

Why We Need Jesus

Introduction:

- A. Human beings have certain unique universal needs.
 - 1. Animals only need the basic physical necessities of life such as food, air, water, etc.
 - 2. But man is created in the image of God (Gen. 1:27).
 - 3. Man has spiritual needs.
 - 4. Many have a void in their lives because their spiritual needs are never satisfied.
- B. People try to fill the void in their lives.
 - 1. They try to find the perfect person to marry.
 - 2. They try to find the perfect career.
 - 3. They try to find fulfillment in having children.
 - 4. They try to accumulate wealth.
 - 5. They try to find fulfillment in joining a religious group.
- C. Only Jesus meets man's most important needs.
 - 1. Jesus quenches man's spiritual thirst (Jn. 4:14).
 - 2. Jesus satisfies man's spiritual hunger (Jn. 6:35).
 - 3. No one else can fulfill these needs.
 - 4. Nothing else can fill the void.
 - 5. A person can go on living his life without a relationship with Jesus, but it will be an empty, vain life.
- D. We must obey the gospel in order for Jesus to meet our spiritual needs.
 - 1. Those who do not obey the gospel do not have a relationship with Jesus (2 Thess. 1:7-8).
 - 2. How does one obey the gospel?
 - a. Mk. 16:16.
 - b. Acts 2:38.
 - c. Rev. 2:10.
 - 3. Becoming a Christian is about more than wanting to study the Bible, go to church, pray, etc.
 - 4. A person obeys the gospel because he recognizes that he has serious needs in his life that only Jesus can address.
- E. Why do you need Jesus?

Body:

I. You Need A Savior.

- A. Jesus came to save sinners from destruction.
 - 1. He came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim. 1:15).
 - 2. He came into the world to seek and save the lost (Lk. 19:10).
 - 3. He was sent to this earth to be our Savior (1 Jn. 4:14).
 - 4. The simple fact is that we are all in need of a Savior because we have all sinned against God (Rom. 3:23).

- B. Is Jesus your Savior?
 - 1. He is the Savior of those who are in his spiritual body (Eph. 5:23).
 - 2. If you haven't obeyed the gospel, then you are not in his body and he is not your Savior.
 - a. Acts 2:38.
 - b. Acts 2:41.
 - c. Acts 2:47.

II. You Need A Sacrifice For Sins.

- A. Jesus provided the perfect sacrifice to take away man's sins.
 - 1. Because of our sins we deserve eternal death, but Jesus has provided a way for us to have eternal life (Rom. 6:23).
 - 2. John the Baptizer referred to Jesus as the sacrificial lamb who would take away our sins (Jn. 1:29).
 - 3. The Bible makes it clear that Jesus died for our sins (1 Cor. 15:3-4).
 - 4. We can have forgiveness of sins because of the sacrifice he made on the cross (Eph. 1:7).
 - 5. We are all in need of the sacrifice of Jesus.
- B. Are you receiving the benefits of his sacrifice?
 - 1. He died for everyone in the world (1 Jn. 2:2).
 - 2. But only those who meet his terms for forgiveness will benefit from his death (Rom. 6:3-6).

III. You Need Peace With God.

- A. Jesus provided the way for man to be reconciled to God.
 - 1. We have all been enemies with God because of sin, but Jesus offers us the way to have forgiveness and peace with God.
 - 2. He died for man even though man continued to sin against God (Rom. 5:8-11).
 - 3. He died on the cross so that we could have our sins removed and so that we could be brought into a relationship with God (Col. 1:19-22).
- B. Are you at peace with God?
 - 1. You need to ask for terms of peace and surrender in order to have peace with God (Lk. 14:31-32).
 - 2. Peace with God comes only through faithful obedience to Christ (Rom. 5:1).
 - 3. You cannot have peace with God if you are living in sin (Isa. 48:22).

IV. You Need A Purpose In Life.

- A. Jesus offers the only worthwhile purpose in life.
 - 1. The true meaning of life is found in him.
 - a. Jn. 14:6.
 - b. Jn. 11:25.
 - 2. People focus on money, fame, possessions, etc. trying to find real meaning and purpose in life.
 - 3. But they still find that something is missing.

4. The reason many people find something missing in their lives is that we need real meaning in our lives and only Jesus can provide it for us.
- B. Do you have the proper focus in life?
 1. What good are fame and riches in the end?
 - a. James 4:14.
 - b. Eccl. 2:1.
 - c. Eccl. 5:10.
 2. There is much more to life than just accumulating wealth and possessions (Lk. 12:15).
 3. If your relationship with Christ is not as it should be, then nothing else matters!

V. You Need Hope.

- A. Jesus offers real hope for the future.
 1. Man is always worried about what will happen in the future financially, environmentally, with war, terrorism, etc.
 2. But Jesus takes care of man's need by offering hope of something better in the future.
 3. Jesus offers the hope of eternal life in heaven.
 - a. Matt. 6:19-20.
 - b. Col. 1:5.
 - c. Heb. 6:19.
- C. Do you have the hope of eternal life?
 1. The hope of heaven is the only real hope worth having (Eph. 4:4-6).
 2. The only way to have the hope of heaven is through Jesus (Jn. 3:16).
 3. But you must obey the gospel in order to have any expectation of spending eternity with God in heaven (Rom. 6:17, 22).

VI. You Need A Perfect Example To Follow.

- A. Jesus gives man a perfect example to follow in conduct and attitude.
 1. He left us a sinless example to follow (1 Pet. 1:21-22).
 2. He gave us the perfect example of humility and obedience even as he went to the cross to die for us (Phil. 2:5-8).
 3. He expects us to follow his example in our everyday lives (Lk. 9:23).
 4. He instructs us as to how to live, but he also came and showed us how to live.
- B. Are you following his perfect example?
 1. He always did what would be pleasing to God (Jn. 8:29).
 2. He always resisted temptation (Heb. 4:15).

VII. You Need A Friend.

- A. Jesus is the best friend man could ever have.
 1. There is no greater demonstration of friendship than to die for someone you love (Jn. 15:13).
 2. He made the ultimate sacrifice on the cross so you could be saved.
 3. Many people feel alone in life.
 4. But Jesus takes care of that need by providing everlasting friendship.

5. Unlike other friends, we don't have to worry about whether or not Jesus will betray us or forget about us (Heb. 13:8).
- B. Do you have a relationship with Jesus?
 1. Are you his friend (Jn. 15:14)?
 2. You are not his friend if you refuse to obey the gospel (Jn. 14:15).
 3. He loved you enough to die for you so that you could have a relationship with him (Eph. 5:2).

Conclusion:

- A. There are so many reasons why we need Jesus in our lives.
- B. The real question is: Why would you not want to have him at the center of your life?
- C. If he is not your Savior, then won't you think about what you're missing out on?
- D. You can have a relationship with Jesus today.
- E. The choice is yours.