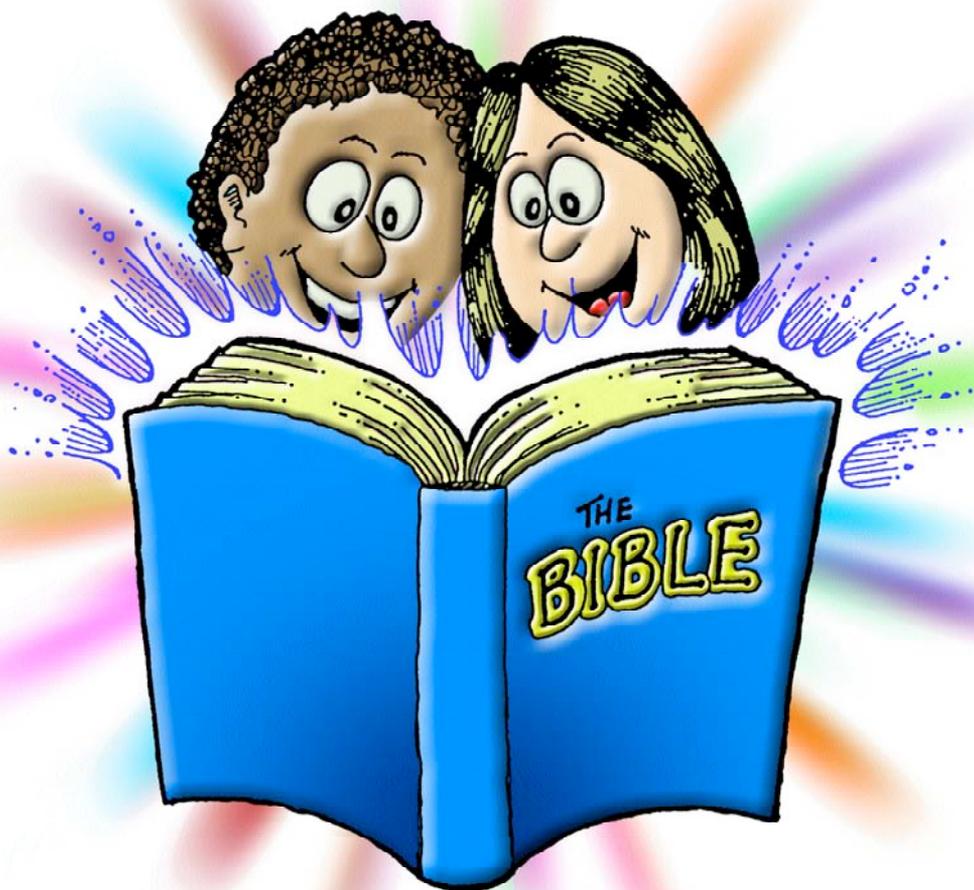


# Step Up to Life

CHILDREN'S EDITION



by Elmer H. Murdoch

# *An Important Word On Sharing This Booklet*

Dear Boys and Girls,

I am writing to help you understand the reason for this booklet. It will tell you how precious you are to Christ and how He wants you to know Him personally. This will happen when you savingly believe in Him. I know that many of you already know about Jesus and can even quote Bible verses. That's good. But, that's not being saved unless Christ has changed your actions and attitudes.

I know most of you children will do things for the approval of your parents, teachers and others you respect. But don't invite Christ into your heart just to please somebody, or before you are ready. He **will** come into your life if **YOU** want Him to and you are doing this to please Him. Once you really know how to be saved, then it is your privilege and responsibility to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus.

In this book you will find a staircase. Each "step" stands for a different level of interest in coming to know the Lord Jesus personally. When you are deciding which "step" you are on, really think about it! Some of you have had a real spiritual experience with Jesus. **But every spiritual experience is not a salvation experience.** You can really be bothered about your sins and even cry. This is a spiritual experience, but it doesn't save you unless you repent and believe. However, God is calling you when this happens so that you will invite Him into your heart. Then He will make changes in your life.

You can come up this staircase just as fast as you understand and are willing for Christ to be first in your life. The amount of time it takes depends on you. Don't delay, but don't put yourself on any "step" if you're not there.

