

Steps

of



Presented by
The Oasis Christian Church

This workbook belongs to

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Course Orientation

A Note to Parents

God created both the church and the family and He created them to compliment one another, not to compete against each other. Proverbs 22:6 says parents should, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." It is our desire at The Oasis Christian Church to partner with parents as they assist their children in their own spiritual walk. *The Steps of Faith* class is designed to help parents lead their children to a life-changing relationship with Christ.

Parental Pointers

Congratulations on your commitment to help lead your child through the steps of faith required to be a life-long follower (disciple) of Jesus. Here are a few ways to help your child through this process.

1. **Applaud your child** for his/her interest in taking the *Steps of Faith* class and encourage him/her to complete at home assignments weekly and discuss questions with you openly.
2. **Resist pressuring your child for a decision.** After completing this course, you and your child will have a better understanding of the steps of faith God requires to walk with Him.
3. **Remember**, the task of directing a child's heart toward God is not that of the parent or any teacher; it is through the prompting of the Holy Spirit alone. **So be patient.**
4. **Look for teachable moments** and be prepared to discuss the steps of salvation and what it means to live for Jesus with your child. Make sure your words are on the same level as your child's' understanding.

Goals

Our goals for this class are simple. We seek to:

1. Bring children and their parents together to talk about God and His plan of salvation.
2. Teach the timeless story of salvation in such a simple way that children can understand what we must do to be saved.
3. Lead children and their parents into discussions about salvation and what it means to be a Christian and live for Christ everyday.

PART 1

God's Love

The Salvation Story

The Bible says that in the beginning there was only God. God has no beginning and no ending. However, He was not really alone, because you see, God is really three persons- God, the father; Jesus, the Son; The Holy Spirit, the Counselor. All three together are God. Everything about God is perfect and holy. He created the angels to live with Him in Heaven forever. But some of the angels did not love Him, so God made them leave Heaven. God made the universe and everything in it. He made the sun, plants, moon and stars. He made the plants and animals, birds and fish. Then, when He was finished, He made people. Adam was the first man and Eve was his wife. God put them in a beautiful garden called the Garden of Eden and gave them everything they needed to live. And God enjoyed all that He had created - especially Adam and Eve.

(Revelation 1:8, Genesis 1:1, Hebrews 1:7, 14)

Exploring the Bible

Truth #1

God loves me and has an awesome plan for my life!

Read John 3:16

"For God so loved the _____, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever _____ in Him will not perish but have everlasting life."

What does the Bible say about God's love for us?

- _____
- _____
- _____

God's Plan for Your Life

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "Plans to _____ you and not to harm you, plans to give you a _____ and a _____."

Because God loves us so much, He has an awesome plan for our lives. We can find His plan for all people in the Bible. Look up the following verses and you will begin to understand God's exciting plan for your life.

Read Ephesians 1:4-5

"Long before He laid down the Earth's foundations, He had _____ on His mind, He had settled on us as the _____ _____ _____, to be made whole and holy by His love. Long, long ago He decided to adopt us into His family through Jesus Christ. What pleasure He took in planning this."

God's plan is for us to be _____

How do you feel about being chosen to be a member of God's family?

Read John 10:10

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have _____ and have it to the _____."

The life God gives is full and lasts forever. When we try to live according to our own plan, life becomes dull and empty. When we walk with Jesus, we experience a full life.

What do you think a full life looks like? _____

(For help answering the question above, read **2 Peter 1:1-11.**)

Read Matthew 22:35:40

“One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord 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.’”

Jesus squeezed all the teachings of the Old Testament books and the words of the Jewish prophets into two commandments.

God’s plan is for us to love Him with our whole _____, _____ and _____ and love one another.

Read Ephesians 2:10

“No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He created each of us by Christ Jesus to join Him in the work He does, the good work He has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.”

While no action or work we do can help us obtain salvation, God’s intention is that our salvation will result in acts of service. We are not saved for our benefit only, but to serve Christ and build up the church.

God’s plan for us is to _____.

What good work for God can you do?

