

THE BOOK without WORDS

(Adapted from Child Evangelism Fellowship – Wordless Book)

How many of you like to read? Do you know how many words are in the average adult novel? 60-100 thousand. Tonight I am going to share with you a book that has no written words in it, hence it is called “The Book without Words.” But it has spoken words and tells the story of what Jesus did for us. It only has five pages, each one a different color. In the next ten minutes you will not only learn the story, but learn how to tell it. Let’s jump in.

GOLD PAGE

The first page is the gold page. It stands for heaven. Essentially everyone wants to go to heaven someday.

What’s in heaven

- A street of gold - **Revelation 21:21 states, “... and the street of the city was pure gold...”**
- God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Angels
- The tree of life
- God’s glory

What’s not in heaven

- **Revelation 21:4 (NASB) “He (God) will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any death*; there will no longer be *any mourning*, or *crying*, or *pain*; the first things have passed away.”**
From this verse you can see that death, mourning, crying and pain will not be in heaven.
- Satan and his demons won’t be in heaven
- People who reject Jesus won’t be in heaven either

How many of you want to go to heaven? Me, too! But there is one thing that can keep a person out of heaven? That one thing is sin. This brings us to the dark page.

DARK PAGE

God is holy and won't allow sin in heaven. The problem is that all of us have sinned. **Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."** To sin means to miss the mark. Sometimes we say things, do things, or think things that we know are not pleasing to God. This is sin. The verse says that we fall short of the glory of God. God has a standard that He wants us to live by. It's a glorious standard of honesty and purity, but we all fall short in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Picture a target. Have you ever shot a bow and arrow and tried to hit the bullseye? If so, you know that rather than hitting the bullseye every time, your arrows often miss the target. So it is with our thoughts, words, and deeds. They often don't meet God's glorious standard. We aren't sinners because we sin, we sin because we are sinners. Ever since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, their sin nature has been passed along to each of us at birth.

There is a penalty for sin. **Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death..."**

God pays a wage for sin. That penalty is spiritual death or separation from Him. If we die without having our sins forgiven we are in big trouble because **Hebrews 9;27 states, "It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment."**

This paints a pretty bleak picture.

- We're all sinners
- Our sin separates us from God
- And we are going to die and be judged

You may be thinking that you don't sin that much so maybe you'll still be able to get into heaven on your own merit. But did you know that even one sin makes you guilty before a Holy God. **James 2:10 states, "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all."**

People think they can get right with God through being religious, doing good works or something else, but the Bible makes it clear that we can't get to heaven through our own efforts. **Ephesians 2:8-9 states, "8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- 9 not by works, so that no one can boast."** No one will boast about earning his own way into heaven because it isn't going to happen. But there is good news! Which brings us to the red page.

RED PAGE

The good news is that God loves us, and because of that love He sent Jesus to die for our sin. **Romans 5:8-9 states "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."**

You might say that the red page stands for two things. First the love of God for us, and secondly the blood of Jesus that was shed for us. Did you know that the Bible says that **"without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." Hebrews 9:22.** Jesus' blood was shed for you and for me to wash away our sin. **1 Peter 3:18 puts it this way, "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit."**

Just because Jesus died for the sins of the world, does that mean that everyone is automatically going to heaven? No, entrance into heaven is not automatic! This brings us to the Clean Page.

CLEAN PAGE

What does a person need to do in order to be saved? He needs to believe. Listen to what **John 3:16 states, "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."** Notice that the verses says that to be saved a person has to "believe." But did you know the Bible says that demons believe in God. **James 2:19 (NIV) states, "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder."**

The question is what kind of belief do they have as opposed to the kind of belief we are to have? They have head belief only. In order to be saved, a person needs heart belief. Demons know who God is, but they do not trust or have faith in Him in their heart. Thus they do not follow Him. One way to understand the concept of believing is to picture someone handing you a gift. They say the gift is yours and then reach out to give it to you. What do you have to do to make it yours? You have to receive it. The Bible connects receiving and believing in John 1:12, ¹² "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name."

Have you received Christ by placing your trust in Him and asking Him to come into your life to be your Lord and Savior? Lord means that Jesus becomes the one who calls the shots in your life. He runs your life. You listen to His Words and promptings and obey Him. Savior means that Jesus is the one who saves you. If you want Him as Lord, he comes as Savior, but if you don't want Him as Lord, He will not save you because you don't want to trust Him. If you receive Him, He makes you His child. At that instant you are born again and become a member of God's family.

GREEN PAGE

This brings us to the Green Page. If you truly want to follow Jesus you will want to grow in your faith. Green stands for growing in Christ. How does a person grow in faith? He does it through studying the Bible, prayer, attending church, coming to AWANA, serving, giving, and sharing Christ with others. If you would like to receive Christ right now you can do it through prayer. Here is a prayer you can pray. *"Lord, I admit that I'm a sinner and deserve to be eternally separated from You. I ask you to forgive my sin and to come into my life to be my Lord and Savior. Make me the person you want me to be. I believe in You. AMEN.*

If you prayed the prayer and meant it you are now God's child. Share this good news with someone and do what it takes to grow in your faith.