You may be a good and obedient child or quite rebellious and strong-willed. Christ died for both for there is no one good enough himself to go to heaven. *Romans 3:10*. Reading this booklet often will be like a light getting brighter and brighter and you will understand what a true Christian is.

One last word. We can tell you **how** to be saved. Only God can tell you that you are. Christ by His Spirit does that. *Romans 8:16* says, "For His Holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our hearts, and tells us that we really are God's children."

When anyone makes a real commitment to Christ they will feel different toward sin and wrong attitudes, and they will want to please Christ. Remember you and your family can be saved as each repents and believes. This is God's intention for them and you. God loves you more than I can tell you.

Now, look at the book and find out what step **YOU** are on.

*Elmer H. Murdoch*

## Whom do you think. . .

- made your world?
- gives life to plants and animals?
- knows everything you do and say?
- really cares about YOU?

# GOD!

*“In the beginning God created  
the heavens and the earth.”*

**Genesis 1:1**

***God sent his son Jesus to earth so you could learn what God is like. Jesus can do this because He is equal to God.***

## ***Jesus is absolutely. . .***

**GOOD** - He's never done anything wrong. Ever!

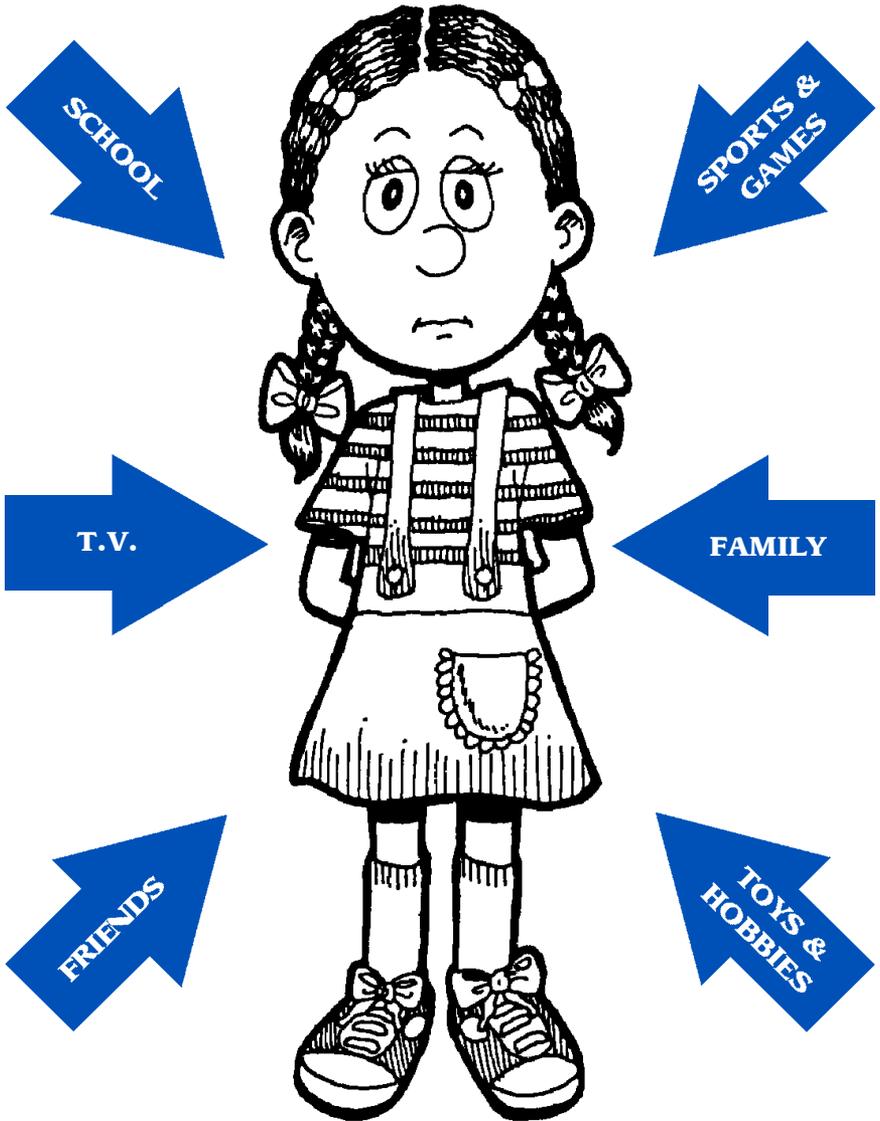
**WISE** - He knows what is good and what is bad.  
He can show you why you need to make right choices.

