

## How to begin a relationship with God

(scripture taken from the NIV)

**1. Recognize that God loves** you so much that He gave His Son to die on the cross for you.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

*"I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me."* -  
Galatians 2:20

**2. Repent of your sin.** This means to admit to God you are a sinner, ask forgiveness of your sins and with His help, turn away from your sins.

*"...but unless you repent, you too will all perish."* - Luke 13:3

*"The kingdom God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"* - Mark 1:15

**3. Believe and Trust in Him as your Savior.** This means that you accept God's offer of love, mercy, and forgiveness. This means that you trust Jesus Christ as your only Savior. This means that you are free from struggling and trying to save yourself by your good works, baptism, confirmation, church membership or attendance, and that you rely on Jesus Christ alone for your salvation.

*"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!"*  
- Romans 6:23

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith-and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-not by works, so that no one can boast."* Ephesians 2:8, 9

*"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

**4. Confess Christ.** This means that you will not be ashamed to let others know that you are a Christian and have a relationship with God. When you trust in Christ, you should let someone else know about it.

*"Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven."* Matthew 10:32

*"That is you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."*  
Romans 10:9

### YOU CAN NOW BEGIN A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

Lord, I admit that I need you, I ask you to forgive and set me free from sin and death. I believe that Jesus died to provide forgiveness for my sins to restore my relationship with You, and to fill me with His joy. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ to come into my life as Savior and Lord. From this time on, help me to live in a loving, obedient relationship with you. Thank You, Lord!

If you prayed to the Lord and genuinely meant what you prayed, please share your decision with Pastor or someone else you know who trusts in Jesus. They would be thrilled to hear of your decision today!

## Labor Day

September 01, 2019  
**Why Work?**

Pastor Scott Sheets  
Selected scriptures

**Work and the N\_\_\_\_\_ of God**

*Genesis 1:1*

*John 5:17*

**Work and the D\_\_\_\_\_ of God**

*Genesis 2:15-17*

*Ephesians 2:10*

**Work and the B\_\_\_\_\_ of God**

*Acts 20:34-35*

*I Thessalonians 4:9-12*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Considering God's Word

Does work feel more draining or fulfilling to you? Explain.  
In what roles do you see God as a worker in Genesis chapters 1-2?  
Read Acts 20:34 and I Corinthians 4:12. Why do you think Paul pointed out his work ethic?  
In what ways do you think a good work ethic is a good testimony?  
How might a poor work ethic affect the gospel?

Note any other observations from the text that stand out to you.

### Applying God's Word

What do you find challenging in your current work situation?  
Read Ecclesiastes 3:12-13. How can you take pleasure in your work if you find it frustrating?  
How have you been able to use the fruit of your labor in ways to help others? Are there other ways that you might be able to do that?  
Which of the three reasons for work expressed in the message stood out to you? Why do you think that was the case?  
Who would be someone you should share this with?  
Share any other thoughts, questions or comments you might have.

### **Genesis 1:1, 26-2:3, 15-17**

**1**In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

**26**Then God said, “Let us make man<sup>b</sup> in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

**27**So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

**28**And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” **29**And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. **30**And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. **31**And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

**1**Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. **2**And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. **3**So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

**15**The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. **16**And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **17**but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat<sup>d</sup> of it you shall surely die.”