

Introducing the Are You Going To Heaven? Two Question Test Reveals Answer Booklet

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The list of people, places, and situations God provides for you to witness in is almost endless. You can strike up a conversation with people you have just met as well as with friends and acquaintances. Casual conversations can turn into gospel presentations if you are open for God to bring this about.

If you sense God's leading to share the gospel as you are talking with someone, the following suggestions are helpful. First, talk about non-religious areas that interest him. Ask him questions about non-threatening topics, such as "What kind of work do you do?" etc. People love to talk about themselves, so give them the opportunity.

At certain points in the conversation try to shift the topic to church. Ask if he has attended a church before, or attends a church now. This can be done by mentioning something or someone in your church that relates to what you are discussing. Once you have changed the subject to church related items, try to shift the conversation again allowing you to introduce the Are You Going to Heaven? Two Question Test Reveals Answer booklet. There are two ways of initiating the use of this booklet so you may choose either method you prefer. The first way to introduce the booklet is to ask someone the following two questions: "At this point in your life, do you believe you will go to heaven when you die?" and "Why do you believe this?" If he gives an answer to the second question other than his faith in Jesus' death and resurrection, then you need to gain permission to share the gospel with him. This must be done while informing him that his answer is different from the one the Bible gives. This is a very delicate point and could cause offense if handled incorrectly.

To lessen offense, it would be helpful to identify with the listener. You could say: "John, this may surprise you, but the Bible describes an amazingly

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different way of getting to heaven. Now, John, I do not want you to feel bad. Most of the people I have ever asked these questions to have given answers similar to yours. For many years, I did not know the right answer myself. When I finally found out what the Bible taught about the entrance requirements into heaven, it changed my whole life. May I share with you the surprising way the Bible describes how someone can get to heaven? If he answers yes, then say, "I have a little booklet with me that describes this better than I can just by talking." Then turn to page four of the Are You Going to Heaven? Two Question Test Reveals Answer booklet and begin reading with him.

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A second way to introduce this booklet involves asking the person two different questions: "What words would you use to describe God? Is He good, bad, or a mixture of both?" and "What words would you use to describe people? Are people good, bad, or both?" If the listener answers, "God is evil" or "People are good", he is likely not a Christian. You could then say: "John, this may surprise you, but the Bible describes God and/or man in an amazingly different manner than we have discussed. May I briefly share with you the surprising way the Bible describes God and/or man?"

If he gives permission, then say "I have a little booklet with me that describes this better than I can just by talking." Then turn to page four of the Are You Going to Heaven? Two Question Test Reveals Answer booklet and ask, "In addition to your description of God, would you use any of these other words to describe God?" Continue reading the booklet and repeat the above question for page 6, except substitute the man for God.

Many of the same suggestions, illustrations and answers to common objections in the Are You Going? booklet is included in the Are You Going to Heaven? Two Question Test Reveals Answer booklet where they apply.

QUESTION #1

- DO YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL GO TO HEAVEN WHEN YOU DIE?
- YES
- No 1,2
- I HOPE SO
- I'M NOT SURE

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Suggestions, Illustrations, and Answers to Common Objections

1. Sometimes the listener may give a no response because he does not believe in heaven. If this is the case, you might say: "That's interesting, but for conversation's sake, if there was a heaven, what do you believe a person would have to do to get there? Would it be any of these things? (Read to him the answers listed on page two) If he gives a wrong answer, continue to read the booklet with him."

