

God's Plan

1. God loves you and has wonderful plans for your life

(Thumb: most important)



- God loves you and is interested in you!
- He wants to give you a gift – the question is: What will you do about it?

2. Problem: We don't do what God wants us to do

(Index finger: pointing at others with accusation or blame)



- There is a problem: Sin.
- What is sin? Stealing, lying, killing... (breaking the 10 commandments) is sin.
- But even more, God's standard is higher:
 - Thinking badly about someone else is sin
 - If you know the right thing to do but don't do it: that's sin
 - Biggest sins: Thinking we know better than God, ignoring him, refusing his love
- God says we need to be perfect. One single sin is enough to stop us from being able to come close to him. Our sin separates us from God.
- God will judge us according to our sin

3. God's solution: Jesus paid the price for your sin

(Middle finger is the tallest finger: Symbol for the cross where Jesus died)



- How does this fit together? How can God be full of love but at the same time be the judge who punishes?
- God's special solution: His son Jesus. He came to this world, lived a perfect life and brought healing to many people.
- His enemies arrested him, beat him and killed him on the cross.
- Three days later he came back to life.
- He took the punishment so that we can have forgiveness!

4. God wants a relationship with us

(Ring finger: Relationship with God)



- God is not very concerned about “religious things” but he wants to be in contact with you, to talk to you and to provide for you!
- God wants to give us the gift of eternal life and a relationship with him – we need to accept.
- How does that work? By trusting him and deciding to accept his offer.
- Realize this decision has consequences (like saying “Yes” at a wedding). You decide to live more and more like he wants you to live

5. The Holy Spirit will support you

(Pinky: there is potential for growth)



- In our own strength we will fail again and again.
- God has more for you! He wants to support you in doing what he wants you to do.
- The Holy Spirit is like “God's power.” He teaches you, changes your weak points and helps you to be a better person.
- Other people with the Holy Spirit will also support you and train you to understand God better and to do what he wants

Illustration Story: The Two Twins

There were two identical twins. One of them strayed from the right path as a teenager. He joined a gang and had no contact with his family anymore. Eventually he became a murderer. On a raid he shot a person who got in his way. In court he saw his brother again for the first time in decades: He was the judge! At first he was happy. "It's my brother," he thought, "he should still love me! He'll get me out here."

His brother, the judge, passed the sentence: Death penalty! The twin brother was angry. "Why that hard?!", he asked, "that's not loving!" But the judge had to stick to the laws.

The sentenced twin was sitting on death row when suddenly, in the middle of the night, the door opened. It was his twin brother! At first he was angry with him. "Why did you sentence me to death?!", he demanded.

"I had to; I'm just. But I have a suggestion for you. We both look the same. Let's change clothes. I'll stay here and you can go."

"Okay, great!", the twin said and left the prison. He celebrated the whole night because he was so happy. The next morning he remembered, "Wait a second, the execution was scheduled at 9 o'clock that morning." He walked to the prison walls and suddenly heard a shot! He realized that his brother really had taken his punishment! He was totally desperate. He went to the house of his brother and found a letter from him. It read, "You're free. I took your punishment. I want you to live my life from now on, to be honest and to remember what I did for you."

How to pray to accept God's offer

- God, I come to you. Jesus, I believe in you and I come to you.
- I realize that I didn't live according to your will and I repent. Please forgive me.
- Jesus, I thank you that you gave your life for me. I accept you as Saviour and Lord.
- I give my life to you. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me to live the way you want me to.

My answer to God's offer

God has done his part. Now it's your turn...

Did I accept his offer?

Yes No

Am I sure that I received eternal life?

Yes No

Am I sure that I received the Holy Spirit?

Yes No

My spiritual birth certificate:

On _____ (date) I said yes to God's offer in his son, Jesus. I accepted Jesus as my Saviour in whom my sins are forgiven. I gave my life to him, received the Holy Spirit and started to live the way he wants me to.