PART 2

My Problem

After God created Adam and Eve, a sad thing happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They let Satan, one of the bad angels, talk them into doing something God had told them not to do. God punished them by making them leave the Garden of Eden. Their sins had separated them from God. Every person born since Adam and Eve disobeys God, too. That is why all people die and *should* go to a place of punishment forever. Like everyone else, you sometimes will do bad things, too. Our problem with sin can keep us from enjoying life and being with God now and forever. God could leave us like that and punish us just as He did Adam and Eve and the bad angels.

(Romans 3:10, 23, 6:23, Genesis 3:1-24, John 3:16)

Exploring the Bible

God wants you to know Him as your Heavenly Father. He wants your life on earth to be fulfilling and exciting. He also wants you to spend eternity in Heaven with Him. However, we have a problem that can keep us from enjoying life and being with God. That problem is called sin. There is a second truth that affects our relationship with God.

The first truth was "God loves me and has an awesome plan for my life." That truth has to do with God. This next truth is about us.

Truth #2

I have a problem with sin, which separates me from God.

What keeps us from loving God and following His awesome plan? _____

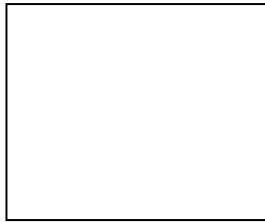
The Bible tells us that sin is...

Scripture	Sin is...
1 John 5:17	
1 John 3:4	
James 4:17	

We sin by doing what is wrong (commission) and by not doing what is right (omission).

Draw a Circle

Try to draw a perfect circle in the box below without using a compass or any other tool. Is your circle perfect? Is it possible for us to be perfect people?



Read Romans 3:23

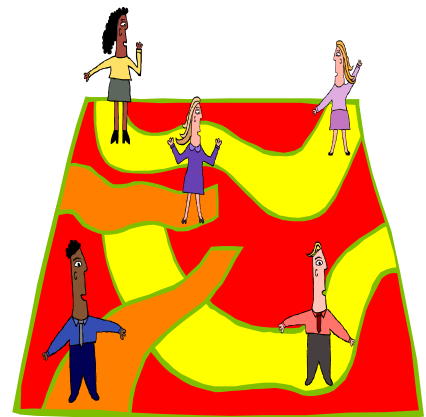
“For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”

Do you feel like you have sinned against God? _____ .

Examples of Sin

Make a list of some examples of what sin is.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____



Read Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sins is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus.”

What is God’s consequence for sin? _____

Sin separates me from God.



AT HOME

Applying at Home—God’s Love

Question and Answer: How much does God love us?

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Memory Verse - Memorize the following verse from the Bible.

John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.”

Applying at Home—My Problem

Question & Answer: How does God feel about us?

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Memory Verse - Memorize the following verses from the Bible.

Romans 3:23 says, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 6:23 says, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus.”

PART 3

God's Solution

The Salvation Story

Because God loves us so much, He wants us to live with Him forever in Heaven. Our sin should keep us out of Heaven, but instead God invites everyone to come to Him and ask for forgiveness of our sins. And He promises forgiveness to each one who asks. If God forgives us, does that mean that the bad things we do are not really all that bad? No, they are bad! In fact, they are so bad that even though God forgives us and doesn't punish us, He still punishes every one of our sins. How can God punish our sins and not punish us? God's Son, Jesus, came to Earth to take the punishment for us. Jesus was willing to come down from Heaven and become human, like us, and be punished for our sins. Unlike us, Jesus never did anything wrong. Not even once. He did everything right all through His life, and God was totally pleased with Him. Jesus didn't deserve to be punished. But He took our punishment; God can now treat us as if we lived a perfect life, like Jesus did. To complete His plan, God raised Jesus from the dead after three days. Forty days after that, Jesus went back to Heaven. The very best thing about being forgiven is that we don't have to be punished and someday we can go to the amazing place called Heaven and live with God forever.

(Romans 3:10, 23 & 6:23, Genesis 3:1-24, John 3:16, Isaiah 53:5-6, Matthew 3:17, Romans 5:8-10, 1Corinthians 15:3-4)

Exploring the Bible

The third truth for us to have a wonderful relationship with God points us to the only person who can solve our problem with sin.

Truth #3
God has the solution to my problem with sin.
His name is Jesus.

When people discover they have a problem with sin, they often try to solve the problem themselves before turning to God. Here are three ways you might try to solve your problem with sin.