You might also give or read with the listener the / Don't Believe in Heaven... excuse tract from CEI or the Heaven and Hell booklet. The Heaven and Hell booklet is found on page 123. Other excuse tracts that might be needed at this

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time include, **Don't Think About it very Much..., When You're Dead, You're Dead..., and No one Knows for sure...**

2. If he believes in heaven and gives a no response to Question # 1 > ask: "Why do you believe this? Is it because you haven't... then mention the possible answers to Question #2, by asking: "Is it because you haven't kept the Ten Commandments?" or "Is it because you haven't gone to church?" etc.

| |
|---|
| <p>QUESTION #2 WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ I'VE TRIED TO KEEP THE 10 COMMANDMENTS James 2:10▪ I GO TO CHURCH Titus 3:5▪ I BELIEVE IN GOD James 2:19⁽³⁾▪ I'M BASICALLY A GOOD PERSON Romans 3:12▪ I'VE DONE THE BEST I COULD Matt 5:48▪ I'VE NEVER HURT ANYONE Matt 5:21-22▪ OTHER⁽⁴⁾..... <p>2</p> |
|---|

3. Possible objection: "I believe in God!"
You can give to or read with the listener the **I believe in God...** excuse tract from CEI.

4. If he answers Question #2 incorrectly, although he may have given a yes answer to Question #1, he is likely not a Christian. Please continue to share the remainder of the booklet with him. Be sure to gain permission to share the Gospel.

If he answered yes in response to Question #1, and has then expressed his faith and trust in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection in response to Question #2, he likely is a Christian. If this happens, stop reading the Are You Going to Heaven? Two Question Test Reveals Answer booklet with him. You may want to ask him one of the following questions to determine if he has other areas of need.

- "Do you regularly attend a local Christian Church?"
- "Are you finding genuine fulfillment and growth in your personal relationship with God?"

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To bring up one of these areas you could say:

"You know, John, it's really wonderful to meet someone else who is trusting in Jesus to take him to heaven. I'm looking forward to heaven, and am enjoying my Christian life right here on earth. God's allowed me to be a part of a

Church family that genuinely cares for my needs. I've found real fulfillment in reading my Bible and in my personal relationship with Jesus. John, do you attend a Church in this area that is really ministering to these personal areas in your own life?"

If the answer is yes:

If yes, find out where he attends. Encourage him to get actively involved in a Bible believing Church, and the entire Church program. CAUTION: there are two important perspectives to consider:

- You do not have to agree with every detail about his Church to encourage him to attend. Don't get hung up on unessential doctrinal bias. The important question is, "Has God planted him in that particular Church to grow?" Don't be guilty of proselytizing or being divisive.
- On the other hand, don't quickly decide to encourage him to stay in a dead church. Recommend he be involved in a Church experience that will not seriously hurt his relationship with Christ.

If the answer is no:

- Share with him the Follow Up and Church Family booklets available from CEI.
- Invite him to visit your Church.
- Offer a ride to Church if it is appropriate.

Sometimes you may sense, though the listener is giving you correct responses, he is not genuinely born again. If so, you may want to ask further questions such as:

- When did you receive Jesus?
- How did Jesus become your Savior?

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- How is your life different since you received Jesus?

If the listener's responses are vague, try to gain permission to share the rest of the booklet with the listener.

THIS MAY SURPRISE YOU, BUT ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE, NONE OF THE ANSWERS PRINTED ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE WILL GET SOMEONE INTO HEAVEN. I John. 5:13 ^(5,6,7,8)

Q. MAY I BRIEFLY SHARE WITH YOU THE AMAZING WAY THE BIBLE DESCRIBES HOW SOMEONE CAN GET TO HEAVEN?⁽⁹⁾

3

5. Someone may ask to see additional scriptures indicating the answers given in Question #2 are incorrect. Listed below are some suitable scriptures to share with him.

- I've tried to keep the 10 Commandments — Gal. 3:10, Gal. 2:16, Rom. 3:20, Rom. 9:30-33, Gal. 2:21
- I go to Church — Eph. 2:8-9
- I believe in God—Matt. 8:29, Titus 1:16,1 John 2:4
- I'm basically a good person—Rom. 7:18, Eph. 2:2-3
- I've done the best I could—Job 9:20, Prov. 20:6,9
- I've never hurt anyone—Prov. 12:10, Rom. 3:13-17

You might also give to or read with the listener the excuse tracts from CEI, I believe in God... and I've done the best I could....

