

Step One:

Know that God exists and that he is a rewarder of all who diligently seek Him

It all starts with the acceptance that the God spoken of in the Bible truly exists. Fear of God (of the Bible) is the beginning of wisdom - some try to define this “fear” as “reverence” which is terribly wrong - it is the terrifying fear that is equated with dread (phobo) that Jesus spoke of when he said “fear Him who which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell”. Its quite obvious Jesus wasn't saying to “reverence” (timao) the one who has this power but have a genuine fear just as the plain reading of the passage indicates.

What the Bible Says:

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Step Two:

Recognise the sad fact that no one seeks the Lord nor is anyone “righteous” and that the wrath of God abides on sinful humanity.

No one is "righteous" (in right standing with God). This step requires an admission that, like everyone else, you have “missed the mark” which is defined as sin. Moreover we are all in outright rebellion toward the God of The Bible in that we have gone our own way and the wrath of God abides on those who are apart from Christ. When asked the question, "Are you a good person?" 99% of all people will answer "Yes" or "Pretty Good" or "Not as bad as others!". When the truth is that no is good, pretty good or any better than others and that we all are sinners with the wrath of God abiding on us apart from Christ.

What the Bible Says:

Ecclesiastes 7:20 For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.

Romans 3:10-11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

John 3:36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.

Romans 1:18-19 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

Step Three:

Know that this “sin” has separated us from the One true God (and there is only One true God)

God Almighty is perfect - we are not and because of this, sinful men and women do not spend eternity in a sinless environment i.e. the presence of God in heaven. One sin against an eternal being requires an eternal payment. All humans are temporal and cannot pay an eternal debt for even ONE sin against God and we each have hundreds of thousands and millions of sins against him. This debt is insurmountable. Take a look at our Podcast page for a sermon/podcast to explain more about this truth:

[INSURMOUNTABLE DEBT TO GOD & ITS CONSEQUENCES](#)

What the Bible Says:

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Ephesians 2:12-13 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Step Four:

Understand that if we die in this separated state - it is permanent for all eternity.

Accept that eternal separation from God means the absence of all things even remotely good: comfort, peace, laughter, companionship, satisfaction - all are gone for all eternity as they are all daily gifts large and small from God Almighty whether we acknowledge Him for these or not. These gifts are an expression of His grace and completely disappear with Him upon the finality of your rejection of Him at your physical death. (the cutoff point of grace). At this point we receive the "wages" of our lifetime work of sin - which is death by God's definition: eternal separation from Him.

What the Bible Says:

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Philippians 3:18-20 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.

Ephesians 2:1-3 And you who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others

Step Five:

Recognise that there is nothing we can do to save ourselves as we are slaves to this sin which separates us and we can't stop sinning even if we wanted to.

This is a hard thing to recognise as we seem to think, in our deceived state, that we can just "try harder" and eventually live a God-fearing righteous life. There are also forms of "pseudo" Christianity like Roman Catholicism, Mormonism and Jehovah's Witness who further teach this horrifically erroneous idea of "self-effort". This is a delusion. This step requires your admission to God that because of your enslaved sin-separated condition, like everyone else, you need a Saviour - who is none other than God Himself to whom you confess this in truth.

What the Bible Says:

John 8:34-36 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Step Six:

Know that God provided a Saviour, His only begotten Son Jesus (of the Bible)

This Savior is none other than God Almighty incarnate in the person of the Son (the second person of the Trinity) who died on the Cross to pay for your sins and mine for all eternity so we can spend eternity with Him and not separated from Him. Our sins against the eternal One required an eternal payment and only One, God Himself, is eternal and could provide payment for such a debt. So the judge Himself came down and provided the payment for we who stand "guilty as charged".

What the Bible Says:

1 Timothy 1:15-17 ...Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Step Seven:

Sincerely, deliberately and directly pray to the God of the Bible with a crying out to Him for mercy and forgiveness.

Confess to the God of the Bible that you agree with His word which has revealed that you are in a helpless sin condition (slavery) which keeps you at enmity with Him and thereby His wrath abiding on you and rightful condemnation when you die. Ask for His forgiveness according to the person and finished work of His only begotten Son Jesus on the cross which was God's eternal payment for your sins. This application is not automatic to all but only to those who place their faith in Jesus as Savior. Jesus' character is perfect and His word is perfect - when He says He will hear your prayer, and wash away your sins - then HE WILL DO IT!

What the Bible Says:

Luke 18:9-14 ...The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other"

Romans 10:13 For "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

John 6:37 ...the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

John 1:12-13 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name

Step Eight:

Confess Jesus with your mouth and accept that God the Father has raised Jesus the Son from the dead.

We are saved by grace through faith not grace through "hope". This step requires believing that Jesus has won the victory over both sin and death in your life and has washed your sins away. If you have come to genuine faith in Christ, it will be concurrent with repentance of your sinful past. Put your faith in Christ - faith is the evidence of things unseen and the assurance of things hoped for. Repentance is a turning away and changing of your mind toward God and away from those things which are contrary to His word, love and forgiveness toward you. The One True saving God of the Bible will respond to your cry as He said He would and he will save you out his mercy (undeserved forgiveness) and grace (unmerited favour).

What the Bible Says:

Romans 10:9-13 ...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Acts 2:36-39 36God hath made the same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ....Then Peter said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

Step Nine:

Walk in the newness of life given to you by Jesus.

This final step is lifelong and it involves growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit: Peace, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, forgiveness. Repentance is not an event but a lifestyle and happens concurrent with genuine salvation i.e. sincere faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. Those of us who have been washed of our sins are called to life which involves walking in the Spirit and we are called to put off the things of the flesh, putting to death the old manner of life and living life as a new creation.

What the Bible Says:

2 Corinthians 5:15, 17 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again....v17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.