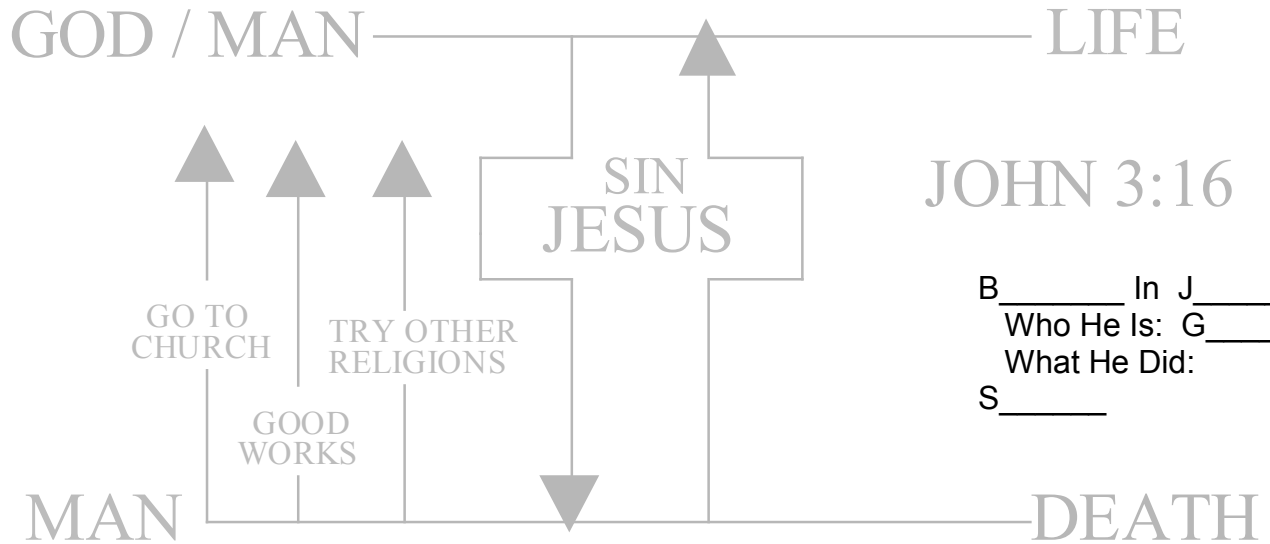


L _____
H _____



- EE Questions: 1. If you were to die today, do you know that you will go to heaven?
[Can I show you from the Bible how you can know for certain?]
2. Suppose you were to die tonight and stand before God and He were to say to you: "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What would you say?
Optional Question: Are you into spiritual things?

Diagram Transition Questions and Statements:

1. What do you know about God?
2. What does it mean that God is holy?
3. If God intended for us to have life by being in a relationship with Him, then why is there so much death? Do you know the story of Adam and Eve? What happened?
4. If your sin separates you from a holy God and your punishment is death, then how do you get back up to God when you have sin on your account.
5. God had to do something for us that we could not do ourselves by sending Jesus Christ down to earth to make a way for us to come back to God.
6. Why do you think that I drew the bridge to look like a cross?
7. Why did Jesus die on the cross?
8. Since the penalty for sin is death, Jesus died to take our place. He was our substitute. God put our sins on Jesus and He bore them on His body on the cross.
9. God raised Jesus from the dead, which shows that He was satisfied which Jesus payment for our sins.
10. This is called the John 3:16 diagram and here's why . . .
11. I am going to write my name here and you write yours to show that God loved us personally . . .
12. This is what it means to believe in Jesus

Decision Questions:

- A. Does this make sense?
- B. Do you have any questions?
- C. Do you believe that Jesus is God - meaning that you will turn from sin and give Him control of your life?
- D. Do you believe that Jesus is your Savior who died on the cross for you? Why did Jesus have to die for you?
- E. Are you willing to turn from sin and obey Jesus?
- F. When I made this commitment I said a prayer to settle up with God. Would you pray now and thank Jesus for taking your punishment on the cross and ask Him to take control of your life?

John 3:16 Diagram Transcript

Hey Jeron, have you come to a place in your spiritual life where you know for certain that if you die that you would go to heaven?

Nah, not for sure.

Can I explain to you a verse from the Bible that shows you how you can know for certain?

Sure. If you could know for certain.

Let me ask you another question first. Suppose you were to die tonight and stand before God and He would say to you, "Why should I let you into heaven, what would you say?"

I don't know... because he loves me

Because he loves you? Well that's a good start. We have a diagram that maps out a verse in the Bible that I want to show to you. Let's start with the word, God. What do you know about God? What characteristics do you know about God? His attributes?

I know He made everything.

OK. He's Creator. Anything else?

He loves everybody.

Ok. Yeah God is love. I wanted also to include that God is holy. Have you ever heard the word holy?

Mhmmm

It means that God is completely separate from things that are wrong. He is pure, and He can't tolerate it. When we say God is holy, we're saying that that characteristic governs all His other attributes. He couldn't love you and violate His holiness. God created man... and I write the word man, but that could also represent man & woman, mankind. But he created man for the purpose of having a relationship with Him. And that was no problem because he created man in innocence. God's purpose was that by being in this relationship with Him, that man would have life. So right away we see there's a problem because there's so much death in the world. I can remember a time in my own life that I knew I didn't have this kind of relationship with God. The reason that man has a problem... Do you know the story about Adam and Eve?

