

The Five Steps to Heaven

There are five steps that lead to the narrow road to Heaven. There are words on each step. Let us see what they say.

Start at the bottom and read up. Pause a moment and read the steps again. Say them quietly to yourself. Now let us talk about them. We will have a Bible verse for each step.



Step 1 *I have sinned.*

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” (ROMANS 3:23)

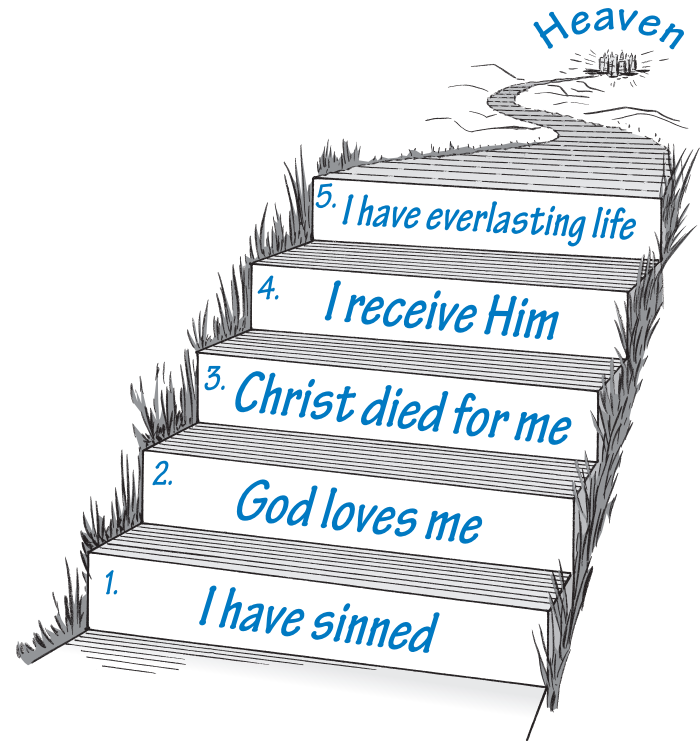
The first step in becoming a child of God is to learn what I am in God’s sight and to accept what He says about me.

God says that we are all sinners. We have all said wrong things and done wrong things.

Sin is a terrible thing. It hurts us and it hurts others. But the worst thing about sin is this—sin hurts God’s heart. Do you know why sin hurts His heart? Because God is holy; and because He loves us so much.

You cannot get rid of your sins by doing certain things, but the Lord Jesus can forgive sins. He loves you, and He wants to forgive you of all your sins.

Jesus is “the Friend of sinners.” He will never turn away anyone who comes to Him. He said, “...*him that comes to Me, I will never cast out*” (JOHN 6:37).



Step 2 *God loves me.*

“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.” (JOHN 3:16)

Whom does God mean when He says “the world”? He means all the people in the world. That includes you and me!

Whom does God mean when He says “whoever”? He means anyone. You can put your name in this verse. Why not do it right now?

For God so loved _____, that He gave His only begotten Son, that _____ believing in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Now read it out loud with your name in the blank spaces. There, that is good news, isn't it?

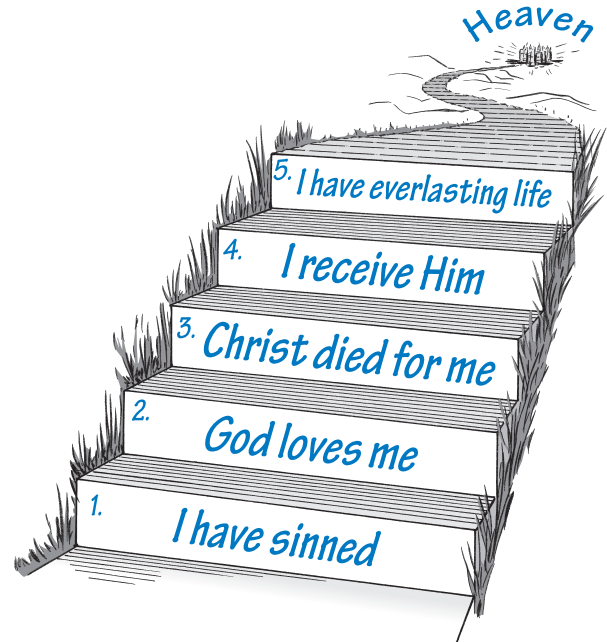


Step 3 Christ died for me.

