

CREATION TO CHRIST



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The gospel is the story of how God has worked from the beginning of time to bring salvation to man. This story begins with the creation of the world and goes through the resurrection of Christ. The story is long, but you can learn it in parts. The story is meant to be shared as one complete story which should take from 10-20 minutes to share. However, if time is limited you can also try to share the story in parts. The story can be simplified if time is limited. Basically:

- *There is a creator, the Most High God*
- *He created us to have a relationship with Him, to love him, to obey him*
- *We broke that relationship and became separated from the Most High God*
- *God made a way for us to re-establish our relationship with Him*
- *Through Jesus, we can have forgiveness of our sins and eternal life*
- *We can do this by repenting of your sin, believing in Jesus, and receiving Jesus' free gift of eternal life*
- *Do you want to do this today?*

This story is meant to be thoroughly known and understood by the sharer but is not meant to be memorized word for word. It is much more effective when it becomes the sharer's own story and when he/she shares it from his/her heart.

PART 1: THE MOST HIGH GOD

I want to tell you a story. This story is from a book called the Bible. Men did not make up the Bible. It is the word of the Most High God. These stories are true and reliable because they are God's words.

There is only one God, and He is the Most High God. He is more powerful than men and kingdoms. He is more powerful than all other gods. He is also more powerful than idols made by men. The Most High God is the most powerful.

PART 2: CREATION

The Most High God is the Creator. He existed before time began. He created everything on earth and in heaven.

When God began to create things, He just used His words. He spoke and everything came into being. He created angels to worship and serve Him in heaven.

God created everything in 6 days. He created the sky, land, water, mountains, oceans, sun, moon, stars, all plant and animals. Finally, He created man according to His own image. He created man to have a relationship with Him. God loved man and wanted him to enjoy all that He has created. God created everything and saw that it was good. The Most High God is the Creator God.

PART 3: SEPARATION

God placed man in a beautiful garden to live. He told the man to take care of the garden and to enjoy everything. He gave man a command: "You can eat from every tree in the garden except one. If you eat from that tree, you will die." God gave man a woman to be his companion. Man and woman listened to God and had a wonderful relationship with Him in the garden.

Remember the angels that God created? One of the angels was very smart and very beautiful. This angel became very proud. He wanted to be like God and to have the other angels worship him instead of God. Only God deserves all the worship and service. Therefore God cast this bad angel, Satan, and all the other angels who listened to him out of heaven. These bad angels are known as demons.

Satan came to the garden and tempted the man and the woman to eat the fruit of the tree that was forbidden. Satan lied to the man and woman saying, "Did God really say you couldn't eat from any tree in the garden?" The woman responded "We can eat from every tree in the garden except we must not eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. If we eat from that tree we will die." Satan said, "You will not die. If you eat from that tree you will be like God." The woman listened to Satan. She took the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband to eat. They disobeyed God's command when they ate the fruit.

Disobeying God's command is sin. God is righteous and holy. He must punish sin. The punishment for sin is eternal death. Death means to be separated from God forever. God cast the man and the woman out of the garden and their relationship with God was broken. God and man were now separated forever.

All people have sinned by not obeying God's commands. We are all separated from God and will be punished forever in hell.

PART 4: SACRIFICE

Over time, the number of people on the earth multiplied. God loved them very much and wanted them to have a relationship with Him. He gave them 10 commandments to follow. The 10 commandments teach man how to relate to God and people. Some of the commands were: do not have other gods or make idols; honor your parents; do not lie, steal, murder or commit adultery. God is perfect and holy, so we people must be perfect and holy to live with him.

However, no one was able to obey all the commands. God is righteous and just. He has to punish sin. So, each time the people sinned, God allowed them to repent of their sins and offer a blood sacrifice to take the place of the punishment that they deserved. This sacrifice required shedding the blood of a perfect, male animal. For God said, "There must be repentance and the shedding of blood for forgiveness of sin."

However, man did not truly repent and kept sinning. The blood sacrifice became a ritual. God was not pleased with the blood of sacrificial animals. Obeying the commandments and offering of blood sacrifices can not reconcile us to God. What can be done?

PART 5: JESUS

God still loved man whom He created very much. He was angry that man would disobey Him and sad that man could not be together with Him. Therefore He gave man the only perfect way to have a relationship with Him.

God sent Jesus to show us the way back to Himself. Who is Jesus? Jesus is God's son, His one and only son.

