

### HOW DO I RECEIVE FORGIVENESS?

Forgiveness cannot be earned! Going to church, praying, living a 'good' life and helping others are good things but none of them can give you a perfect record before God. To receive this forgiveness you must...

1. Admit that you have offended God by your attitudes and actions.
2. Turn away from anything that offends God. It is critical that you are sincerely sorry and want to change (God will help you do this).
3. Accept that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.
4. Through a prayer of faith (trust) give God control of your life.

If you are willing to accept God's gift of forgiveness you must also accept the cost.

### THERE IS A COST!

Jesus warned us about counting the cost before deciding to follow Him: "But don't begin until you count the cost..." (Luke 14:28)

He made it clear that we are to submit to Him and be willing to face suffering and tough times just like He did. However, as a Christian, God will teach, encourage and help you even in times of failure. He knows what is best for you.

As you surrender control of your life to Him He will give you new desires and the power to change...this is a life long process.

### SUMMARY

If you have counted the cost of being a Christian, want to become a follower of Jesus and accept the gift He offers you then the following is a suggested prayer...

# ARE YOU A GOOD PERSON?

## Take the test...

*Dear Jesus,  
I confess that I am guilty of breaking Your laws many times (confess the events that come to mind) and I am very sorry. I now turn away from those things that offend You and ask for Your forgiveness. Thank You for dying on the cross to take the consequences of my sin on Yourself. Please enter my life and make me the person You want me to be, Amen.*

To help you grow as a Christian, read the Bible daily, obey what it says, join a Bible believing church and tell someone about your decision. Talk to God as much as possible, He hears and answers prayer. For more information go to:

[www.questionsoflife.com](http://www.questionsoflife.com) or contact:

To order these tracts e-mail [kiwitracts@clear.net.nz](mailto:kiwitracts@clear.net.nz). © Matt Old 2007

### THE TEST...

Many Kiwi's believe that they are good enough to get to heaven when they die. Are you one of them? We have prepared a test for you...

Please tick the boxes if your answer is 'yes' ✓ to the following questions:

1. Have you ever told a lie?
2. Have you ever stolen something (the value is irrelevant)?
3. Have you ever dishonoured your parents by disobeying them?
4. Have you ever used the name of Jesus or Christ as a swear word?
5. Have you ever hated someone and wished they were dead?

The above questions relate to just 5 of God's Ten Commandments. How many boxes did you tick?

### QUESTION?

#### WOULD YOU GO TO HEAVEN OR HELL?

God is not only loving but holy (perfect) and just. He cannot overlook or leave our lawbreaking unpunished. If He did this He would be like a judge who let all criminals go free. No good, honest judge would do that.

To a holy God our sin is so serious that He cannot and will not let it enter His perfect heaven.

The truth is, none of us are good enough to get to heaven and by our own efforts there is nothing we can do to change this fact.

### WE NEED HELP!

Fortunately, God has done something incredible for us.

### QUESTION?

#### IF THERE WAS A WAY TO BE FORGIVEN WOULD YOU WANT TO KNOW?

Instead of giving us what we deserve God actually wants to forgive us. He does not want anyone to go to hell and has made a way for us to be forgiven.

This forgiveness was made possible when He sent Jesus Christ (the Son of God) to earth to take the consequences of our lawbreaking on Himself (we broke God's law, Jesus paid our fine). Jesus lived a perfect life, willingly suffered and died an agonising death on a cross, was buried in a tomb and 3 days later God raised Him back to life again. Through Jesus, God has made a way for all of us to be forgiven.

However, forgiveness is not automatic, like any gift, we must personally receive it.