through Jesus.
- *Colossians 1:16-17*: Jesus upholds the universe.
- *Luke 24:51*: Jesus ascended to heaven

No founder of any religion was like Jesus. They only sought a way to God but were misled. Jesus however is the only way and our only bridge to the Father. He is the only one who can save us. Please notice the following three verses from the Bible:

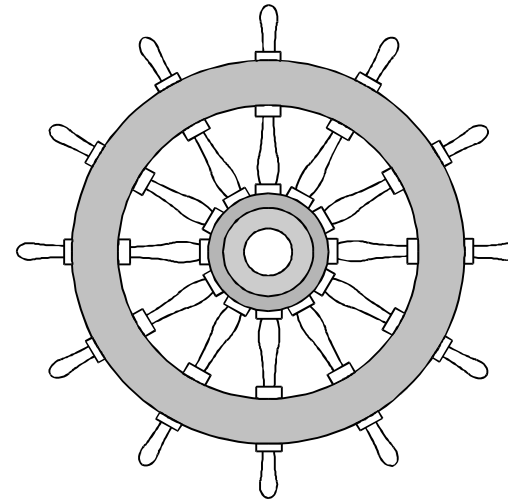
- *John 14:6*: Nobody comes to God, except through Jesus.
- *Acts 4:12*: Salvation is only through Jesus.
- *1 Timothy 2:5*: Jesus is the only mediator between God and us.

**Please go now to the middle of the book and answer "Test 6".**

## Lesson 7

### Jesus - our Captain and Pilot

8<sup>th</sup> Illustration:



Here is one other thing you should know, before we go ahead with the question how to be saved. You need to be aware that Jesus not only wants to come into your heart to save you. When he enters your life, he will also start to change you. Everybody likes to be saved, but not everyone is happy to obey someone else. However we have to consider that Jesus is Saviour **and** Lord.

Have a look at the illustration. It is a steering wheel of a ship. Though sometimes an officer or quartermaster may stand at the wheel, it is the Captain who is in command. If he says: "Turn right", everybody has to obey. If he says: "Stop", the engine has to be stopped. And if the Captain himself stood at the wheel, nobody would come to push him away, in order to take over. (The Pilot inside the port area is of course an exception).

Let us compare your life with a ship. Somebody has to be in control of everything. And in fact, there are only two possibilities. The normal case for an adult is that he is the one who makes the decisions. He controls his thoughts, words and actions. He chooses how to treat his family, friends and how to do his job. It is up to him how he spends his money and time, what habits he has, and how serious he takes everything with God.

The second possibility is that Jesus is in control. In the moment when he comes in your heart to save you, he will take over and becomes the Captain and Pilot of all parts of your life. He will never accept that you are the Master, and he is the to help when you are in time of need. Either Jesus comes into your heart to save **and** to be in charge of everything, or he will not come in at all.



I am still not saved.

Please also answer the following questions:

1. If you are on a ship, what month do you expect to sign off?

Please write here: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Would you like to study the next Bible course? Underline: **YES** / **NO**

3. What is your rank or position as a seaman? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is your religion or the Christian fellowship you belong to?

Please write here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send **only** the tests (not the complete book) to the address on the first page of this book. We will return the results with a certificate and the next book to you. It is also possible to E-Mail us the results.

If you have anything to say or if there is any question you would like to ask you may do it here.

## ***Tests***

## ***THE BRIDGE***

Please print clearly with block letters:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Ship's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### ***Test 1***

**Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. God created men.   | T | F |
| 2. God's plan from the beginning was to separate himself from us. | T | F |
| 3. God gave Adam and Eve 10 Commandments.                         | T | F |
| 4. God told men that he will not care much about sin.             | T | F |
| 5. Adam and Eve were later allowed to return back to Paradise.    | T | F |
| 6. There are people beside Jesus who have never sinned.           | T | F |

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 7. The result of sin is death.  | T | F |
| 8. In the moment when somebody sins, he has to suffer physical death at once. | T | F |
| 9. The Bible speaks about two different kinds of death.                       | T | F |
| 10. Because of God's love, the last judgement will never happen.              | T | F |

**Test 2**

Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Because God created men in his image, we have the same perfect nature as he.                        | T | F |
| 2. God - on the good side - and the devil - on the bad side - almost have the same power.              | T | F |
| 3. God is sinless.   | T | F |
| 4. Only when we get an idea of God's greatness and holiness can we understand our sinfulness.          | T | F |
| 5. Though most people know that they are not perfect, they consider themselves not to be very bad.     | T | F |
| 6. Sometimes we sin, but most of us have a good nature.  | T | F |
| 7. King David said that he was sinful at birth.  | T | F |
| 8. Every religious person will go to heaven.   | T | F |
| 9. We can learn from <i>James</i> that only those who broke <b>all</b> commandments of God are guilty. | T | F |
| 10. Those who have done only few sins in their live don't need to fear the day of judgement.           | T | F |

