

STEP 2 - CAME TO BELIEVE THAT THROUGH JESUS CHRIST WE COULD BE RESTORED TO RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THE FATHER, AND SUBSEQUENT SANITY AND STABILITY IN OUR LIVES.

This step talks about coming to believe that we could have a right relationship with God the Father. We look at the people we know who have this relationship with God and their lives seem to be so much happier than the lives of those who do not. The question that we may be asking ourselves is, "Will God really work in my life if I do believe"? The answer is yes and that, He is only waiting for us to give Him the opportunity.

This study will help us to better understand and believe that Jesus has provided us a way to have this relationship with God together with all the benefits that result from it.

ISAIAH 1:18-20 - "Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

1. What happens when we are obedient to the Lord? What happens when we rebel?
2. What must we do to be obedient?
3. Do you believe that we can be "white as snow"?

REVELATION 3:20 - "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock, If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me."

1. When did God "knock" on the door of your life?
2. Where is the Lord always standing?
3. What is God's part in this? What is our part?

ROMANS 10:13 - For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

1. What does "call on the name" mean to you?
2. Does God ever reject anyone?

ROMANS 10: 1-4 - Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

1. What does it mean, "they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge"? Give an example.
2. How does righteousness come from God? How do we try to establish our own righteousness?

JOHN 14:6 - Jesus answered "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

1. Does this mean that "no one" can know the Father except through Jesus?
2. What is the only way to God the Father?

JOHN 3:3-6 - Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."

1. What does the statement "born again" mean to you?
2. How do we become "born again"?

JOHN 7:37-39 - On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

1. What does water represent in this Scripture? How do we receive it?
2. Why must we believe? Can we believe without the Spirit?
3. If we drink of the water that Jesus gives, will others be able to drink from the waters that flow from us?

JOHN 11:25 & 26 - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

1. What do these promises mean to you, and how do we get them?
2. For whom is Jesus the "resurrection and the life"?
3. Explain what "believes in me" means to you.

JOHN 6:40 - "For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life."

1. What is the "Father's will" according to this Scripture?
2. Have we "looked to Jesus and believed" today?
3. How often have we prayed "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done" and still rejected Jesus?

JOHN 5:37-40 - "And the Father who sent me has testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent. You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life."

1. How can we know about God and who does the Scripture testify about?
2. Does this mean that even though we study God's word, his word does not "dwell in us" if we reject Jesus?

JOHN 10:37-39 - "Do not believe me unless I do what my Father does. But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may learn and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father." Again they tried to seize him, but he escaped their grasp.

1. How do we know that Jesus has come from the Father?
2. Have you ever seen a miracle done by Jesus? Describe it.
3. When do we begin to understand?

2 CORINTHIANS 4:13 & 14 - It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence.

1. What does the Scripture promise will happen when we "believe"?
2. What does "that same spirit of faith" mean?

ROMANS 8:11 - And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

1. How do we receive the "Spirit of God"? What will this Spirit do for us?
2. Does the Spirit "give life to our mortal bodies" now or later? Is it a process?

JOHN 20:29-31 - Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

1. Why did John write this Gospel? Is there enough evidence to believe that Jesus "is the only way"?
2. Is it possible for us to "see" and "believe" in Jesus through the word?

JOHN 17:20-23 - "My prayer is not for them (the disciples) alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

1. Name the different things that Jesus is praying for in these Scriptures.
2. Has Jesus given us the same "glory" that he gave the disciples? Why?
3. When will the world believe? Explain.

GOD'S PROMISES ARE "TRUE"!