- *Jesus is a wise teacher. (He teaches us how to return to God)*
- *Jesus is a powerful miracle worker.*
- *Jesus' power is greater than the power of nature. (calmed the storm)*
- *Jesus fed over 5000 people (with only 5 loaves of bread and two fish)*
- *Jesus' power is able to satisfy man's needs.*
- *Jesus healed a demon possessed man.*
- *Jesus' power is greater than demons.*
- *Jesus raised the dead. (Lazarus)*
- *Jesus' power is greater than death. (resurrection)*
- *Jesus performed many miracles proving He was God's son.*
- *Jesus is the good shepherd. He loves and cares for people.*
- *Jesus is perfect. He never sinned.*

PART 6: SOLUTION / DEATH / RESURRECTION

Jesus is God's perfect sacrifice.

Many people loved Jesus. They believed Jesus and followed Him. However, some leaders hated Jesus and they were jealous of Him. They made plans to kill Jesus. When they had captured Him, they placed him on a cross. A cross is made from 2 large pieces of wood formed together. They took His hands and His feet and nailed them to the cross. His blood flowed from His hands, feet and body. He suffered much pain and He died on the cross.

Because Jesus never sinned, Jesus is the perfect blood sacrifice. He never did anything to bring shame to God and did not deserve to die. But God sent Him to die on the cross and take the punishment for the sins of man, all people. He died on the cross in our place. Only through the shedding of His blood is God able to forgive our sin. Jesus death demonstrates God's love for us. However, this story doesn't end here. On the third day Jesus rose from the dead! He proved that He has the power over death.

PART 7: REPENTANCE

While Jesus was still on the earth He told a story.

There was a father who had 2 sons. One day the younger son came to his father and said, "Give me my share of the inheritance." So he divided the property between them. The younger son went to a distant country and wasted his money on wild living.

After he spent all he had, he began to be in need. So he got a job feeding pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the food that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired men have food to spare and I am starving to death here?" I will go back to my father's house and say to him: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be your son; make me like one of your hired men.'

So he went home to his father. But while he was still far off on the road home, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him. He ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, "Father I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

We are all just like this younger son. The Most High God welcomes us back to the relationship with Him.

PART 8: RESTORATION

We all haven't obeyed God's commands. We have all sinned. Sin causes us to be forever separated from God. But God still loves us. He wants us to repent and come back Him. Do you want to return to God?

Jesus can bring us back to God. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." We must go through Jesus to return to God. How can we know God through Jesus? You must believe in your heart and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord.

God wants you and your whole family to return to Him. Jesus is the perfect sacrifice and He is the only way to restore our relationship with God. Do you want to go through Jesus to return to God? Yes or no?

If you want to, you must believe in your heart and confess, "God I have sinned. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe Jesus is the perfect sacrifice who died and took the punishment for my sins and then was resurrected. I repent and ask that You forgive me. I accept Jesus as the Lord of my life. From now on, I will follow Jesus."

Great! Now your relationship with God is restored. Jesus has brought you back to God. I know you care about your family. God loves them too and wants them to return to Him.

You should go home and tell your family and friends this good news. Are you willing to go and tell others?

NOTE: SCRIPTURES USED TO PREPARE THE STORY:

- 2 Timothy 3:16
- Psalm 115:3-8
- 1 Chronicles 16:25-28
- Nehemiah 9:6
- Genesis 1:1-2:3
- Genesis 1:26-26
- Genesis 2:4-25
- Ezekiel 28:12b-17
- Isaiah 14:12-15
- Genesis 2:8-9, 16-17, 3:1-24
- Isaiah 14:12-15
- Romans 3:23
- Romans 6:23a
- Exodus 20:1-17
- Hebrews 9:22b
- Leviticus 1:1-3; 4:13-21
- Isaiah 1:11
- John 3:16
- Luke 1:31-37
- Matthew 5:1-7:29
- Mark 4:35-5:20
- Mark 6:30-44
- John 11:1-44
- John 10:7-15
- Psalm 23:1-3
- 1 Peter 2:22
- Hebrews 9:14
- John 1:29
- Luke 23:20-25, 32-48
- Revelation 5:9
- 1 Peter 1:19
- Romans 5:8
- Luke 24:1-50
- Isaiah 53:6
- Luke 15:11-24
- John 14:6
- Romans 10:9-10