Yeah a little bit

Yeah, what happened with them?

They were in a garden. They were naked first. Then they ate an apple. Something like that.

Ok. Yeah God had told them not to eat of a certain tree. And that tested their obedience. He told them the day you eat of that tree you will surely die. So when they disobeyed God, that rebellion is what we can call sin. Because God is holy, that sin broke that relationship with God so that man was separated from God from of sin. Instead of getting his life from being with God, because he was separated from God by the sin, man had death. God said that the day you eat of that tree you will surely die. And that separation was a physical death, but it was also a spiritual death. If it's not dealt with it's an eternal death. What people would call hell or the lake of fire. So because that sin was on all of our records, we weren't able to have that relationship with God. We were born separated from Him because He's holy. So the question is how do we get back up to God when we have that sin on our record? What would you say about how a person could try to get back up with God? Trying to get out the sin.

Ok. Try to be good?.... Anything else?

Go to church and try to live right.

Ok. See, a lot of people think that, but if you look at the beginning because God is holy. That sin makes it so that you will always fall short. You have that sin on your record and so no matter what you do and how good you try to come back to God, you will never be able to come by yourself. So, having that problem that everyone has sinned, and sin brings death, and there's no way that we can work our way back up to God, God had to do something for us that we couldn't do ourselves. He sent Jesus Christ down to earth to make a bridge for us to come back to God. What I mean by that is... you know God is one God in three persons: The Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God the Son, so he came down to earth to have a body to be able to take the punishment for our sin. Look at that bridge. What does it look like?

Like a cross.

Yeah. So why is a cross the bridge that makes it possible for us to come back to God.

Probably cause what I heard is that Jesus died on the cross for sins.

Yeah. So what does it mean that Jesus died for our sins?

I don't know.

What it means is that Jesus took our punishment on him when he died on the cross. God put our sin on him and Jesus took our place. So when he died on the cross, he bore our sins on his body. You know I coach, it's easiest for me to explain that Jesus was our substitute. Do you know what a substitute in a game is. One person comes out. Another person comes in. When Jesus died on the cross, God put him in there. He took the punishment for our sins instead of us having to pay for it. Is Jesus still dead now?

I don't think so.

No. That's what we celebrate at Easter. God showed that He was satisfied with this substitute of the death of Christ. He raised Jesus from the dead. It gives us an opportunity of being able to come back up to him. Let me explain this in a little line down here. Suppose this is you. If you were to sin three times a day, that would be over a thousand a year. So say you lived to be 90 and then you were to die. You would have over 90,000 sins on your record. God being holy, you would have 90,000 death sentences. But what we said before is that God was love. He sent Jesus to earth to die on the cross. So God took all that sin and put it up on Jesus and Jesus died in your place. So if you were to settle up with Him today, He would cancel that sin and He would take the righteousness that Jesus accomplished in his life and put over your account. So your standing with God would be completely righteous. So you would be able to come back up to here with God and He could accept you and relate with you as someone who is perfectly righteous. But this is what we got to do. This diagram is a verse in the Bible called John 3:16. I want to show it to you. It says, For God so loved the world (now he wasn't talking about the dirt, He was talking about the people. So I could put my name there, right. I'll write your name there)... so God, so loved Mike and Jeron that He gave his only begotten Son. He gave him up on the cross. So why did we say that Jesus had to die on the cross?

For my sin. All the sins I did.

Yeah, so what does that mean? When he died for your sins, he did what for them?

He took my place. He was my substitute.

Yeah. Exactly. He took your punishment, and then God raised Him from the dead... So, it says, "whoever believes in him... believes in Jesus, our risen Savior. You believe that he is God. So if you believe that Jesus is God. Remember that He is a holy God. So you're saying that you are willing to give Him control of your life, that you're willing to turn from a lifestyle of sin and realizing with regret that you had committed sins that he died for and that you'd be willing to give him control of your life. And then to believe that he's the Savior. That he's the one that rescued us from this death in hell. Now what did Jesus do to rescue us from that hell?

He died for our sins

Yeah, which means he did what?

He took our place, or he saved us.

Right. He took the punishment, so that's why he's the Savior. So God so loved Mike and Jeron that He gave his only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish, (that's what that death and hell is and separation from God) but should have eternal life, to come up here. Does this make sense to you?

Mhmmm. Yeah.

Do you believe that Jesus is God who died on the cross and took the punishment for you?

Mhmm. Cause he was perfecting

And that he rose again?

Mhmmm

Are you willing to give him control of your life, to turn from anything in your life that you know is in rebellion to God and surrender control of your life to God?

Mhmm. You have to.

Yeah. My dad explained this verse to me and asked me to go to God in a prayer and tell Him what I believe about a risen Jesus and thank him for dying on the cross for me. Because Jesus gave his life for me, to give my life back to him. Would you be willing to make that prayer of commitment to God at this time?

Mhmmm. Yeah.