6. Read these sentences in a polite manner with a light, yet sincere facial expression. Do not make the listener feel he is being belittled or challenged.

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7. Possible Objection:

"As long as you're sincere, it doesn't matter what you believe."

You can give to or read with the listener the As long as you're sincere... excuse tract from CEI.

8. Possible Responses:

"Yes"

At this point, it is important that you receive a yes answer to this question before continuing to share this booklet. If you do not do this, the following regrettable circumstances may develop as you continue to read the booklet:

- The listener may be indifferent and not pay attention to what you are reading.
- The listener may feel coerced into reading the booklet with you.

"No"

He might give an emphatic no response to this question. If so, graciously accept his decision. Offer to leave the booklet with him. Another option is to offer him a different tract to read which might have more direct appeal to him. CEI produces the following tracts for this purpose:

| TRACT | PEOPLE TRACT DESIGNED FOR |
|----------------------------|--|
| Hi Ya Kids | Children (12 yrs. and younger) |
| Is this all there is? | Homemakers |
| Savior . . . but not Lord? | Religious people who are not active disciples. |
| The Problem | People not convinced of their sinfulness. |
| Guess What? | General Tracts for adults |
| Are You Going to Heaven? | "....." |
| Don't Read This | "....." |
| You | Teenagers |
| The Fate of Rock Stars | "....." |

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You might also need to give to or read with the listener the I'm a Catholic..., or Churches have too many Hypocrites... excuse tracts from CEI if any of these objections come up at this point.

"Not Now"

He may say that he does not have time right now to read the booklet. If so, then ask him when would be a more convenient time for you to get together.

"I Don't Believe The Bible is True"

He might say he does not believe what the Bible teaches. If so, ask him, "Do you have any idea what the Bible teaches concerning how someone can get to heaven?"

- Unbeliever's response:
"I don't know."
Christian's response:
"Well, I didn't know either. Then someone showed me what the Bible says about getting into heaven, and it changed my whole life." (Again, ask permission to share what the Bible teaches about going to heaven.)

- Unbeliever's response:
He gives an answer that doesn't mention faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus.
Christian's response:
"Now I understand a little more why you don't believe in the Bible. If I thought the Bible said (repeat his incorrect answer) I wouldn't believe in it either. When I found out what the Bible actually teaches about getting to heaven, it changed my whole life." (Again, ask permission to share how someone can go to heaven.)

If the listener does not want to hear how to go to Heaven, then ask to share with him why you believe the Bible is the Word of God. The booklet is the Bible the Word of God? from CEI can help you do this. You might also want to give or read with the listener the I don't believe in the Bible..., The Bible was written by men..., and Everyone interprets the Bible differently... excuse tracts from CEI.

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FIRST, LET'S CONSIDER SOME VERY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.

Q. WHAT KIND OF WORDS WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE GOD?(9)

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| GREAT,1 | ALL POWERFUL6 |
| LOVING,2 | ALL KNOWING7 |
| KIND,3 | FAITHFUL8 |
| FORGIVING,4 | MERCIFUL9 |
| PERFECT,5 | COMPASSIONATE,10 |
| OTHER(10)..... | |

4

9. At this point, it is important to ask the listener each of his point For instance, ask him, "Would you describe God as great?" and "Do you think that God is loving?" Go down the list and get a response to each characteristic. Write his response in pen or pencil right in the booklet.

10. At the end of the list of God's characteristics, ask the listener, "Are there some other words you would use to describe God?"

- If no, then turn to the next page and continue reading.
- If yes, and his responses are correct, agree with the listener. Respond by saying, "Yes, that's true, God is wonderful" (or what ever his correct response is).
- If yes, and his responses about God's nature are incorrect, it is best not to comment on his incorrect answers. A disagreement at this point would not be helpful. It might even prevent the listener from going through the remainder of the booklet and hearing the entire Gospel. Simply make note of his incorrect responses and turn the page to present additional areas of God's nature.

