Following Christ AND Fishing For Men MATTHEW 4:19

Lesson Three

God So Loved the World

John 3:16

All you have ever known is an existence on earth. The Bible says that your time on earth is a very short time (Psa. 89:47; James 4:14), In a second of time your life could be at an end. Do you know where you will be after that last breath? Many millions do not know where they will be, and some do not care. The Lord has provided a way for us to be with Him forever. There is a real and perfect heaven that is being prepared for those that are saved (John 14:1–6), There is also a real Hell that all people that are without Christ must go when they die. This will be an eternal place without God while heaven is an eternal place with God. God makes all the difference. Jesus told Nicodemus, who was a religious man, that he needed a spiritual birth to enter God's kingdom. We must be born again to be with God in heaven, referring to a second spiritual birth as well as the first physical birth (John 3:7–8). Where will you spend eternity? How about the people that you know? There are some things that must be known to be saved and help others to be saved.

I.		All People Have (Rom. 3:10)
	A.	Mankind has a serious problem (Rom. 3:11–18).
	B.	God does not see one person more than the next (Rom. 3:19–23).
	C.	The payment for sin is eternal (Rom. 6:23)

first time in shame. It is also seen in God seeking for Adam after his sin. He had to seek for Adam because Adam had died to Him. Death is sin's payment or reward. The problem with mankind is that they are separated from God and dead in their sins (Isa. 59:2; Eph. 2:1–5). While living on earth in our physical bodies we exist dead in our sins until we receive spiritual life from God. If we do not receive spiritual life through Christ before we are separated from this physical world, we will immediately find ourselves in the place of eternal separation or death which is called Hell (Rev. 6:8; 20:13).

II.		Ch	rist	Offers Himself To Be	To All.			
	A.	•		Christ came to	mankind to God (Luke			
		1.	To per	d to sin's				
			a.	The is God came to earth to die for o	=			
			b.	Jesus Christ gave Hi	is life for us (John 10:18).			
		2.		order to reconcile us to God, Jesus I Hell by His				

• Without Christ's resurrection there is no life. One must believe the resurrection to be saved. Jesus Christ died and was raised from the grave. This declared Him to be the Son of God with power (Rom. 1:4). This power will raise every man that is in Christ Jesus (I Cor. 6:14; 15:21–22; II Cor. 4:14; Eph. 1:18–21).

III.	All People	Come	Into	God's	Family	The	
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A.	Only	C	an justi	fy (Rom	. 8:30–33).	

- Being justified is being "declared righteous" before God. Only
 God can declare someone righteous. We can say we are
 righteous and convince everybody on earth we are righteous,
 we can even believe that God has declared us righteous, but it
 is only God that justifies, and He justifies based upon His
 criteria not ours.
- 1. Keeping the _____ does not justify us (Rom. 3:20, Acts 13:38–39).
 - The law was given to us to show us that we are not good enough to be justified. Many people look to the law and somehow are deceiving themselves to believe that they will enter heaven based upon keeping the law. The law cannot save a man no matter how we try to keep it. A person must come to the place where there is no justification of you based upon anything in yourself.
- 2. Justification is achieved through our ______ in Christ and maintained by the faith of Christ (Rom. 3:21–28; 5:1,9–10; Gal. 2:16; 3:24).
 - God chose to justify us through faith in His Son who completely and perfectly kept the law and fulfilled the requirements of God's holiness. Above that He gave His own perfect body as a sinless sacrifice. This action appeared God's holy wrath against sin. This made it possible for every man to come to God by faith in Christ's sacrifice (Isa. 45:24–25).

- B. When God justifies us, we stand before God as _____having been a sinner (I Cor. 6:9–11, Titus 3:5–8).
 - We are reconciled to God by our faith in Jesus Christ, having His righteousness applied to our account while our sin was transferred to His account. When we stand before God in Christ we stand before Him as His own Son stands before Him, perfect without sin.
- C. Have _____ come to God by faith in Christ (Luke 18:10–14)?

Many people believe that Jesus came from heaven and died on the cross for our sin, but do not believe that faith in Christ alone will save them. Faith in Christ means to place all your trust in what Christ has done for you in His death, and resurrection to reconcile you to God. To have God justify, you must come to God His way, without any trust in yourself. Mercy must be your basis for salvation and a call to God for mercy must be your method. If you have never trusted Christ to receive Him as your Saviour, are you willing to call to Him today?

Dear Lord Jesus, I am sinner separated from you by my sin. I trust your sinless sacrifice as the complete payment for my sin. I trust your resurrection from the grave as a declaration of your power over death and Hell. Please forgive me by your grace as I place all of my faith in you today. In Jesus' name. Amen.