

MOST PEOPLE HAVE A SENSE OF THIS SEPARATION FROM GOD

In order to get to God, they try to do good things. They may give to a charity, or start going to church, or try to be nicer to their families. While these things are good, they fall short and do not get us to God. The Bible says, *"There is a way that seems right to man, but in the end it leads to death."* – Proverbs 14:12

The truly bad news is that our sin must be punished. The Bible says, *"the wages of sin is death."* – Romans 6:23

That means when we die, we will spend eternity in a place called hell, a place of complete separation from God. Only an amazing love can save us.

The Bible also says, *"If anyone's name was not found in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."* – Revelation 20:15

FREEDOM

We celebrate freedom in America on July 4; freedom from tyranny, freedom to worship God. We cherish freedom. But, the greatest freedom was won for us on a cross, not a battlefield.

John 8:36 gives us this great truth, *"So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."*

When we believe in Jesus and make Him Lord of our lives, He makes us free. Free from the penalty of sin that we deserve, free to be all He made us to be, free to walk and talk with God.

It is our prayer that you celebrate this freedom every day.



Freedom



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

GOD CREATED US AND LOVES US VERY MUCH

The same God that created the whole world and everything in it, created each one of us! But there is a problem. We are separated from God because of the bad choices, or the sin, in our life. That sin separates us from God. The Bible says that, *"all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* – Romans 3:23



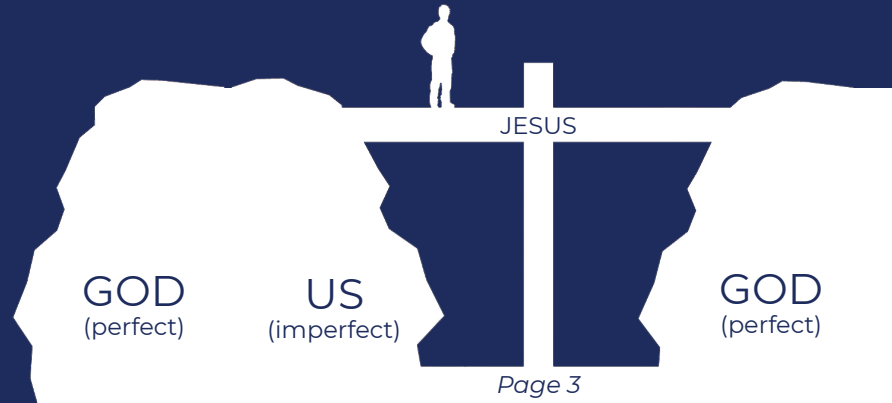
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BUT, THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

"For God so loved and dearly prized the world, that He gave His only begotten Son so that whoever would believe in Him would not perish, but have everlasting life." – John 3:16

God did something for us that we could not do for ourselves. He sent His Son, Jesus, to bridge the gap between Himself and us. The Bible says, *"Christ died for our sins . . . to bring us to God."* – 1 Peter 3:18

Jesus paid for our sins when He died on the cross. Through Him, we can experience the miracle of eternal life.



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WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

You are on one side, away from God, but you want to be on the other side, with Him. What do you have to do to cross over, through Jesus Christ? You do that by confessing (admitting) your sins to God and asking God to forgive you of those sins. Then you ask Him to take control of your life; give you direction every day. The Bible says, *"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."*

– Romans 10:9

If you would like to do this, say this prayer from your heart:

Dear God,
I believe that Jesus was Your Son. I believe that He died on the cross and was raised from the dead. I admit to you that I am a sinner and that I need your forgiveness. Please forgive me and save me. I turn from my sins and look to Jesus as my daily guide. Amen!

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