



# Playbook

[www.lifesccl.net](http://www.lifesccl.net)

# THE WORD



The Bible is a collection of ancient literature (small library of books) that gives an account of God's creation and His dealing with mankind. It provides for us knowledge of God's purpose for mankind, God's expectation for mankind, and God's solution to mankind's greatest problem. It also shares with us that God himself (through the Holy Spirit) will enable us to fulfill all God's expectations as described in this book. It is for this reason that in our story we reference many writings from this book.

- Romans 15:4 - For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.
- John 2:4-6 - We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.



**THERE WAS GOD**

God has always existed in three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). At the beginning of time, God chose to create the earth and man in his own image.

- Genesis 1:1 – In the Beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- John 1:1-4 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

# THE PURPOSE OF MAN



The Bible tells us that in the beginning God created man with freedom so as not to be robots but desired us to honor, serve, and fellowship with Him and others. He desired man to be at peace. This is reflected in the two greatest commandments given to man that we are to love God with our whole being and love our fellow man as ourselves. This purpose is supremely displayed in our attitude and actions towards God and our relationship with fellow man especially inside of marriage and our family (the laboratory for how we treat our fellow man).

- Gen 1:27-28 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.
- Romans 5:1 – We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- John 3:16 - 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."
- Mat 22:37-40 - Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

THE  
**PROBLEM:**  
OUR  
**SEPARATION:**

**GOD**  
HOLY



**PEOPLE**  
SINFUL



Man chose to use his freedom not to serve and love God and others but to selfishly grab power for his own using. In this, man lost peace with God and mankind and became responsible for his own choices. Mankind now suffers the consequences of his sinful choices and stands separated from God and in fear of others. Man can no longer reach out to God and be at peace.

- Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- I John 3:15 - Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him. This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

OUR  
**ATTEMPT**  
TO REACH  
**GOD**

**GOD**  
✝ **HOLY**

**PEOPLE**  
SINFUL



While man has willfully chosen to disobey God (sin) man knows that something is not right. Throughout human history man has attempted to bridge the gap between God and man. We have tried to reach God by our own Good Works, by being religious, by being a good person but all these attempts fall short because we are sinful in nature and in no way deserve to be God's friends and have his forgiveness for what we have done.

- Proverbs 14:2 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.
- Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

# GOD'S SOLUTION AND GIFT

PEOPLE  
SINFUL



CHRIST

GOD  
HOLY

While we are unable on our own to reach God, God gave us the gift of His son Jesus Christ. Through Jesus' death and then his coming back from death and the grave He paid the penalty for our sin and bridged the gap between God and people. Jesus gift of salvation is perfect, it is a gift that no human person or being could ever provide and Jesus extends this gift of forgiveness freely to us.

- I Timothy 2:5 - For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ."
- I Peter 3:18 - For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.
- Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

# OUR RESPONSE AND CHOICE

**PEOPLE**  
SINFUL

HERE?

WHERE ARE YOU?

**CHRIST**

**GOD**  
HOLY

OR HERE?



God has provide the only way for us to come to peace with Him and our fellow man and that is through Jesus Christ.

- 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.
- John 1:12 - Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.
- Romans 10:9 - That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
- 1Ti 2:5-6 - For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

We are now able to freely make a choice. Will you choose to commit to pursuing Jesus Christ? This does not mean that you are perfect, that you will never sin, that you have it all figured out or that you have perfect faith. What it does mean is:

- that you acknowledge you are sinful and separated from God
- that you are willing to make lifestyle changes that will honor God
- that you are unable to be good on your own
- that you trust Jesus is able to pay the full penalty for your sinful choices

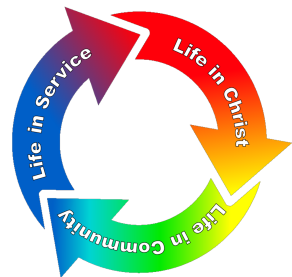
OUR  
**JOURNEY**  
OF  
**GODLY**  
**GROWTH**





Once we have committed to Jesus we begin a journey in which God adopts us into His family and begins to teach us how we should live according to His kingdom and His principles. In this new life we stop doing the things we once did that dishonored God (sin) and we begin doing things that honor him (good works). But we are not left alone to figure this out, Jesus promised us he would provide the Holy Spirit who would lead and guide us into all truth. He also left behind some tools for us to know how we should now live our lives as his child...

- **Baptism** – which is a witness to our world of our commitment and our physical sign of being adopted as part of Christ’s community called the church
- **Community or church family** – which is God’s way of bring along side of us others who are gifted in many ways to help us grow
- **Communion** – which is a constant reminder of our new connection with God
- *These elements come together to form the church and the church then engages the world through service.*



# OUR FULL SURRENDER



As we walk this new journey with God, he begins to point out the sin in our lives and how we need to become more like him (we call this holiness). Eventually in this process of learning more about God we begin to realize that in our human state there is no way we can become perfectly holy and pleasing to God. We have been saved purely by God's grace through Jesus but God desires us to be perfectly Holy which seems to be impossible. It is at this point that:

- some people give up on their faith and walk away from God
- some people resign to be content where they are and stop growing and just attend to faith out of duty as a means to keep peace with God
- some find a way around this problem

The solution to the blockade is surrender. God is calling us to fully surrender our lives to His control. Even after initially committing to Christ, we still like to be in control even of our salvation but God desires to be fully in control as Lord of our Life. We enter into the fullness of God's life on this earth as we come to fully surrender our wills to Him. This might take months or even years for a believer in their faith journey.

# JUDGEMENT



DARKNESS + DEATH



HEAVEN



While God has saved us from spiritual death we are told in scripture and constantly reminded of it in life that we will sooner or later physically die. For those who have allowed Jesus to bridge the gap between them and God, God promises that in death we will enter into His paradise where we will be made perfect. Sadly, for those who choose not to seek restoration with God, they will be judged and be cast away into ultimate death and darkness apart from God forever.

- Ecclesiastes 7:2 - It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart.
- Rom 14:10-12 - You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: " 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.' " So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.
- Hebrews 9:27-28 - Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.



# What is your story?

We've shared the highlights of our story and Christ's story but it would be our honor to learn a little bit about your story. Could you take a moment to give us a little sketch of who you are?

What is your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended much church in the past?

What was church like when you attended?

Did it make sense?

What do you feel is the purpose of your life? Why are you here?

In the picture labeled “Our Response and Choice”, which side of the bridge do you see yourself being on?

If you would start going to church, what would you hope to gain from it?

