

Week 5: Receiving God's Gift of Eternal Life

Prop: wrapped gift.

What did we talk about last week (wait for responses)? Last week, we learned that God did something very special for us. Instead of punishing us for our sin (when we make choices that displease God), He sent His Son Jesus down to earth so that He could take the punishment that we deserve upon Himself.

Romans 6:23 tells us that the wages of sin is death (eternal separation from God), but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This means that since you did not do anything to earn eternal life (**prop: wrapped gift**), it is then a gift. When you receive a gift, you don't take the gift and then reach into your pocket and give that person a \$1 bill. If you did that, it would no longer be a gift because you would have then paid for it (Ephesians 2:8-9). In the same way, you cannot "pay" for your salvation, since Jesus Christ has already paid it all!

For it to truly be a gift, you would simply need to just take it. For you to take God's free gift of eternal life, you have to tell God that you are sorry for your sins and for not obeying Him. You must then repent (turn away from) of your sins (Acts 2:38). You must then tell God that you trust and believe that Jesus took care of your sin problem when He died on the cross for you.

When you do this, your sins are forgiven by God and you will then receive eternal life and be able to live with God in His heaven one day (Romans 10:9-10)! You will have eternal life! After Jesus died, He came back to life, and many people actually saw Jesus before He rose to heaven. The bible says that for those who have trusted in Jesus Christ to save them from their sins, He has gone to prepare a place for you in Heaven (John 14:2-3).

It is our prayer, and great hope, that if you have not already done so, you too will want to receive this free gift of eternal life that Jesus is offering to everyone who trusts in Him.

Let's thank God for the free gift of eternal life.