**KIND** - He can forgive you for doing wrong.

That's why every boy and girl should be interested in Jesus Christ.

*All scripture references in this booklet are taken from the Good News Bible, New International Version, New American Standard Version and Living Bible.*

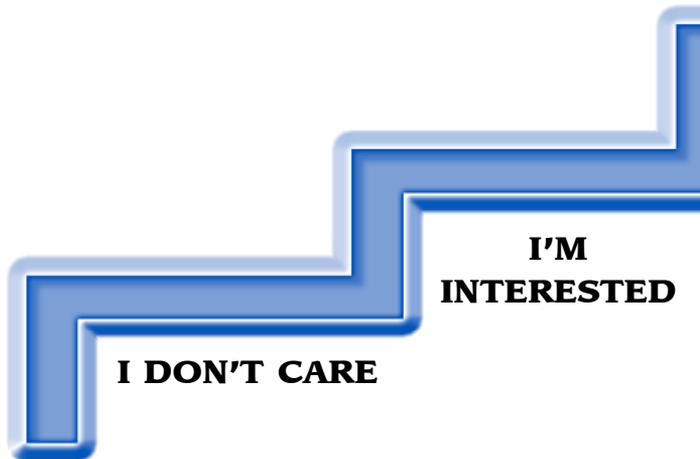
Maybe you've been too busy with other things to think about God and His Son, Jesus Christ.



**Getting to know about Jesus Christ is like climbing stairs. Each step takes you closer to where you need to go.**

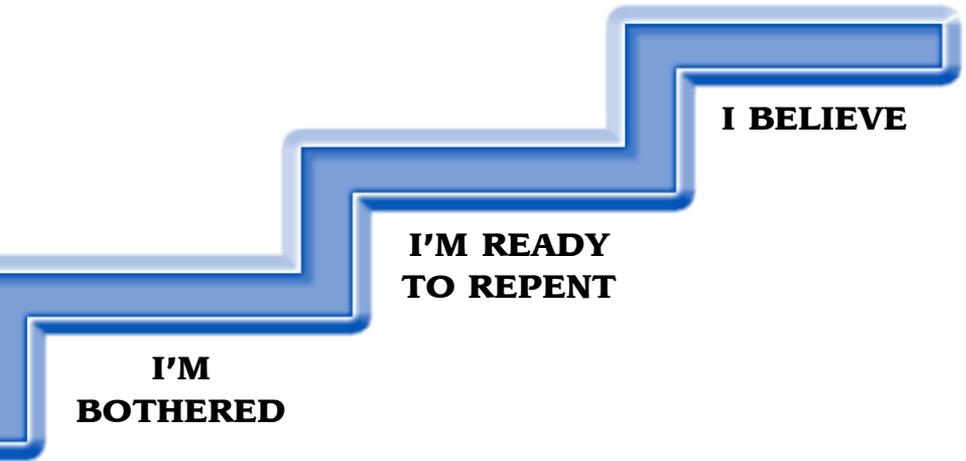
As you climb these steps you will learn about the love God the Father and Jesus Christ have for you.

**After these steps are explained, decide which one you are on.**



*“Direct my footsteps  
according to your word. . .”*

**Psalm 119:133**



# Step 1 – I DON'T CARE

You may know a lot about Jesus and how to be saved or very little. The important point is you don't really care.