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ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE ALL OF THE ANSWERS PRINTED ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE ARE CORRECT. GOD DOES HAVE ALL OF THESE QUALITIES.

Ps. 48:1, Gen. 17:1 1 Jn. 4:8, 1 Jn. 3:20, Joel 2:13, 1 Cor. 9, Ps. 103:12, Deut. 4:31, Matt. 5:48, Ps. 86:15

BUT THE SAME BIBLE ALSO SAYS THAT GOD IS:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| TOTALLY GOOD Ps. 106:1 | 100% RIGHTEOUS Jer. 12:1 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| PERFECTLY HOLY Isa. 6:3 | UNABLE TO LIE ⁽¹¹⁾ Heb. 6:18 |
|----------------------------|--|

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11. The listener may have objections or questions about the statements concerning God's nature. Please take the time to look up the scripture references with him.

If the question is raised you might need to give to or read with the listener the If there's a loving God, then why...? excuse tract from CEI.

Q. NEXT, WHAT KIND OF WORDS WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE MAN?⁽¹²⁾

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| BASICALLY GOOD ⁽¹³⁾ | DESTRUCTIVE |
| RIGHTEOUS | UNFAITHFUL |
| KIND | PROUD |
| GIVING | GREEDY |
| LOVING | SELFISH |
| OTHER ⁽¹⁴⁾ | |

6

12. This is referring to all humanity, not just the male gender.

13. Read this list with the listener, asking him at each point, "Would you say all men are basically good?" "Do you believe men are righteous?" and "Do you think all men are kind?" etc. Proceed through the list of attributes on both sides, noting the responses of the listener.

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14. Same as suggestion #11, except substitute the word man for God.

AGAIN, THIS MAY SURPRISE YOU⁽¹⁵⁾, BUT ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE ONLY THE ANSWERS PRINTED IN THE RIGHT HAND COLUMN OF THE PREVIOUS PAGE ARE CORRECT.⁽¹⁶⁾

Rom. 3:12, Isa. 64:6, Rom. 1:29, Rom. 1:29, 2 Tim. 3:2, Rom. 3:16, Ps. 5:9, Rom. 1:30, Rom. 1:29, Phil. 2:21

THE SAME BIBLE ALSO SAYS THAT MAN IS:

NOT GOOD
Rom. 3:12

DISOBEDIENT
Isa. 53:6

UNHOLY
II Tim. 3:2

DISHONEST
Jer. 17:9

7

15. If he answered page six correctly you need to say, "I'm glad this didn't surprise you."

16. Turn back now to the previous page and mention to the listener that the statements written in the right hand column are correct. Repeat them aloud for emphasis. The listener may have some objections or questions about the statements concerning man's nature. Take time to look up the scripture references with him.

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| | |
|---|--|
| THE BIBLE'S CONCLUSION ⁽¹⁷⁾ | |
| IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THIS KIND OF PERFECT GOD: | TO LIVE WITH THIS KIND OF SINFUL MAN: |
| TOTALLY GOOD PERFECTLY HOLY 100% RIGHTEOUS UNABLE TO LIE | NOT GOOD UNHOLY DISOBEDIENT DISHONEST |
| SINFUL MAN COULD NEVER LIVE WITH A HOLY GOD, NOT EVEN FOR A SECOND. ⁽¹⁸⁾ 1 Pet 2:9, 1 Jn. 1:5 | |
| 8 | |

17. Read the left hand column first, and then the right hand column. Afterward, go back and compare each attribute of God and man: Say, "You see, God is totally good, and according to the Bible man is not good." Continue in this pattern down the list.

18. The scripture declares, "That God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5) It also shows in 1 Peter 2:9 that natural man lives in darkness. Light and darkness cannot dwell together. If you enter a room at night and turn on the light switch, the darkness immediately vanishes. Similarly, God cannot live with people in their sinful state.