“God shows His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (ROMANS 5:8)

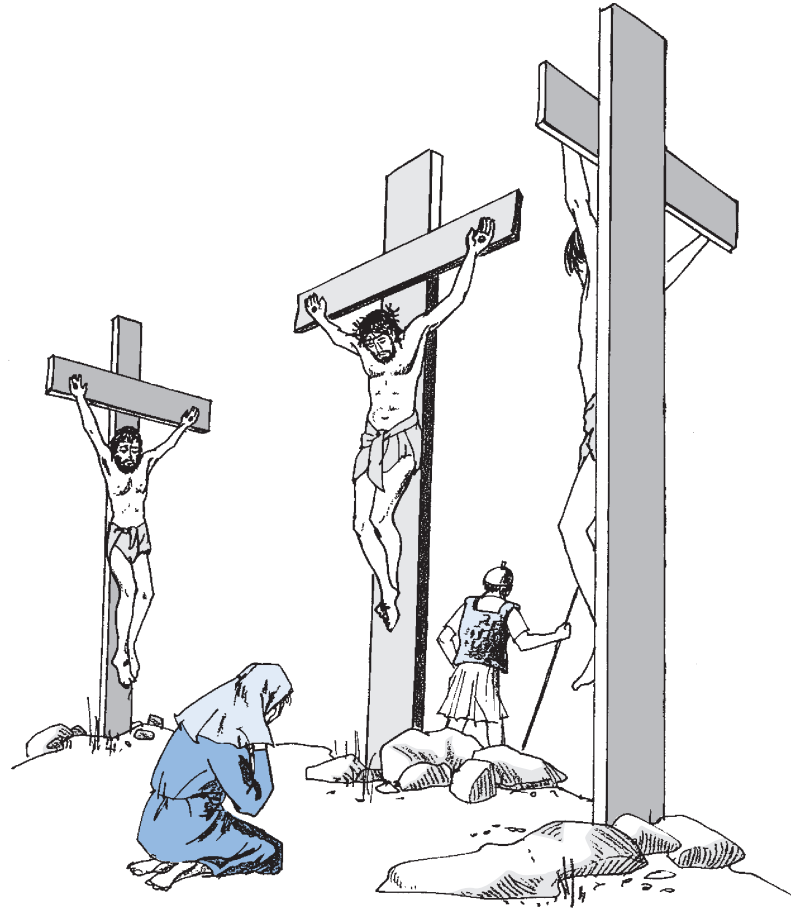
This is good news: God loves sinners! God is saying to us, “I really love you! I have shown My love for you in giving My Son to die for you.”

God cannot overlook our sins or pretend that He does not know about them. What did God do about our sins? God gave His only Son to pay the penalty of our sins.



The Lord Jesus Christ died for sinners. He died for you and He died for me. You can say, “Christ died for me!” Say it right now—
“Christ died for me!”

Not only did Christ die for our sins, but He also rose from the dead. He is a living Savior! He has all power in Heaven and on earth. He can forgive your sins and make you a child of God.





Step 4 *I receive Him.*

Our next verse tells us how to become a child of God. The Bible says,

“As many as received Him [the Lord Jesus Christ], to them gave He power to become the sons of God.... ” (JOHN 1:12)

To become a child of God, I must come as a sinner to the Lord Jesus and receive Him as my Savior.

God has given Jesus to me to be my Savior, but I must receive Him; that is, I must take Him as my own Savior.

I must make it personal. It is not simply, “We are all sinners,” but “I am a sinner.” It is not just, “Jesus died for sinners,” but “Jesus died for my sins.” It is not simply, “Jesus is the Savior,” but “I take Jesus Christ as my Savior.”

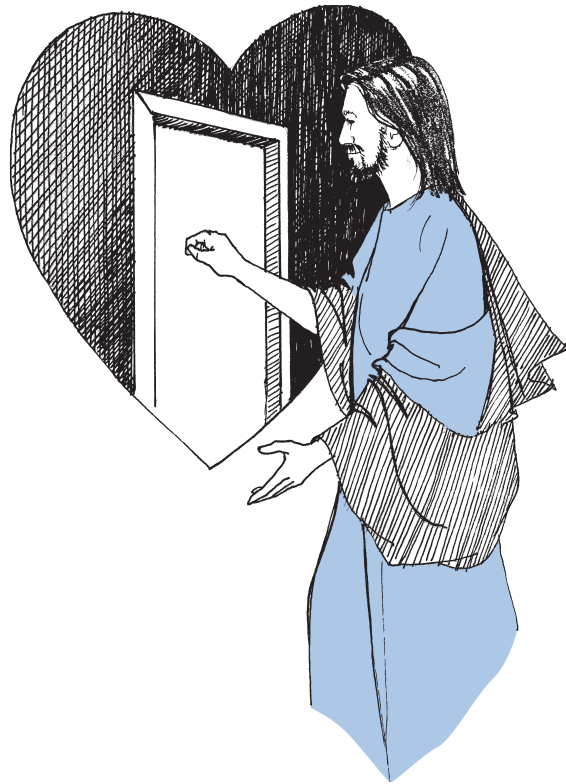


When I take the Lord Jesus as my Savior, I become a child of God. The Bible says, *“For you [believers] are all the children of God by faith in Jesus Christ”* (GALATIANS 3:26).

