

**Introduction:****John 3:19**

<sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

**John 1:4**

<sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**John 16:7, 8**

<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: . . .

**Matthew 11:28**

<sup>28</sup> Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

**John 15:5**

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

**John 6:44**

<sup>44</sup> No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

**1 (First Step) Read the Bible****Romans 3:23**

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

**John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

**Acts 17:11**

<sup>11</sup> These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so.

**2. (Second Step) Believe the Bible****2 Chronicles 20:20**

<sup>20</sup>So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."

**John 2:22**

<sup>22</sup>Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

**John 12:36**

<sup>36</sup>*While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.* These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

**Hebrews 11:6**

<sup>6</sup>But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**1 Peter 2:6**

<sup>6</sup>Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,  
*"Behold, I lay in Zion  
A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,  
And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."*

**3. (Third Step) Recognize My Need****Romans 3:10**

<sup>10</sup>As it is written:  
*"There is none righteous, no, not one;*

**Matthew 5:3, 6**

- <sup>3</sup> *"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*  
<sup>4</sup> *Blessed are those who mourn,  
For they shall be comforted.*  
<sup>5</sup> *Blessed are the meek,  
For they shall inherit the earth.*  
<sup>6</sup> *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
For they shall be filled.*

**Answer:** As a sinner (one who is not righteous) I have needs which I cannot satisfy or take care of myself and which I need to recognize and acknowledge to myself and God before they can be taken care of by God.

**4. (Fourth Step) Sorrow for Sin****Matthew 5:4**

<sup>4</sup> Blessed *are* those who mourn,  
For they shall be comforted.

**Psalms 34:18**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart,  
And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

**Answer:** We need to have sorrow (be sorry) for our sins (David) vs being defensive or make excuses for our sins (Cain).

**5. (Fifth Step) Admit our sinfulness with Repentance and Confession****5a. Gen 3:7, 8**

<sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

**Answer:** Adam and Eve thought they could hide themselves and their sin from God, but God came looking for them. God would rather have had them come directly to Him and admit they had made a mistake.

**5b. Acts 3:19**

<sup>19</sup>Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, . . .

**Answer:** God blots out (erases, removes, eliminates) from the record when we repent and change the course of our life by following where and how God wants us to live.

**5c. Luke 18:9-14**

<sup>9</sup>Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' <sup>13</sup>And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

**Answer:** The tax collector (representing all who acknowledge their sinner status) acknowledged his sin and asked for mercy, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

**6. (Sixth Step) Restitution****Luke 19:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Then *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. <sup>2</sup>Now behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. <sup>3</sup>And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "**Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.**" <sup>6</sup>So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. <sup>7</sup>But when they saw *it*, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

<sup>8</sup>Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

<sup>9</sup>And Jesus said to him, "**Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; . . .**"

**Answer:** We need to make restitution, make right, restore what we have damaged, pay back with interest.

**7. (Seventh Step) Accept (Claim) Christ's full forgiveness****7a. 1 John 1:9**

<sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Answer:** We are cleansed (made right with God) when we confess our sins and accept the fact that God has forgiven us our mistakes and rebellions of the past.

**7b. John 6:35-37**

<sup>35</sup>And Jesus said to them, "**I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.**" <sup>36</sup>But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup>**All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.**

**Answer:** God will not cast us out (give up on us) but will meet our need as we actively eat and drink Him into our lives through His Word.

**7c. John 8:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>2</sup>Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup>Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, <sup>4</sup>they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. <sup>5</sup>Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" <sup>6</sup>This they said, testing Him, that they might have *something* of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with *His* finger, as though He did not hear.

<sup>7</sup>So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "**He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.**" <sup>8</sup>And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup>Then those who heard *it*, being convicted by *their* conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest *even* to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. <sup>10</sup>When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "**Woman, where are those accusers** of yours? Has no

one condemned you?”

<sup>11</sup>She said, “No one, Lord.”

And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

**Answer:** God does not condemn us (rather He forgives us) when we repent of our sins, and He promises that we don’t have to continue to sin.

**8. (Memorize)**

**Isaiah 55:7**

<sup>7</sup>Let the wicked forsake his way,  
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
Let him return to the Lord,  
And He will have mercy on him;  
And to our God,  
For He will abundantly pardon.

**Luke 5:30-32**

<sup>30</sup>■ And their scribes and the Pharisees complained against His disciples, saying, “Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

<sup>31</sup>Jesus answered and said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup>I have not come to call *the* righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”