THE PROBLEM

GOD DETERMINED THE JUST PUNISHMENT FOR SIN WAS DEATH (ETERNAL SEPARATION FROM HIS PRESENCE). Ez 18:4. isa. 59:2

SINCE ALL MEN HAVE SINNED, THEY ALL DESERVE TO BE PUNISHED. Rom.3:23
BUT GOD DID NOT WANT TO SEND MAN TO HELL. 2 Pet. 3:9

Q. IN LIGHT OF THIS PROBLEM, HOW DO YOU PERSONALLY HOPE TO GET TO HEAVEN? (19, 20)

9

19. Fold the booklet in half at this point. You don't want the solution on page 10 of the booklet seen by the listener as you ask him this essential question.

20. This is the pivot question. Use it to continue your dialogue with the listener. Responses given will usually fall into one of the following four categories:

- Listener cannot think of an answer:
First, ask if he understands this is an extremely serious problem, which affects all humanity. Only after he mentally exhausts every possible solution to the problem should you turn the page to discuss the solution. Failure to take these steps may result in the listener claiming to be already trusting in Jesus after you share the correct answer with him. Do this, however, with a proper attitude. Do not make him feel ignorant. You might tell him you did not know the solution either until someone told you (or that you know others who did not know).
- Listener gives wrong (works) answer:
If this occurs, refer the listener back to the comparisons of God and man. Review again the standard of perfection and point out the inadequacy of the works answer he gave you. This should be done firmly but not arrogantly. Ask him if he can think of any other way he might get into heaven. Continue asking until he exhausts all of the incorrect answers he can think of. The listener should have to admit that he does not know how he will get to heaven.

Some responses you can give to specific wrong answers are:

Possible Answer #1—"I'm not that bad. I haven't done that many things wrong."

Response: "Joe, how many murders would I have to commit before I was a murderer? That's right, one. How many bank robberies to be a bank robber. One! How many sins to be a sinner? That's right, one. Imagine a person murdered five people in a large city. His defense at the trial was that out of three million people he only killed five. Now, you've got to admit that five people are only a tiny fraction of three million. He further claims that besides not killing 2,999,995 people, he helped some of them on occasion.

In the same vein, how can we hope to stand before a perfectly holy God and expect Him to dismiss even one of our sins? That's why God says "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." Matt. 5:48

Possible Answer #2—"I'm really sorry."

Response: "Jane, let's imagine I have been sentenced to life in prison for killing five people. After spending one month in jail, I call for the jailer. I tell him, "Jailer, I feel very bad about killing those people. I'm really sorry I did it. I wish I had never killed anyone. I promise you that I will never hurt another person as long as I live. So, if you'll please open this cell, I'll be on my way. I'll never do any harm to anyone ever again."

"Now, will that jailer let me out of jail? No! Although I was genuinely sorry, something was missing. That something was punishment. So you see Jane, asking forgiveness for our sins, by itself, does not erase the problem each of us has with sin."

Possible Answer #3—"I'm not a sinner."

Response: The opinion of the unbeliever is extremely different from the judgment of God. God's Word declares all are unclean, and none are righteous. No one does what is perfectly right. The unbeliever is obviously guilty of at least one sin, the sin of not believing on Christ. This by itself betrays his claim of sinlessness. Sin has worked to blind the unbeliever of its very existence in his life!

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- Listener gives unclear answer:
If this occurs, further explore his response. Find out if he is trusting in Christ or in his own good works. For example, if he answers "Because of Jesus," ask, "What do you mean? What is there about Jesus you are basing your hope on?" He might be only relying on his ability to follow the teachings of Jesus, or be merely parroting a Christian cliché.
- Listener may give a correct answer:
This is unlikely, but possible if he misunderstood some point earlier in the conversation. If a correct response is given to this question then he is apparently a Christian (though perhaps a little confused). It might be appropriate to share another booklet with him as outlined in the procedures under suggestion #4.