“How do I take the Lord Jesus as my Savior?”

You take Him as your Savior by asking Him to come into your heart. Your heart is like a house with a door. Jesus said,

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in.... ” (REVELATION 3:20)



Step 5 I have everlasting life.

“He that believes on the Son has everlasting life...” (JOHN 3:36)

This verse tells us that if we believe on the Lord Jesus, we have everlasting life. Say the verse to yourself right now— “He that believes on the Son has everlasting life.”

There, you understand that, don't you? We have been talking for a long time. Are you ready to make your choice?

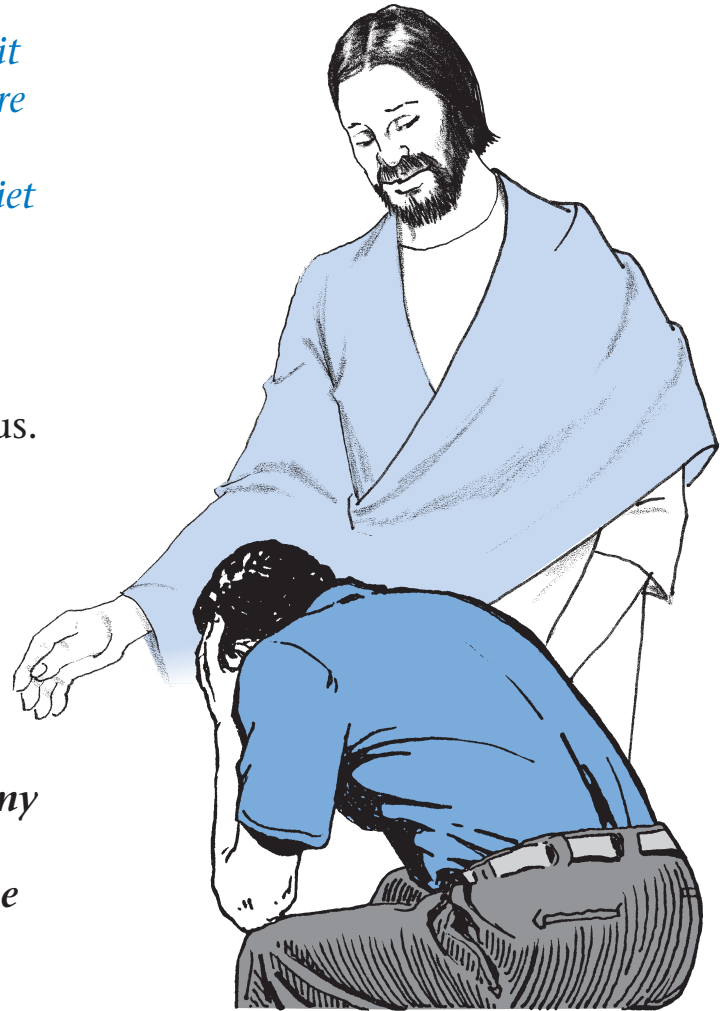
You can take Jesus as your Savior right now. You will always be glad that you did.



(Since this is just between you and the Lord, it will be best if you can find a quiet place where you can be alone for a few minutes. So, right now, before you read the next part, find a quiet place where you can be alone with the Lord Jesus.)

Now you are ready to talk to the Lord Jesus. Here is a prayer that will help you talk to Him:

“Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I know that I have been going the wrong way. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died on the cross for my sins. Thank You for loving me so much. Please come into my heart and forgive me of all my sins. Right now, I take You as my Savior.”



I Can Know That I Am Saved

We are saved, not by what we do for God, but by what God has done for us in the Person of His Son. When I believe that Jesus died for my sins and I take Him as my Savior, I am saved. God forgives me of all my sins and makes me His child. I have everlasting life.

How do I know that I have everlasting life? I know because God says so in His Word, and He cannot lie. The Bible says,

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that you may know that you have eternal life....”
(1 JOHN 5:13)

Whose word is this? It is God’s Word, so we know that it is true.

God said it!

I believe it!

That settles it!



*Now I know I'm saved
because God says so!*



Being a child of God is the most wonderful thing in all the world, but let me tell you a secret: the Christian life will not be easy here on earth. Jesus said, *“In the world you shall have tribulation [trouble]: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world”* (JOHN 16:33).