

# 4 HOW CAN YOU MEET YOUR GREATEST NEED?

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## IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY THE FOLLOWING:

- *What Is Your Greatest Need?*
  - *How Does Jesus Meet Your Greatest Need?*
  - *Is Jesus Your Savior?*
  - *What About Your Other Needs?*
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## WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST NEED?

### IS IT FOR YOUR BODY OR SOUL?

The person who is lost in a desert or jungle, or who is adrift on a raft in the ocean, needs to be rescued. The starving man needs food; the condemned prisoner needs pardon. The person who has been poisoned needs medicine.

Although these needs are vital, you have an even greater need. You are much more than a body. You have a spiritual nature, a soul. Your soul is the spring of real life in you. Without God, though, it is ruined. You are like a person dying of thirst. Life and health for your soul are more important than the most urgent need of your body.

**Romans 5:12.** "Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

### YOUR GREATEST NEED IS A SAVIOR

The Holy Bible teaches us that the human soul is lost, starving, deathly sick, and condemned to die. Therefore, each person needs a Savior to find, feed, cure, and pardon him or her. A Savior is your greatest need because you cannot save yourself.

- Having religious parents will not save you.
- Being a religious person will not save you.

- Trying to be good will not save you.
- Without a Savior, you cannot be saved.

### TO HELP YOU LEARN

- Which phrase describes the greatest problem a person can have? Draw a line under it: physical disease, spiritual death, lack of food.
- I, (your name) \_\_\_\_\_, may have many needs, but my greatest need of all is for a \_\_\_\_\_, because I cannot \_\_\_\_\_ myself from sin and death.
- If you have already accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, this lesson is still very important for you. It tells how He will help you day by day.

## HOW DOES JESUS MEET YOUR GREATEST NEED?

### JESUS IS THE SAVIOR GOD HAS SENT FOR YOU

God sent His Son to find, feed, and cure your sick, starving soul that was lost in sin. He became a man so that He could die in your place and give you a pardon. His name is Jesus, which means Savior. Only He can save you.

***Jesus became a man so that He could die in your place and become your Savior.***

### Memorize This

**Acts 4:12.** "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

### JESUS SHOWS YOU THE TRUTH AND THE WAY

Satan has blinded our minds with error and unbelief. We have wandered away from God and lost our way. The devil tries to make us doubt God's Word, power, wisdom, goodness, and love. Some people even doubt that God exists.

**2 Corinthians 4:4.** "The god of this world has blinded the minds of

unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel."

Satan deceives many people with false religions. Some pray to spirits or images.

**Romans 1:22-23.** "They became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles."

Satan lies to us about what is good for us and what is right or wrong. We go down the wrong road looking for happiness, but we find death instead.

Jesus, unlike Satan, came to find us and lead us back to God, to happiness, and eternal life. In Him and His teaching you will learn the truth and be free from unbelief and error.

## Memorize This

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

**Luke 19:10.** "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

**John 8:12.** "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

**John 8:32.** "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

If anyone comes to God sincerely wanting to know the truth and willing to follow it, God will show it to him or her. Read the Holy Bible and pray with an open mind; be willing to do what God wants.

**John 7:17.** "If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own."

**Ephesians 4:22-23.** "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds."

## TO HELP YOU LEARN

*Answer with the word **Jesus** or **Satan**.*

- Who blinds us as to what is good? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who shows us what God is like? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who frees us from error and unbelief? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who makes us doubt God's Word? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who leads people into false religions? \_\_\_\_\_

# Prayer

*Thank You, God, for sending Your Son Jesus to teach me the truth. Please show me the truth and help me to follow it, whatever it costs.*

## JESUS CURES THE DEADLY SIN OF YOUR HEART

You have already learned that sin is disobeying God's orders. So the greatest sin of all would be to disobey God's most important command, wouldn't it? Jesus told us which one this is.