1. Relying on your _____.
2. Going to _____.
3. Try hard to be _____.

In the Old Testament, there are **613** laws. God reduced all these laws down to ten. In the New Testament, Jesus summarized all these laws into **2** commandments. (**Matthew 22:36-40**). God's laws cannot make anyone good. Instead, they are like a mirror that helps make us aware of our sin and our need for Jesus.

How many of the Ten Commandments do you know? Exodus 20

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

What are the two commandments Jesus says we should follow?

1. Love the Lord with all your _____, _____ & _____.
2. Love your _____ as your self.

Read James 2:10

“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of them.”

What happens if you break just one of God’s laws?

Jesus is the Answer

God has already taken care of your problem with sin. Look up the Bible verses and see what each one says about Jesus.

John 3:16 Jesus is _____.

John 14:6 Jesus is _____.

Romans 5:8 Jesus _____.

1 Peter 3:18 Jesus _____.

Read 1 Timothy 2:3-6

“This is the way our Savior God wants us to love. He wants not only us but everyone saved, you know, everyone to get to know the truth we’ve learned: that there is one God and only one. And one Priest-Mediator between God and us—Jesus, who offered himself in exchange for everyone held captive by sin, to set them all free. Eventually the news is going to get out.”

Who does God want to be saved from sin? _____

PART 4

My Decision

The Salvation Story

You may be wondering; can God forgive me just like that? Do I have to do something? God's forgiveness is a gift! He offers it to everyone! But we must receive His gift. There are four words in the Bible that tell us how to receive God's free gift of forgiveness. The first word is **FAITH**. Faith means believing in things you cannot see. You must have faith that Jesus alone could die for you and that He did die so God could forgive you for all the bad things you do (sin). You must have faith that Jesus came back to life. The idea of faith is to believe that God really does exist and that He can save you. Then you must ask yourself if you are ready to make a commitment to do whatever He tells you to do. The second word is **REPENT**. To repent means to turn away. You must admit you have sinned and promise to try very hard to stay away from sin. You must stop trying to cover or defend your wrong actions, thoughts & words and just admit you are wrong. The third word is **CONFESS**. You must make a public admission of your commitment to Jesus. That means telling Him you are sorry for all the bad things you do and that you want His special gift of forgiveness. The fourth word is **BAPTISM**. The Holy Spirit will come to live inside you and will help you to love and live for God for the rest of your life. The Holy Spirit will help you obey God and live with Him forever. Tell all your friends the amazing story of how God forgives people and how He can forgive you.

(Romans 10:9-10, John 1:12-13,
1 John 1:8-9, 1 Cor. 6:19-20).

Exploring the Bible

The fourth truth in our relationship with God is a decision that we all must make. "What do I do about Jesus?" This is truly the most important decision you will make in your life because it will determine whether you will spend eternity with Jesus or not.

Truth #4
I have a decision to make about Jesus.

Read Matthew 7:13-14

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow is the road that leads to life, only a few find it.

God gives us freedom to choose for ourselves what path we want our life to take. Describe the two directions we can choose according to the verses above.

1. _____
2. _____

What are some ways to make wise decisions?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Accepting Jesus into My Life