THE SOLUTION

GOD DEvised A PLAN THAT PLACED THE DEATH PENALTY FOR SIN UPON THE ONLY PERSON IN THE UNIVERSE WHO COULD TAKE MAN'S PLACE.⁽²¹⁾

GOD HIMSELF, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. Heb 2:9, John 1:1, 14

THOUGH JESUS DIDN'T DESERVE IT, HE SUFFERED AND DIED ON THE CROSS IN OUR PLACE, PROVIDING THE ONLY WAY FOR MANKIND TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE AND GO TO HEAVEN.⁽²²⁾ John 1 7:3, 2 Cor. 5:21. John 14:6

CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION ENABLES US TO BE FORGIVEN FOR OUR SINS AND GIVES US THE POWER TO NO LONGER BE CONTROLLED BY SIN.^(23, 24) 1 John 3:8, John 1:12

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21. If the listener has any question about either the deity or humanity of Christ, refer to page 8 of the Are You Going? booklet. You may also give to or read with the listener the **Jesus Christ is not God...** excuse tract from CEI.

22. "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

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23. Take this opportunity to share from your heart the importance of what Christ did. Describe what Jesus dying for your sins means to you. Always remember, the gospel (Christ's death and resurrection) is the power of God to salvation. Rom. 1:16

24. Illustration

Name: Restaurant Check

Theme: Jesus already paid the price (punishment) for our sins.

Setting: You are explaining to John what Jesus Christ did for each of us when He died for our sins.

"John, let's say that I went out with you and your wife to a restaurant for a meal. After we finished eating, the waiter brought all three of us our checks. In addition to picking up my own bill, I also paid for you and your wife's checks. Now when you and your wife go up to the cashier, how much will the cashier say you owe? That's right, nothing. You owed something, but I already paid the bill for you."

"John, that's exactly what Jesus Christ did for us. He paid our bill. He owed nothing, because He was sinless. However, He paid it, because He loved us."

"Now, on the other hand, we can pay the bill for our own sins. All we have to do is spend eternity in hell and that will pay for our bill. We will receive a just punishment for our sins. Personally, I would prefer to accept that Jesus Christ paid my bill. He paid it when He died in my place on the cross. Putting my complete confidence in Christ's death and resurrection means I will not be punished for my sins."

You might also need to give to or read with the listener the **Jesus is not the only way**... excuse tract from CEI.

CONCLUSION GOD WILL ONLY GIVE ETERNAL LIFE TO THOSE WHO:

- A. ARE SORRY FOR THEIR SINS, 2 Cor. 7:10
- B. ARE WILLING TO TURN AWAY FROM THEIR SINS. Acts 3:19
- C. HAVE FAITH (COMPLETELY TRUST) IN JESUS CHRIST.(25) Eph. 2:8-9

WHEN YOU TURN FROM YOUR SINS AND TRUST IN JESUS, THERE WILL BE A SUPERNATURAL CHANGE IN YOUR HEART WHICH THE BIBLE CALLS, BEING "BORN AGAIN". John 3:3

OUR GOOD WORKS WILL NEVER GET US INTO HEAVEN. Titus 3:5

Q. ARE YOU WILLING TO TURN AWAY FROM YOUR SINS AND COMPLETELY TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST?(26)

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25. Illustration:

Here is an excellent illustration, used in Evangelism Explosion, called, Blondin and Niagara Falls. It is very effective in illustrating genuine faith.

Name: Blondin and Niagara Falls

Theme: Faith is completely trusting. It requires a wholehearted commitment.

Setting: You are talking with "Jane Doe."

"Jane, I'd like to share a true story with you that will clearly show what genuine faith really is."

"Over 100 years ago there was a famous tightrope walker named Blondin who walked across Niagara Falls on a tightrope. One day, he asked a large crowd if they believed he could walk across the Falls with one of them on his back. They all believed that he could. Then he asked one of the men in the crowd to climb on his back and go across. The man refused."

"He thought he believed and he said he believed, but he did not trust Blondin enough to go across the Falls on his back. It is the same way with having faith in Jesus. We must completely entrust our lives to Him and let Him take us wherever He wants us to go."