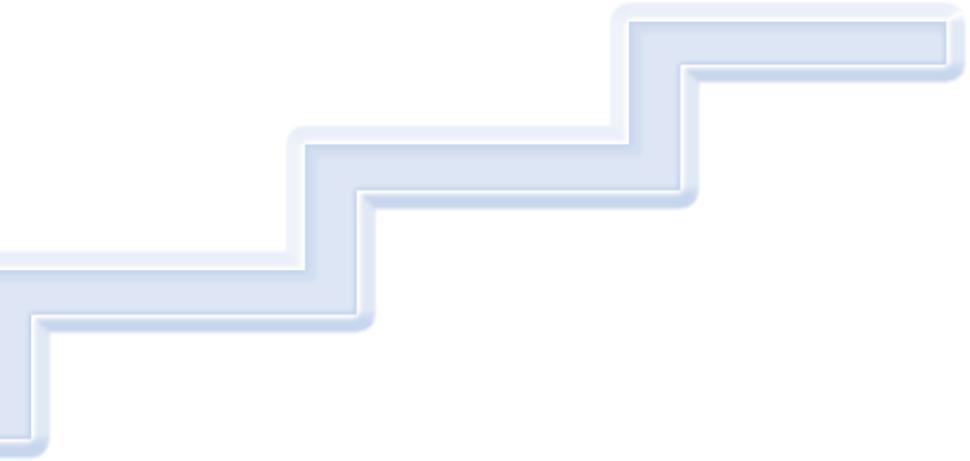
What about YOU?



**I DON'T CARE**

*“How, then, shall we escape  
if we pay no attention  
to such a great salvation?”*

**Hebrews 2:3**



***Are YOU on this step?***

## Step 2 – I’M INTERESTED

When some people hear stories about Jesus Christ and His love, they want to know more.

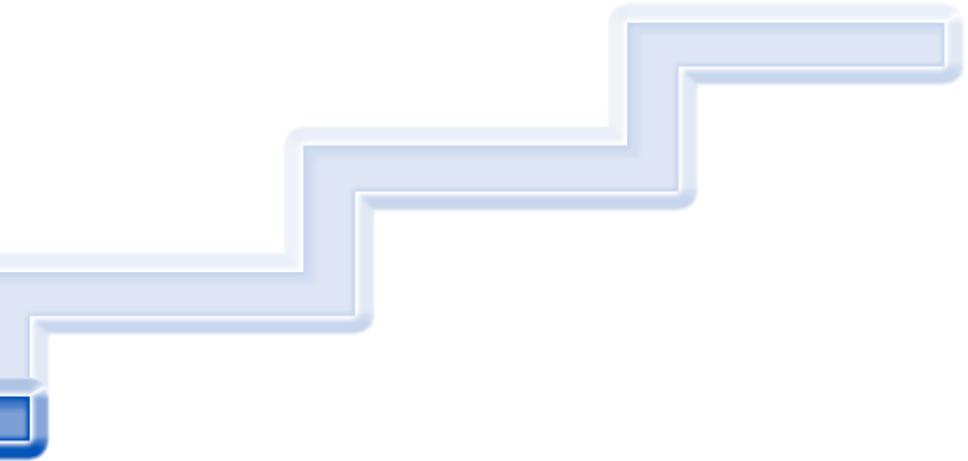
Are YOU interested in knowing more?



**I’M  
INTERESTED**

*“You will seek me and  
find me when you seek me  
with all your heart.”*

**Jeremiah 29:13**



***Are YOU on this step?***

## Step 3 – I'M BOTHERED

**This is when you do something wrong and it bothers you.**

You may be a very good boy or girl compared with many children you know. But God has given a Goodness Test, the Commandments, to see if you are good enough to go to heaven. **Are you that good?**

### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

**1. You shall have no other gods before Me.**

**2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.**

*Are toys, pets or friends first in your life?*

**3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.** Use the names of God and Jesus Christ only when talking about Them or praying.

**4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

*One day in seven we can give special time to the Lord. All our time, however, is the Lord's.*