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 6. An ambassador of Christ represents him here on earth.  | T | F |
| 7. Only the full-time Ministers (Pastors and Missionaries) should preach the word of God.         | T | F |
| 8. In <i>Matthew 28,18-20</i> Jesus said that we should preach the gospel to all nations.         | T | F |
| 9. To be a servant of Christ is wonderful.  | T | F |
| 10. Jesus has done everything for us and he is worthy that we devote our lives completely to him. | T | F |

Please tick **one** only and give an honest answer. If you are not yet sure of your salvation, please tell us so that we can help you further.

- Before I started this Course, I had already received Christ as my personal Saviour. I am already sure of my salvation.
- During the study of these lessons I have received the Lord Jesus Christ by faith. I am now sure of my salvation.

I am very interested in being saved, but I need more information regarding the following subjects:

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- I have already tried to ask Christ to come into my heart, but I am not yet sure if I am saved or not.
- Here and now I receive the Lord Jesus as my Saviour. I know that I am saved.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 4. The big problem is not to stumble and fall (to sin), but to remain on the ground.                           | T | F |
| 5. King David didn't sin much in his life.   | T | F |
| 6. If we don't forgive the sin of others, God will not forgive us.   | T | F |
| 7. Lack of fellowship with God is one reason of backsliding.   | T | F |
| 8. We have to struggle hard in our own strength to present God a good life.                                    | T | F |
| 9. Jesus wants to give us a life without any problems.   | T | F |
| 10. To remain close to Jesus is the only way to be protected from backsliding and to return after backsliding. | T | F |

### ***Test 12***

**Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. God wants all of us to be number one.   | T | F |
| 2. Jesus gave us an example of being a servant.  | T | F |
| 3. God wants to build his kingdom on his own.  | T | F |
| 4. Every true Christian is to be a messenger in words alone. Actions are not so important.     | T | F |
| 5. Every true believer will want to share the good news of salvation through Christ to others. | T | F |

### ***Test 3***

**Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. It is God's holiness, which demands punishment of sin.  | T | F |
| 2. To pray three times a day will bring you to heaven automatically.                                       | T | F |
| 3. Reading the Bible is not very important for everybody.  | T | F |
| 4. If you keep God's commandments up to 95%, you have a good chance to enter heaven.                       | T | F |
| 5. A person is justified by faith, apart from observing the law of God ( <i>Galatians 2:16</i> ).          | T | F |
| 6. Somebody who wants to be justified by observing the law is under a curse. ( <i>Galatians 3:10-11</i> ). | T | F |
| 7. To keep God's commandments is not important.  | T | F |
| 8. We are not able to keep God's law as we should.   | T | F |
| 9. Going to church and helping others is not necessary.  | T | F |
| 10. We can take it easy with sin, because God always forgives.   | T | F |

### ***Test 4***

**Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Holiness is the <b>only</b> side of God's nature or character. | T | F |
|---|---|---|

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 2. The most famous verse about God's love is written in <i>John 3:16</i> .                                      | T | F |
| 3. It is sufficient to work hard, to receive God's grace.   | T | F |
| 4. Some people are too bad. They can't be saved.  | T | F |
| 5. Some people are too good. They don't need the grace of God.  | T | F |
| 6. Even if we run very far away from God, he is still waiting for us.   | T | F |
| 7. God can only accept us, if we struggle hard in order to present him a clean life by our <b>own</b> strength. | T | F |
| 8. In <i>Luke 15:11-32</i> Jesus teaches us how God is.   | T | F |
| 9. God's love includes such things as: kindness, grace, mercy, compassion and forgiveness.                      | T | F |
| 10. God doesn't want to save all men.   | T | F |

### **Test 5**

**Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. It is impossible to bring God's holiness and love together.                     | T | F |
| 2. The main reason for Christ's coming was to heal the sick.                       | T | F |
| 3. Isaiah had already spoken about Jesus hundreds of years before he was on earth. | T | F |

