**Choosing the Cross**

Jesus chose the cross to forgive you and adopt you into His family and give you eternal life. For you and I, the cross becomes the only way for us to reject or accept God’s love. Have you chosen the cross?

1. **My Sin separated me from God.**

* We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way… [**Isaiah 53:6**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/isaiah/53-6.html/)**a**
* But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt. Your lips have spoken lies, and your tongue mutters wicked things. Like the blind we grope along the wall, feeling our way like men without eyes. At midday we stumble as if it were twilight; among the strong, we are like the dead. **Isaiah 59:2,3,10.**
* Once you were **alienated** from God and were **enemies** in your minds because of your evil behavior. **Colossians 1:21**
* And you were dead in your trespasses and sins. **Ephesians 2:1**

1. **God is without sin - Holy.** Let them praise your great and awesome name - He is holy. **Psalm 99:3.**
2. **God & Man needed a Mediator.** For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men. **I Timothy 2:5,6**
3. **I needed to be saved from my sins.** “For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. **John 3:17.**
4. **Jesus took my sins upon Himself (carried) and was punished (judged) for them.**

* …and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.  [**Isaiah 53:6**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/isaiah/53-6.html/)**b.**
* He made Him who knew no sin (innocent scape goat) to be sin on our behalf… **II Corinthians 5:21**

1. **God demonstrated His love for us.**But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**
2. **I needed to be forgiven and cleansed of my sins.**

* "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. **Isaiah 1:18**
* …"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **John 1:29**
* He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His loving kindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. **Psalm 103:12**

1. **God not only forgave my sins, he also forgot them.**

* Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. **I Corinthians 13:1**
* …"for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." **Jeremiah 31:34**

1. **As a Christian, I am New! I am no longer identified by my sins, but by my Savior!**

* God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. **II Corinthians 5:21**
* And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new. **Revelation 21:5**

* Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! **II Corinthians 5:17**

1. **In the past, my sin separated me from God, but now NOTHING is able to separate me from God!**

* For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:38-39**