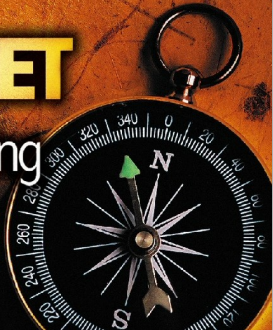


# THE **SECRET**

to life's  
meaning



# WHAT IS THE SECRET TO LIFE'S MEANING?

Some people think that **the secret** to having a successful and meaningful life is found in...

- Being rich
- Having a great job
- Being well-educated
- Having power and influence
- Doing great things

These things aren't necessarily wrong, but they don't give us true meaning and lasting happiness. **Why?**

Because the secret to life's meaning is found in having a **personal relationship** with the God who created us.

THE BIBLE EXPLAINS  
HOW WE CAN KNOW GOD  
IN A PERSONAL WAY...





## TRUTH 1

# GOD LOVES YOU.

God really does love you, and He has shown this in the **most dramatic way** possible by sending His own Son, Jesus Christ, to earth.



For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. **JOHN 3:16**

The eternal life God offers us is not only a life with Him forever, but also a rich and meaningful life now.

**Jesus Christ** said:

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. **John 10:10**

We don't have to keep living like we have been. Our future can be different. Jesus can change us and give us a **life worth living.**

**BUT FIRST  
WE MUST  
UNDERSTAND...**





## TRUTH 2

# WE ALL HAVE A SIN PROBLEM.

Because **God is holy** (without any sin), He cannot simply ignore our sin.



**The Bible says:** All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. **ROMANS 3:23**

### What is sin?

It's anything we do that falls short of God's standard of right and wrong.

It's not just "criminals" who are guilty of sinning... **we all are!** This keeps us from having a personal relationship with God. And just as there are consequences in life for breaking laws, there are also consequences for breaking God's laws.

**In fact, the Bible warns us:** The wages of sin is death. **ROMANS 6:23**

The **wages**—the return or penalty for our sin—is "death," that is, the experience of spiritual separation from God. Eventually there is physical death and then **separation from God for all eternity.**

THANKFULLY, GOD HAS AN  
ANSWER FOR OUR SIN PROBLEM...





TRUTH 3

## GOD'S ANSWER IS THE CROSS.

God's answer to our sin problem was **to send Jesus Christ to die for our sins** on the cross.



**The Bible** says:

God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **ROMANS 5:8**

This means Christ died in our place. Because the **penalty for our sins has been paid**, we can be forgiven.

Afterwards Jesus was **resurrected** from the dead. This proves He is the Son of God and that His death was **sufficient** to pay for our sins.

In **the Bible** we read...

that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4**

WHAT THEN DOES GOD ASK US TO DO?





## TRUTH 4

# FAITH IS THE KEY.

What God asks is that you **believe** in the Lord Jesus Christ, **trusting** that His death on the cross paid for your sins. When you do that, you **receive** eternal life as a gift.



**The Bible** says:

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **ROMANS 6:23**



You cannot get to heaven by trying to live up to God's holiness. But God is offering to forgive all your sins and to give you eternal life, if you will receive His offer as a **free gift**.

Because none of us deserves such a gift as this, the Bible describes God's offer as **grace**.

For by grace you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. **EPHESIANS 2:8-9**

We can do nothing but believe, and God gets all the credit!

CONSIDER AN ILLUSTRATION...

# IMAGINE THERE ARE 3 PEOPLE

Each one responds to God in a different way.



THE FIRST PERSON either doesn't believe God exists or **has no interest in knowing God.**

THE SECOND believes God exists, but **depends on her own efforts or on religion** to work her way to God.

THE THIRD **realizes that she cannot work her way to God and trusts in Christ alone to save her by grace.**

Which one represents

**your life?**

**THIS IS THE SECRET TO LIFE'S MEANING** AND A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.



# TAKING THE STEP OF FAITH.

You may wish to use the following prayer to express your wholehearted trust in **Jesus Christ as your Savior**. More important than your words is the attitude of your heart.

"Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God who died on the cross for my sins and rose again. As of this moment, I am trusting in You—and You alone—as my Savior and only way of salvation. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me the gift of eternal life. Help me become what You want me to be. Amen."

This is the most important step you will ever take in life. **By trusting Christ as your Savior**, you enter God's family and become His child.

**The Bible says:** To all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God. **JOHN 1:12**

Since God cannot lie, you can count on His promise to you!

**What now?**

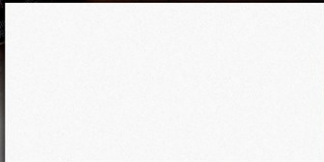
Once you receive God's gift of eternal life, there are two important steps for you to take in your new life as a follower of Christ.

- 1** To begin growing spiritually, find a Bible-teaching church near you where you can worship and learn with other believers.
- 2** Learn more about your new relationship by reading **Starting My New Life in Christ**. For a free copy, scan the code or visit [proclaimingthesecret.org](http://proclaimingthesecret.org). For a free printed copy, email [info@proclaimingthesecret.org](mailto:info@proclaimingthesecret.org).



**Now you know the secret to life's meaning!**





**Literature Ministries International**

PO Box 9028 Greenville, TX 75404 USA

Web: [litmin.org](http://litmin.org) Email: [info@litmin.org](mailto:info@litmin.org)

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