

HANDOUT 4 - The Bridge Illustration

There are a number of different illustrations of God's story we could use. We may not use the whole illustration every time but it's good to have memorised one so that we have it at our fingertips when we have opportunity to use it.

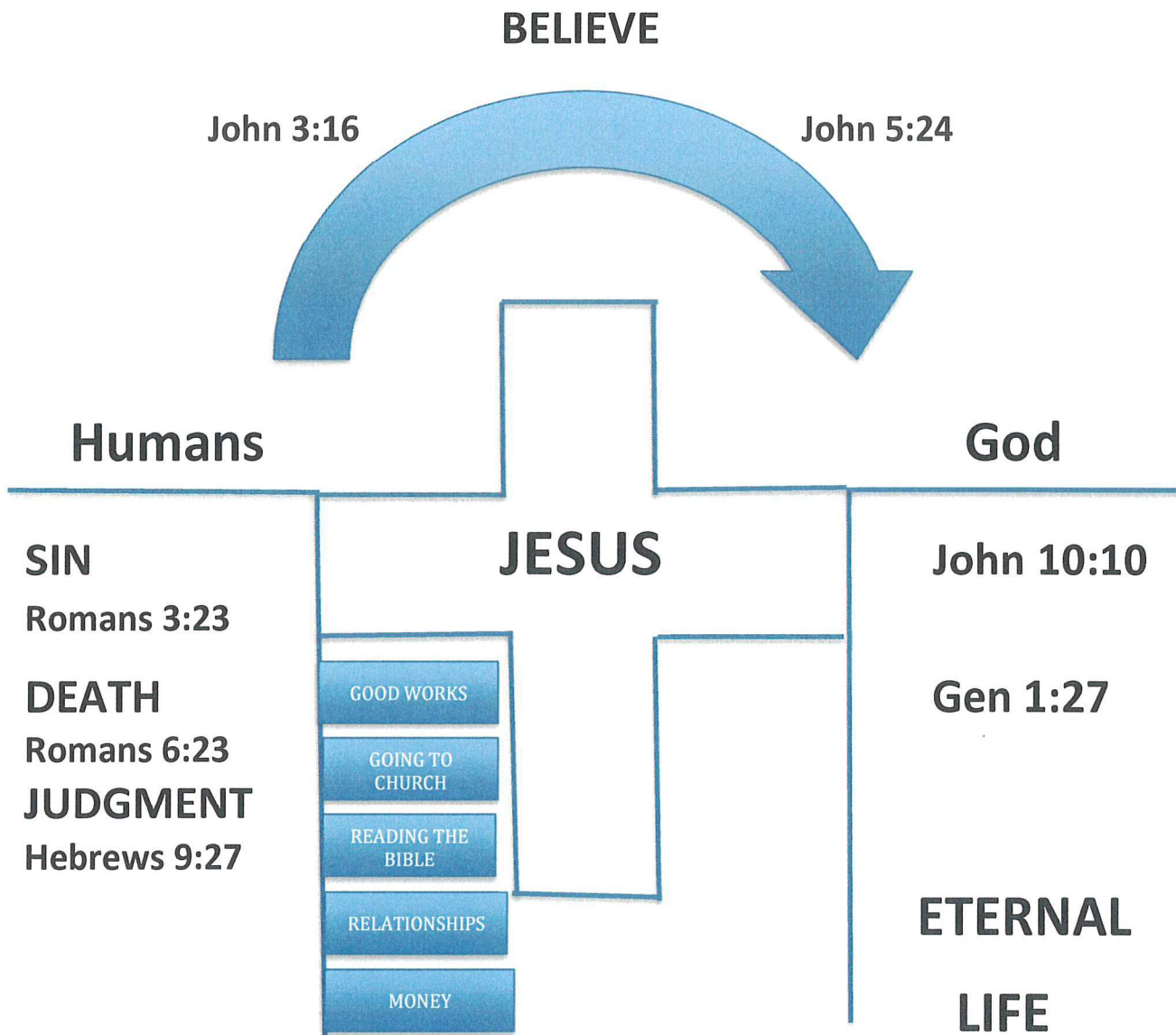
The Bridge illustration starts with the idea that God created human beings for friendship with Himself. Human disobedience led to the breakdown of that friendship and the beginning of a barrier or gulf between God and human beings. Human efforts through good deeds or doing religious things fail to cross the gulf, but Jesus' death provides a bridge over the gulf, as he takes on our behalf the sin of the whole world. Through Him we can cross the gulf and come into the relationship with God that we are created for.

The Bridge illustration also highlights the difference between Christianity and other religions and philosophies. It is not humankind trying to reach up to God, but God coming to us, to do for us what we are unable to do for ourselves.

See also these YouTube videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzHgzVgVnQc> (3 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQCeXkn0aMU> (9 minutes)



Christ's sacrifice for us

1 Peter 3:18

Romans 5:8