**Matthew 22:37-39.** "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.'"

***The greatest sin is to disobey God's most important commandment, which is to love God.***

We have all broken God's two most important commandments. Selfishness, the root of all sins, has filled our hearts and smothered out love. We have repaid God's love with indifference and ingratitude. We think much more of ourselves than we do of God or of others. What sinners we are! Our self-centered hearts cause conflict and problems between individuals and among nations. Sin in the heart produces a sinful world.

**2 Timothy 3:2–4.** "People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God."

### **JESUS CAME TO CURE YOU OF SIN AND FILL YOU WITH GOD'S LOVE.**

**1 John 1:9, 7.** "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. But if we walk in the light, . . . we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."

**Romans 5:5.** "God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit."

### **TO HELP YOU LEARN**

- Have you broken God's two greatest commands?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- Read 2 Timothy 3:2–4 again and draw a line under every sin mentioned that you have been guilty of at least once in your life.
- Ask God to forgive you and fill your heart with His love.

### **JESUS BREAKS THE POWER OF SIN AND SATAN**

Sin has weakened our willpower until we cannot do what we know we should do.

**John 8:34.** "Everyone who sins is a slave to sin."

**Romans 7:14–15, 18.** "I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. . . . I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out."

Jesus breaks the chains of sin and delivers from bad habits. He delivers us from uncontrolled anger, immorality, cheating, stealing, and lying. He frees us from harmful addictions such as to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and gambling. He breaks the power of evil spirits and Satan.

## Memorize This

John 8:36. "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

***Jesus breaks  
the chains of sin  
and the power of  
Satan.***

### **JESUS TOOK YOUR PLACE—SECURED YOUR PARDON**

Because God is just, He cannot ignore sin. Death is God's punishment for sin as well as the result of sin. But God loves you so much that He sent His Son to die in your place. When Jesus died, it was as if you had died. Because He rose again and went to heaven, so can you.

1 Peter 2:24. "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness."

Galatians 2:19–20. "Through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

When you accept Jesus as your Savior, you accept His death as your death, and His life as your life. In that very minute you become a child of God. Sin once separated you from God, but through Jesus you have pardon, new life, and fellowship with God, as if you had never sinned.

### **TO HELP YOU LEARN**

- I do not have to die for my sins because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- If you have any habits from which you want Jesus to free you, tell Him about them in prayer and ask Him to deliver you.

## **Is JESUS YOUR SAVIOR?**

### **It Is UP TO YOU TO DECIDE**

Jesus is willing to be your Savior, but He won't force you to accept Him.

## NOW IS THE TIME TO ACCEPT HIM

If you have not yet accepted Jesus as your Savior, do it now. Now is the best time.

Later might be too late. Besides, you want to enjoy every day possible of this wonderful new life in Him. He is knocking at the door of your heart today; let Him in.

Revelation 3:20. "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock."

Hebrews 3:15. "Today, if you hear God's voice, do not harden your hearts."

2 Corinthians 6:2. "Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation."

***The best time for  
you to ask Jesus  
Christ to save you  
is now.***

## TO HELP YOU LEARN

- Jesus is right there by you and can hear your prayer. In your own words thank Him for dying for your sins, and ask Him to be your Savior. If you have already done this, thank Him for the ways He meets your greatest need.

## WHAT ABOUT YOUR OTHER NEEDS?

### YOUR FATHER CARES FOR YOU

Matthew 6:31-33. "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

### TALK WITH GOD EVERY DAY ABOUT YOUR NEEDS

Philippians 4:6. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

### JESUS WILL BE YOUR HEALER

He still heals the sick in answer to prayer.

***God will meet  
your needs for  
food and clothing  
if you will give  
first place to Him.***

**Acts 10:38.** "Jesus . . . went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil."

**Hebrews 13:8.** "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

### **TO HELP YOU LEARN**

- Thank God for His care, and ask His help with any problem that you may have.

### **CONGRATULATIONS.**

- You have completed Lesson 4.
- Turn to the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this book.
- Answer the questions for Lesson 4.
- Then continue with your study of Lesson 5.

*May God richly bless you!*