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Good works are not the reason, but the result of salvation.  | T | F |
| 3. Good works are the normal expression of a Christian life.  | T | F |
| 4. God loves fellowship with his children.  | T | F |
| 5. God loves it when we repeat the same prayers daily.  | T | F |
| 6. If I read the Bible, I get to know God better.   | T | F |
| 7. In <i>Acts 2:41</i> we learn that it is important to be baptised as a baby.  | T | F |
| 8. A true Christian doesn't need so much fellowship with other believers because God is with him.                                     | T | F |
| 9. We only have to share the spiritual gifts with each other. To help others with material needs is not important in the eyes of God. | T | F |
| 10. It is up to us whether we keep God's commandments or not. He does not care much, because Jesus always forgives.                   | T | F |

### **Test 11**

**Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. A backslider still has the peace of God in his heart.  | T | F |
| 2. Love is a fruit of the Holy Spirit.  | T | F |
| 3. A person is in danger of becoming a backslider, when he hesitates to repent immediately after he has sinned. | T | F |

### Test 9

Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")

1. Nobody has the right to become a child of God. T F
2. God is very glad over one sinner who repents. T F
3. For a born again Christian, the physical death is just the gate from this life with God to eternal life with him. T F
4. My salvation stands mainly on what I have done. T F
5. Our Christian life should be based on feeling. T F
6. God's promises are the only guarantee for our salvation. T F
7. In the Bible there is no promise regarding forgiveness of sins. T F
8. The best way to fight doubt is to fix our eyes on the promises of the Bible. T F
9. Nobody can really know if he is going to heaven or not. T F
10. Nothing can separate us from the love of God if we are in Jesus. T F

### Test 10

Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")

1. God expects us to do many difficult things once we are born again, which we have to do on our own. T F

4. Isaiah wrote about the apostle Paul: "He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed." T F
5. Jesus satisfied God's holiness and his love for us. T F
6. Our good works and the sacrifice of Jesus together will save us. T F
7. To keep God's commandments is very important, but this can't justify us from our sins. T F
8. The laws of Moses are for example the 10 commandments. T F
9. Millions try to build their own little bridges to God. T F
10. Jesus is God's only bridge for us. T F

### Test 6

Are the following statements "True" or "False" (Circle "T" or "F")

1. There are many ways to salvation. T F
2. Jesus is not God. He was just sent by him. T F
3. Jesus lived around 33 years on earth. T F
4. God the Father and God the Son are not the same in person, but the same in nature. T F
5. Jesus is the only door to salvation. T F
6. Mary conceived Jesus by the Holy Spirit. T F

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 7. Jesus knows everything.   | T | F |
| 8. Jesus upholds the universe.   | T | F |
| 9. Other founders of religions were just seeking the truth but not finding it. | T | F |
| 10. 1 Timothy 2:5 says that there are at least two ways to salvation.          | T | F |

### **Test 7**

**Are the following statements “True“ or “False“ (Circle “T“ or “F“)**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Someone in whom Christ is not dwelling, controls his life on his own. It is not controlled by the Lord. | T | F |
| 2. In some cases Jesus is willing to follow us, instead of our following him.                              | T | F |
| 3. If Christ comes into your heart, it will not cause many changes.  | T | F |
| 4. If somebody loves Jesus, he wants to obey him.  | T | F |
| 5. Everyone is the Temple of the Holy Spirit.  | T | F |
| 6. We can live a holy life by our own human strength.  | T | F |
| 7. Somebody in whom Christ is dwelling, never sins any more.   | T | F |
| 8. Jesus wants to control only 10% of our money. He doesn't care what we do with the rest.                 | T | F |
| 9. A person who is in Christ will start to quit bad habits and actively do good.                           | T | F |

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 10. If you discover by reading the Bible wrong things that you have been doing, you should stop doing those things. | T | F |
|---|---|---|

### **Test 8**

**Are the following statements “True“ or “False“ (Circle “T“ or “F“)**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Nobody is automatically a child of God.  | T | F |
| 2. Everyone who has some kind of faith in Jesus, is a child of God.                                     | T | F |
| 3. True, sincere faith regarding salvation in Jesus is the main condition to go to heaven.              | T | F |
| 4. Faith in Jesus means to put all hope, trust and confidence regarding salvation only in him.          | T | F |
| 5. Sometimes Jesus uses force to come into our life.  | T | F |
| 6. Without a “New Birth“ nobody can see the kingdom of God.   | T | F |
| 7. Without the “New Birth“ we are still (spiritually) dead in our sin.                                  | T | F |
| 8. Grace means to receive something that we don't work for.   | T | F |
| 9. To repent honestly of our sins is very important, if somebody wants to receive Jesus into his heart. | T | F |
| 10. God prepared everything for our salvation. We just have to accept Jesus by faith.                   | T | F |