

## **Conversation Starter:**

1. Do you know for sure that when you die someday, you will go to heaven?
2. If you were to die today, and God were to ask you, "Why should I let you into heaven?" what would your answer be?

Transition: The Bible tells us that you can know for sure that you are going to heaven someday. Do you want to hear how you can know that for sure?

## **Grace**

1. Heaven is a free gift
2. It cannot be earned or deserved (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Gift Illustration: Do you ever pay for your birthday or Christmas gifts? Of course not! If you try to pay for a gift, it is no longer a gift.

Transition: Heaven has to be a free gift because...

## **Sin**

1. People are sinners
  - a. Sin is anything we do, say, or think that goes against God's commandments
2. People cannot save themselves (Romans 3:23)

Poison Illustration: If you saw me put a drop of poison in your glass of water, would you drink it? Of course not! Even though it is just one drop, the whole glass is ruined. What if I added some more water to it? Would you drink it now? Of course not! The same thing is true for heaven. It only takes one sin to keep you out of heaven. Even if we do good deeds, they don't get rid of our sin.

Transition: But I have some good news for you. Let me tell you about the God of the Bible...

## **God**

1. God is just and must punish sin (Deuteronomy 32:4)
2. God is also merciful and loving. God loves us and doesn't want to punish us

Punishment Illustration: If someone broke the law, a just judge would have to punish them and put them in jail for what they did. What if the person who broke the law was the judge's son? Would the judge still be a just judge if he let his son go, just because he loves him and doesn't want to punish his son? No, that wouldn't make him a just judge! The same thing is true with God. God is a just God and must punish sin, even though He loves us.

Transition: God solved this problem by sending His Son, Jesus Christ....

## **Jesus**

1. Jesus is God's Son. He is God in human skin!
2. Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross. Because Jesus is God, He rose back to life after He died and is now alive in heaven right now! (John 3:16)

Billion Dollar Illustration: Remember the just judge we talked about? If you broke the law and owed the judge 100 Billion Dollars in order to be free, you would be pretty stuck. The just judge wouldn't be able to let you go without the 100 Billion Dollars. But if someone came in and offered to pay the 100 Billion Dollars for you, then the just judge would be able to let you go! That is kind of like what Jesus did for us. We couldn't pay the price for our sins and go to heaven with God, so Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. We can be forgiven for our sins by God because of what Jesus did for us.

Transition: This is the gift that God gave us! This gift can only be received by faith...

## **Faith**

1. Faith is the key to heaven
2. Faith does not mean just knowing something in your head
3. Faith means trusting in only Jesus to get to heaven (Romans 10:9)

Chair Illustration: Faith means putting your full trust in something. In order to put your "faith" in a chair, it is not enough to just look at the chair, touch the chair, or even to know in your head that the chair could hold you up. To put your faith in the chair would mean that you would have to actually sit in it. To put faith in Jesus means that we stop trying to do good things in order to get to heaven and we trust fully in what Jesus did for us the cross- that His sacrifice is enough to get us into heaven.

## **Commit**

1. Does this make sense to you?
2. Would you like to accept Jesus as your Savior and receive this gift of everlasting life?
3. Make sure they understand:
  - a. You're putting your trust in Jesus
  - b. Make Him Lord over your life- that means that He is in charge of your life and how you live
  - c. Pray with them to accept Jesus
4. Help them grow
  - a. Make sure they have a Bible to start reading and a church to start going to