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"If we say we trust Him but do not follow Him, then we really do not have faith."

26. The listener might be hesitant at this point. If so, ask him to consider the various aspects of this commitment as you read the "How to be Saved" page of this booklet. If the listener is strong in his unwillingness to trust Christ, offer to leave a copy of the booklet with him. You might want to get his address and phone number for further contact.

HOW TO BE SAVED

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE WHAT JESUS CHRIST HAS DONE FOR YOU, YOU MUST BE WILLINGLY:

1. STOP TRUSTING IN YOUR OWN EFFORTS TO PLEASE GOD AND BEGIN TO TRUST IN WHAT JESUS CHRIST HAS ALREADY DONE. (27,28) Pro. 28:26, Pro. 3:5-6
2. ASK HIM TO FORGIVE YOU FOR YOUR SINS, 1 Jn. 1-9
3. INVITE HIM TO COME AND LIVE INSIDE OF YOU. Rev 3:20
4. ASK HIM TO TAKE HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE AS LORD AND GOD OF YOUR LIFE.(29,30,31,32) Rom. 10:9-10. Phil. 2:11
5. TURN AWAY FROM WHATEVER THE BIBLE SAYS IS SIN. (THIS IS ONLY POSSIBLE AFTER CHRIST HAS COME TO LIVE INSIDE OF YOU.)(33) Acts 3:19, Jn. 1:12

12

27. This is a good time to ask the listener if he is willing to stop trusting in all the answers he gave for Question #2. If need be, go back to page one and mention the specific responses he gave. In addition, you will need to receive a yes response for each of the eight steps of the commitment. Do not move on to the next step until he has made a commitment to the previous one. Ask him, "John, are you willing to... (each commitment step)"

28. Illustration

Name: Drowning Person

Theme: Salvation requires you to completely trust in Christ.

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Setting: Jim Brown is having difficulty understanding what it means to have faith in Jesus.

"Jim, the importance of having faith in Christ is similar to the illustration of a man who is drowning. If someone else jumps in to save him, the more the person drowning physically struggles, the more likely he will drown. Being saved from drowning requires total trust in the rescuer. In the same way, we must completely surrender our lives and trust in Jesus to be saved from eternal death."

29. There are two main areas people draw back from in making a commitment to Christ; allowing Jesus to be Lord and turning away from sin. They are also the principle areas people fail to follow through on in their Christian lives. Therefore, emphasize the seriousness of the commitment he is making.

30. Illustration

Name: Bottom Drawer

Theme: Jesus wants to be Lord of every part of our lives.

Setting: You are asking Jane each commitment point. She is not sure about making Jesus the Lord of every area of her life.

"Jane, is there a particular area you are considering?"

Jane says, "Yes there is. I'm sure; however, God is not all that concerned about this one area of my life."

"Jane, let's imagine one day the police come to your house with a search warrant. You tell them they can look anywhere they want to, except in the bottom drawer of your dresser. They would say, 'Forget about the rest of your house. We want to see what's in that bottom drawer.'"

"Jesus feels the same way. His concern is focused on the one area in which you are not willing to make Him Lord. Either He is Lord of all, or He's not Lord at all!"

31. Illustration:

Name: I Love You More Than Anyone, Except...

Theme: Jesus needs to be number one in the life of those who receive Eternal Life.

Setting: You are reading with John Doe the commitment step involving MAKING Jesus his Lord

"John, suppose you were asking Jane to marry you. You said, 'Jane, I love you more than anyone except Beth who lives next door. Would you marry me?' How do you think Jane would respond? She would probably punch you and say, 'Forget it!' You might respond, 'But Jane, you are number two in my heart out of two billion women on this earth!' Jane would still tell you to get lost forever. No married person wants to be number two." Christ is the same way. He wants you to make Him number one in your life and nothing less."

32. Illustration:

Name: Faithful for Fifty Weeks

Theme: Jesus must be Lord at All Times.