**5. Honor (obey) your father and your mother.**

*Always respect and obey your parents unless it is a sin.*

**6. You shall not murder.**

*Do not hurt people or have selfish anger.*

**7. You shall not commit adultery.**

*Do not touch anyone's body where you shouldn't.*

*Save your special love for your husband or your wife.*

**8. You shall not steal.**

*Do not take what is not yours.*

**9. You shall not bear false witness.**

*Always tell the truth.*

**10. You shall not covet.**

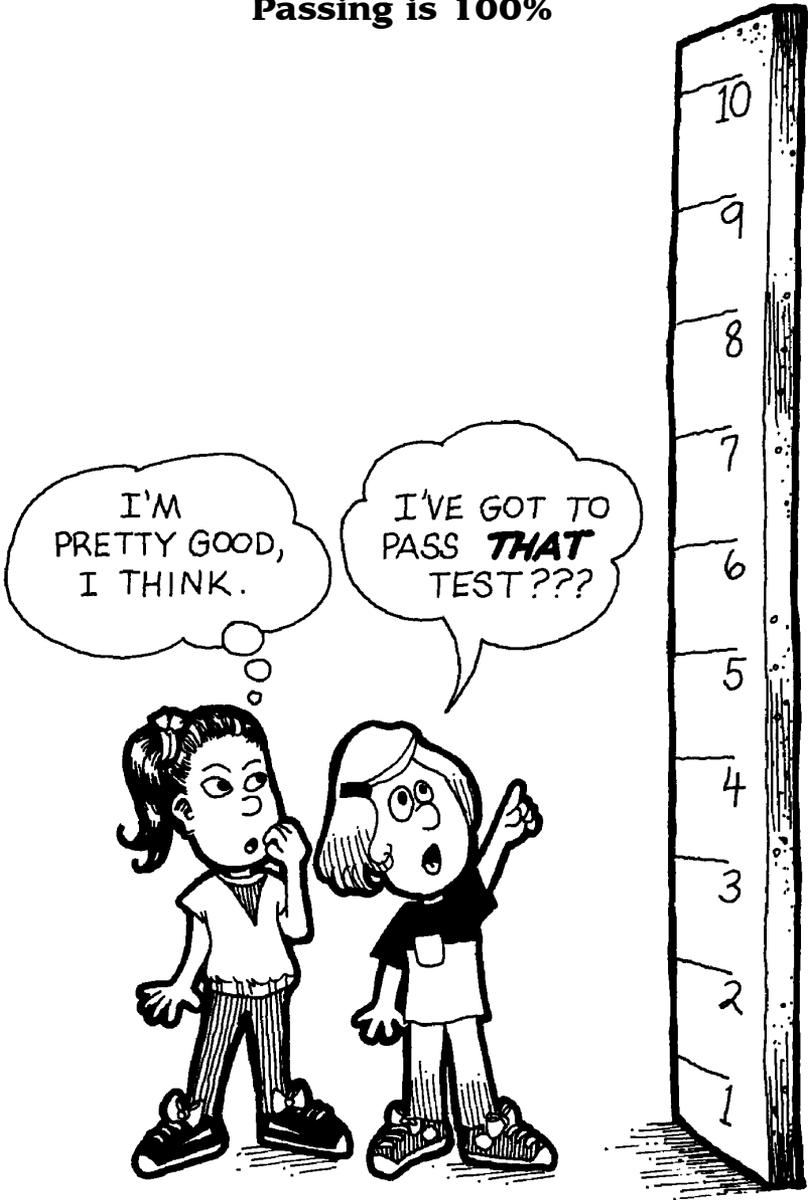
*Do not be jealous of what others have.*

*Exodus 20:3-17*

# God's Goodness Test

The Ten Commandments

Passing is 100%



Have you **always** pleased God in **all** these ways?

## Step 3 – I’M BOTHERED (continued)

When you don’t please God it is called sin. Sin is also deciding to have your own way even though it’s wrong.

### Have you ever sinned?

YES     NO

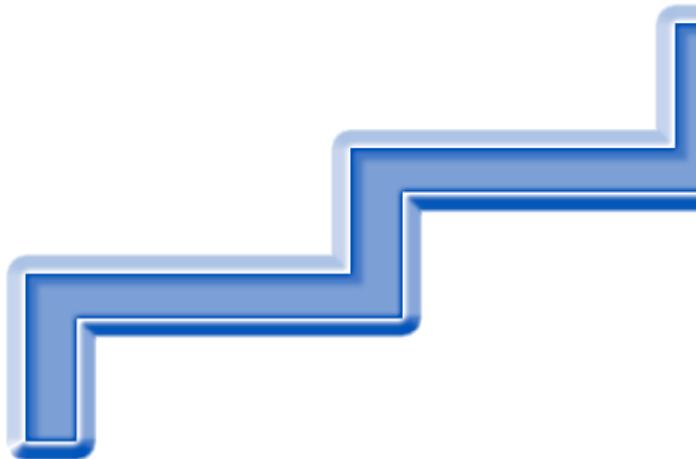
You are not the only one. The Bible says that **ALL** have sinned and done wrong! *Romans 3:23*. The Lord Jesus knows all you do, even when your friends and parents don’t. And, even when you don’t get caught!