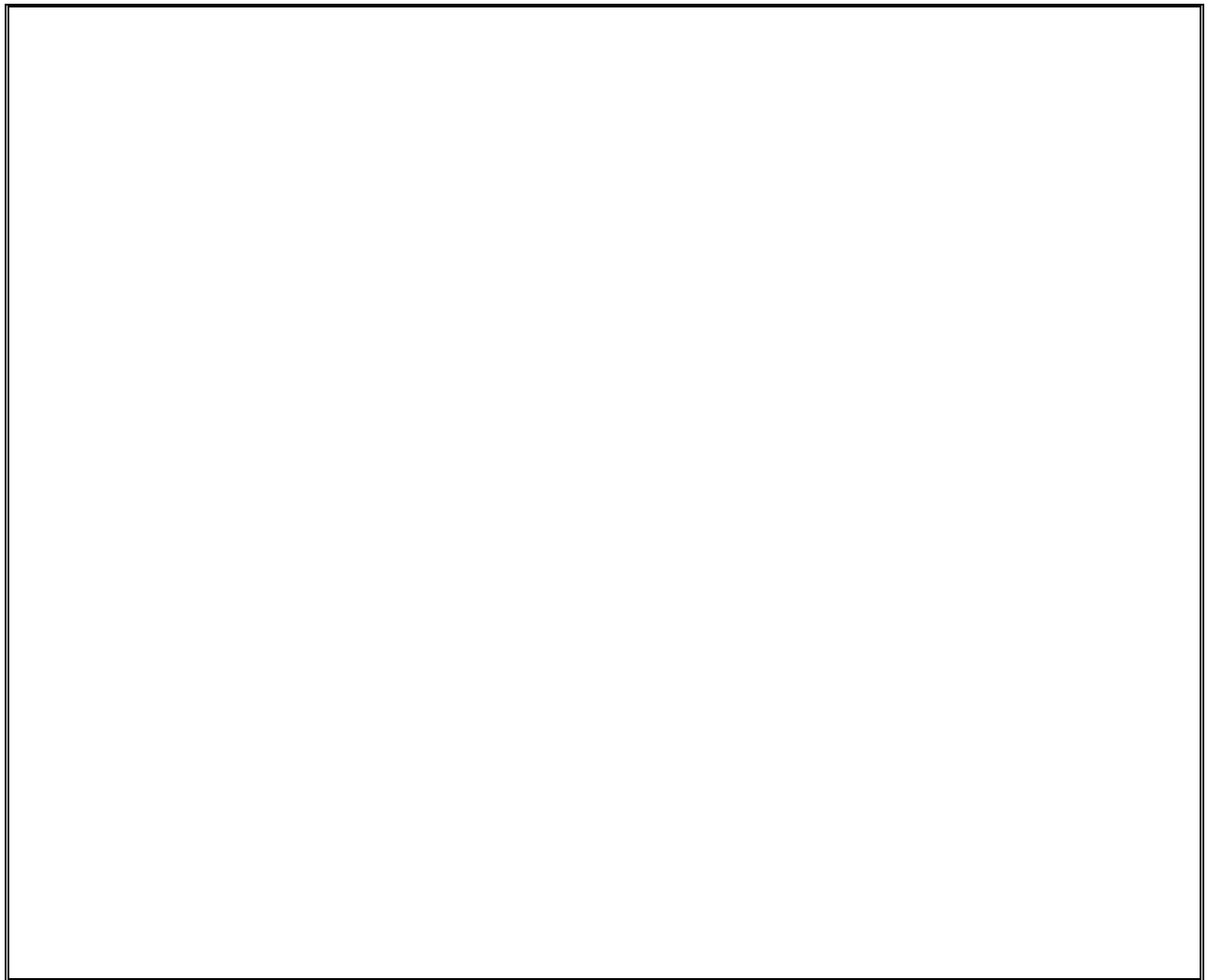
The chart below will help you discover for yourself how people receive Jesus. Read each of the Biblical accounts of people accepting Jesus and place a check under each step that is commanded, completed or described in the Bible story.

Scripture	Situation	Faith <i>I believe</i>	Repent <i>I turn</i>	Confess <i>I admit</i>	Baptism <i>I obey</i>
Acts 2:38	On Pentecost				
Acts 8:12-13	Samaritans				
Acts 8:36-39	Ethiopian				
Acts 26:18	Saul				
Acts 16:14-15	Lydia				
Acts 16:30-33	Jailer				
Acts 17:30-31	Paul Preaches in Athens				
Romans 10:9-10	Paul Preaches				

Although every example does not include every step, it is reasonable to say that when any step is mentioned in the Bible that much is required to become a follower of Jesus. And we must remember God meets people where they are so a person who already believes needs to only take the next three steps.

Crossing the Bridge

The bridge illustration is a tool to help us understand how Jesus solves our problem with sin and what we must do to accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. To cross the bridge to God that Jesus provides we must believe, repent, confess and be baptized. Draw the bridge in the space below and make sure to include the following words: ***me, God, sin, love, Jesus, believe, repent, confess*** and ***baptism***.



AT HOME

Applying at Home-God's Solution

Question and Answer: Why did Jesus die for us?