Setting: You are reading with John Doe the commitment step involving making Jesus his Lord.

"Suppose you were to ask someone to marry you. You let your future spouse know you were going to be 100% faithful for 50 weeks of the year. The other two weeks you would fool around. However, you promised for the 50 weeks to be faithful and true. Your future spouse would not commit to you under those conditions. There is no one who would make that type of a commitment to you. This is the same with Christ. We must be willing to give Him our all, all the time, and not just when we feel like being faithful. Our commitment cannot be based on feelings, but on our word to follow through with our commitment to Him."

33. Possible Excuse:

"I'm going to have a good time for now, and I'll worry about getting right with God later."

You can give to or read with the listener the **I'm not ready right now...** and **You can be a Christian and still...** excuse tracts from CEI.

YOU MAY INVITE JESUS TO COME AND LIVE INSIDE OF YOU BY SINCERELY PRAYING THE FOLLOWING PRAYER. (PLEASE DO THIS OUT LOUD)^(34,35,36) Rom.

10:9-10

"LORD JESUS ...

I WANT TO STOP TRUSTING IN MYSELF . . . AND WHAT I CAN DO . . . AND START TRUSTING IN YOU . . . AND WHAT YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE . . . WHEN YOU DIED FOR ME ON THE CROSS. I KNOW THAT I AM A SINNER . . . AND I AM SORRY FOR MY SINS. I ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME ... AND I INVITE YOU TO COME AND LIVE INSIDE OF ME. I WANT YOU TO BE MY SAVIOR . . . AND MY LORD . . . WHICH MEANS BEING #1 IN MY LIFE. I WANT TO REPENT AND TURN AWAY ... FROM EVERYTHING YOU AND THE BIBLE CALL SIN ... AND I TOTALLY COMMIT MYSELF ... TO OBEYING YOU .. . EVERYDAY, FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

THANK YOU JESUS."

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34. If the listener honestly does not want to make this commitment, do not try to coerce him into repeating a premature prayer of forgiveness. If you can talk him into it, someone else can talk him out of it. Let him make his own decision out of conviction. Don't go through the motions out of presumption. On the other hand, you may want to express the seriousness and possible repercussion of delaying such a decision.

35. It is often reassuring to tell the person about to pray you will begin the prayer by praying for him. There are three areas to cover in this preparatory prayer.

- Thank the Lord for granting you this time together.
- Praise the Lord for offering all of us the forgiveness of sins.
- Ask the Lord to help the person about to pray to:
 - a) Fully understand the gospel.
 - b) Have faith to believe Jesus died for our sins and rose again from the dead.
 - c) Be faithful to the commitment he is about to make.

36. We have found that many people have never prayed aloud before. It is helpful to ask permission to lead him, a phrase at a time, through the following prayer. You might add that a bride and groom make verbal vows to one another in front of many people. Jesus, our Heavenly Bridegroom, committed His life to us verbally and in every way, and now asks us to do the same. He says in the Bible, "Therefore, whoever confesses me before men, him I will confess also before My Father who is in heaven." Matt. 10:32

IN ORDER FOR YOUR NEW PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD TO GROW, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU:

1. SPEND SOME TIME EACH DAY PRAYING AND WORSHIPPING

GOD. I Thess. 5:17-18

2. DAILY READ THE BIBLE (BEGIN WITH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN)

I Pet. 2:2

3. FIND A CHURCH THAT TEACHES THE BIBLE AS 100% THE WORD OF GOD, AND ENCOURAGES A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS. Heb. 10:25

4. BEGIN TO DEVELOP FRIENDSHIPS WITH SINCERE CHRISTIANS. I John 1:7

5. TELL OTHER PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

Matt. 4:14

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37. You should share on the importance of each of these areas in your own life.

38. After someone prays to receive Eternal Life much still needs to be done before he is assimilated into the local church. We recommend the Foundation Stones Discipleship manual by CEI.