### Does it bother you when you do wrong?

YES     NO

### How much?

A little     A lot     Enough that I  
want to change



*“ . . . O my God, I am ashamed;  
I blush to lift up my face  
to you, for our sins. . . ”*

**Ezra 9:6**

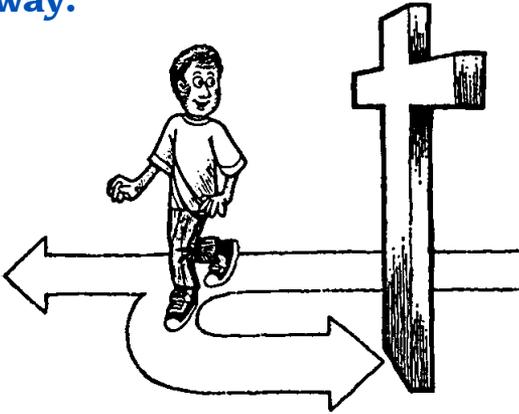


**I'M  
BOTHERED**

***Are YOU on this step?  
BEING BOTHERED CAN LEAD TO. . .***

## Step 4 – I'M READY TO REPENT

Repentance is a U-(You) turn from your way to Jesus' way.



Wanting your own way is selfishness. Selfish choices are the basis of all sin.

**Selfish choices** are “me first” choices -

- they make God and Jesus His Son sad.
- they cause trouble for you and for others.
- they make you feel bad.

**Repentance** is -

- not being first in your life so Jesus Christ can be.
- not wanting to sin anymore.

*“. . .but now He (God) commands all people everywhere to repent.”*

**Acts 17:30b**



**I'M READY  
TO REPENT**

***Are YOU on this step?  
REPENTANCE LEADS TO. . .***

## **Step 5 – I BELIEVE**

**Believing is giving yourself totally to the Lord Jesus Christ so He can be #1 in your life.**

It is like getting into a boat. When you get into a boat you trust it to keep you from drowning.

**When you do give yourself to Jesus you must not do it. . .**

- just to please mom or dad.
- just to please your teacher, good friend, or even your pastor.

**You must do it. . .**

- to please God and Jesus.
- because you really want to do it.
- to have your life changed and your sins forgiven.

The Lord Jesus died on the cross for the punishment of your sins and God our Father brought Him back to life again. Now He is alive and is waiting for you to make Him Captain of your life.



*Giving yourself to Jesus is a step of faith.*

Talk to the Lord Jesus now. Name your sins. Tell Him that you are repenting and do not want to keep on doing them. You are truly sorry for them. Then ask Him to forgive you.

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

**I John 1:9**

The Bible says Jesus Himself will come to live in you when you believe in Him. He gives you eternal life — because eternal life is in Him. He lives inside you and gives you His goodness.

*“. . . God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son.”*

**I John 5:11**

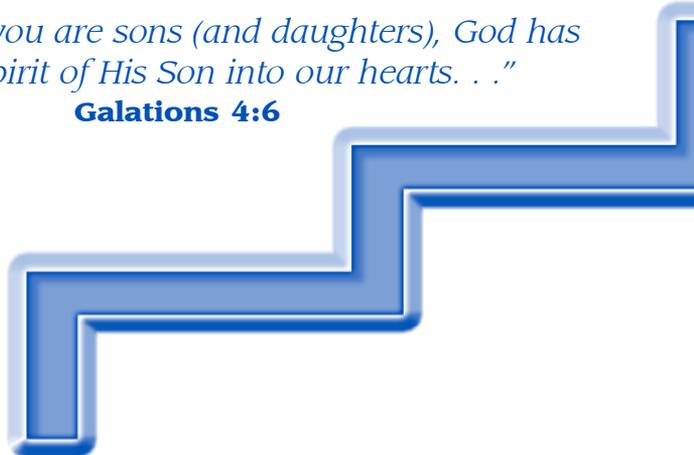
Now ask the Lord Jesus Christ to come into your life and save you so **YOU** can become part of His family.

When you have truly believed on Him and received Him, you will know it. He will tell you in your heart.

*“And because you are sons (and daughters), God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts. . .”*

**Galations 4:6**

Thank Him for dying for you.