OS RUO SNSI DOUWL EB GVNEIFOR

Memory Verse - Memorize the following verse from the Bible.

John 14:6 says, "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

Applying at Home-My Decision

Question and Answer – What must we do to be forgiven?

CERIEVE SEJSU

What is God's special gift to everyone who accepts Jesus?

NEERTAL FEIL

Memory Verse - Memorize the following verse from the Bible.

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ Jesus, he is a new creation; the old is gone and the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17

- I am ready to follow Jesus and am ready to be obedient in baptism.
- I'm not ready yet.

Why did you check this box? _____

Testimony For Baptism

Please fill out and return to the church office after a decision to be baptized has been made. This will be read during the baptism.

Name _____ Age _____

Parent's Names _____

1. I want to become a Christian because...

2. I was brought to the point of wanting to be baptized because...

3. To me, being baptized means...

4. The person who helped bring me to this moments and has influenced me the most is...

At Home Study

Growing With God

When you get baptized, you're just beginning your faith walk with God.

The path to a Godly life is one that lasts your **whole** life.

What are some of the ways we can know how to walk with God?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Communion/ Lord's Supper

There are several things Christians do to grow in their faith walk: one of them is to take _____ with other believers each Sunday as we were commanded to do by Jesus.

Read Luke 22:19-20

"And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way, after the supper He took the cup, saying 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you.'"

The bread and the juice remind us of Jesus' body and blood that was nailed to the cross for us.

Baptism happens only once because it marks a beginning or a change in your life, but Communion happens each Lord's Day and is a time to ask for forgiveness, to thank God for Jesus and what He did for us and to remind us to be more like Jesus everyday.

Reading the Bible

God has given us an instruction book on how to live a Godly life. It is the _____. In order for us to know how to live we must read it and study the Scriptures then apply it to our live. God used human hands to write the Bible but every word came from Him. Even though the Bible has _____ individual books and _____ authors and was written over the course of _____ years it is perfect in every way because it was God-breathed.

Getting into the habit of reading the Bible every day is easier when you are young. Reading the Bible helps us grow with God.

Taking Time to Pray

New Christians and old ones should spend time each day in prayer. The Bible gives us an example to follow called the _____. This prayer teaches us to pray to our Heavenly Father. It instructs us to pray for and accept God's will, ask for strength to put off sin and to be thankful for His daily care. We must also forgive others or God will not forgive us. A good way to remember how to pray is **A – C – T – S**.

A – ADORATION – is praising God for who He is and what He has done for us in Jesus.

C – CONFESSION – saying what our sins are and asking for forgiveness for them.

T – THANKFULNESS – saying thank you for all of the blessing God has given us.

S – SUPPLICATION – asking for what we want and need.

Worship

Each Sunday it is important to be in the Lord's house. Even one of the Ten Commandments says to keep the Sabbath day holy. Attending church is very important, and while we are there we should participate in worship. Worship is not just singing songs. Worship happens in your heart when you spend time thinking about how amazing and how holy God is and how grateful we are that we can live with Him forever.

Giving back and Serving others

God also wants us to do more than just take everything in. He wants us to serve others and even give some of our money (\$.10 for every dollar) back to Him through our gifts to the church. God wants some of our money as a reminder that He gives us so much more than we could ever pay for, but He also wants us to serve others as well. Can you think of any ways we can serve others?

Appendix

Answer Sheet

The answers for the blanks in your Steps of Faith workbook are provided below. Simply locate the correct page and the answers will appear in the order in which they occur. When more than one blank appears on one line the answers will read from left to right.

Page	Answers
4	world, believes
5	prosper, hope, future
5	us; focus of His love
5	be adopted into God's family
5	life, fullest
6	heart, soul, mind
6	serve Christ and build up the church
7	Sin
7	doing things that are wrong; breaking God's law; not doing what is right
8	Death
10	More than anyone or anything else
10	God still loves us
12	Parents; church; good
12	Heart, soul, mind; neighbor
13	guilty of breaking them all
13	our Savior; the way, the truth and the life; died for us; paid for our sins by dying on the cross
13	Everyone
18	So our sins would be forgiven
18	Receive Jesus
18	Eternal Life
20	Communion
21	Bible; 66, 40, over 1200; The Lord's Prayer