**The Greatest Relationship**

**The greatest gift available to anyone is Jesus Christ and what He has done for us.

The greatest relationship you can have is that between you and Jesus Christ.**

**How can you start this relationship? Well...**

The Bible is the written Word of God. It comes from God. God made man with the ability to communicate, to speak words and to understand words. He speaks to us through His Word the Bible, giving us everything we need for life and salvation in written form so we do not go down the wrong path.

In the Bible there is this message about Jesus, known as the **GOSPEL.**

This word means really good news. The best news of all.

The Apostle Paul says, *" Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the* ***gospel*** *I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this* ***gospel*** *you are saved*.

*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...."*

**“He was raised”**means that He defeated death. Death could not hold Him, and this cure for death is available to you too: [click here](http://www.orbusafrica.org/index.php?page=an-orphans-true-hope) for more on the only cure for death available to you.

**"Christ died for our sins "...... What does that mean?**

We have all sinned and broken God's perfect rules.

The word sin simply means to break God's commands.

Jesus once summarised the commandments.

He said, *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.*

*And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

Nobody has ever come close to keeping such perfect rules (except Jesus).

Everywhere and everyday we see and experience the results of our disobedience toward our loving Creator.

God will not let us break His laws without serious consequences.

God is just. Our sin needs to be punished. **We can't fix this problem.**

**HERE'S THE GOOD NEWS** ....

**God provided the remedy for our problem.**

God is one God in three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit.

God decided that He would deal with mankind through a representative man-Jesus. In other words He stands in our place. What He did God considers we've done – if we trust in Him.

The Father sent Jesus to perfectly obey God's law and die on the cross in the place of sinners like you and me. Jesus kept God's law and bore the consequences of our sin for us.

If you'll take Jesus as your Saviour His sinless life and payment for your sins are credited to your account – which gives you a perfect record before God - and your sin is put on Him and He was punished instead of you.

The Bible says, *"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."*

*"God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, (or as the one who would turn aside his wrath, taking away sin) through faith in his blood."***God expects you to respond to His Gospel.**

Jesus lived, died and rose again and is alive today.

He is Lord of heaven and earth and YOU.

He commands that all should turn away from their self ruled lives and ask for His forgiveness.

God expects you to take His word for it and believe what He has told you about Jesus.

You can trust Jesus.

He will completely forgive you when you turn to Him. He knows your past and is ready to forgive.

Furthermore, He will give you **another gift.** The Holy Spirit will come to live in your heart of hearts. The Spirit of God will give you the strength to live a new life, trusting in Jesus and serving Him.

**This is THE GIFT we want you to know about.**

**Having Christ Jesus as Lord of your life and as your Saviour is THE GREATEST RELATIONSHIP available to anyone and we want you to have it.**

You can be right with God through faith, alone, in Jesus.

**THIS GIFT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU !**

What must we do to gain this eternal life? “Nothing!” God has done it all for you, you just need to thank Him and accept the free gift.

It is God's gift to anyone who'll receive it. It is free. You do not need to earn it. Jesus has done it all for us.

“But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he Saved us, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:4-7)

If you'll accept this gift and take Jesus as your Saviour, His sinless life and payment on the cross for your sins are credited to your account – which gives you a perfect record before God. Put your trust in Christ Jesus and receive eternal life.

*"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." (John 3:16)*

Who would you rather trust, God or man? “Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.” (Romans 10:11).

“If 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).

**God expects you to respond to His free gift of eternal life with Him:**

**Jesus sacrificed His life for YOU. God has accepted this sacrifice as payment in full for all the wrong things you have done in your lifetime. Will YOU receive Jesus as Lord of your life and receive eternal life?**

Craig Manners

If you'd like to discuss these things further please email Craig Manners at  craig.manners@orbusafrica.org