*“Believe in the Lord Jesus,  
and you will be saved. . .”*

**Acts 16:31**



**Are YOU on this step?**

When any person - boy or girl - receives Christ as his Lord and Savior - they are born into God's family just like you were born into your human family.

*“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. . .”*

**John 1:12**

When the Lord Jesus comes into your life, you will. . .

- know that Jesus lives in you.
- know that you are going to heaven.

And you will begin to please the Lord by. . .

- wanting to obey mom and dad.
- being kind to each other.
- making the right choices.
- telling the truth,
- being interested in Bible stories.

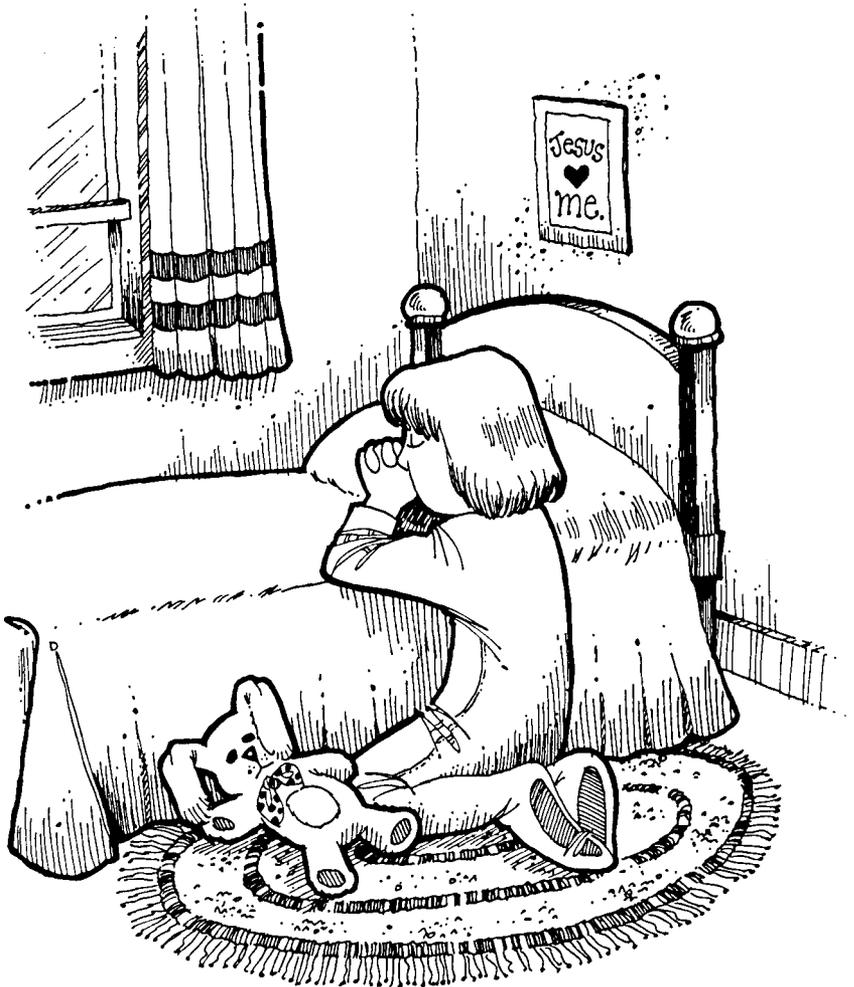
**This is living GOD's way!**

*“. . . Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God. . .”*

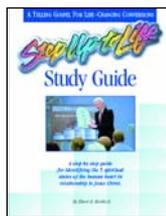
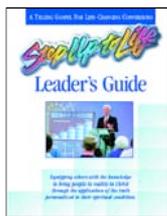
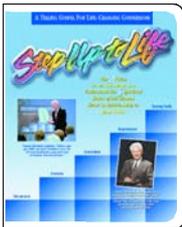
**Deuteronomy 30:19, 20**

## To help you grow as a Christian:

- 1. Read** your Bible. (A children's version may help.)
- 2. Pray** to God you Father in Jesus name everyday. Tell Him your needs and ask for His help.
- 3. Go** to church where the Bible is taught.
- 4. Share** with your friends what Jesus did for you and what He wants to do for them.



# Step Up To Life®



For additional material and translations contact:

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