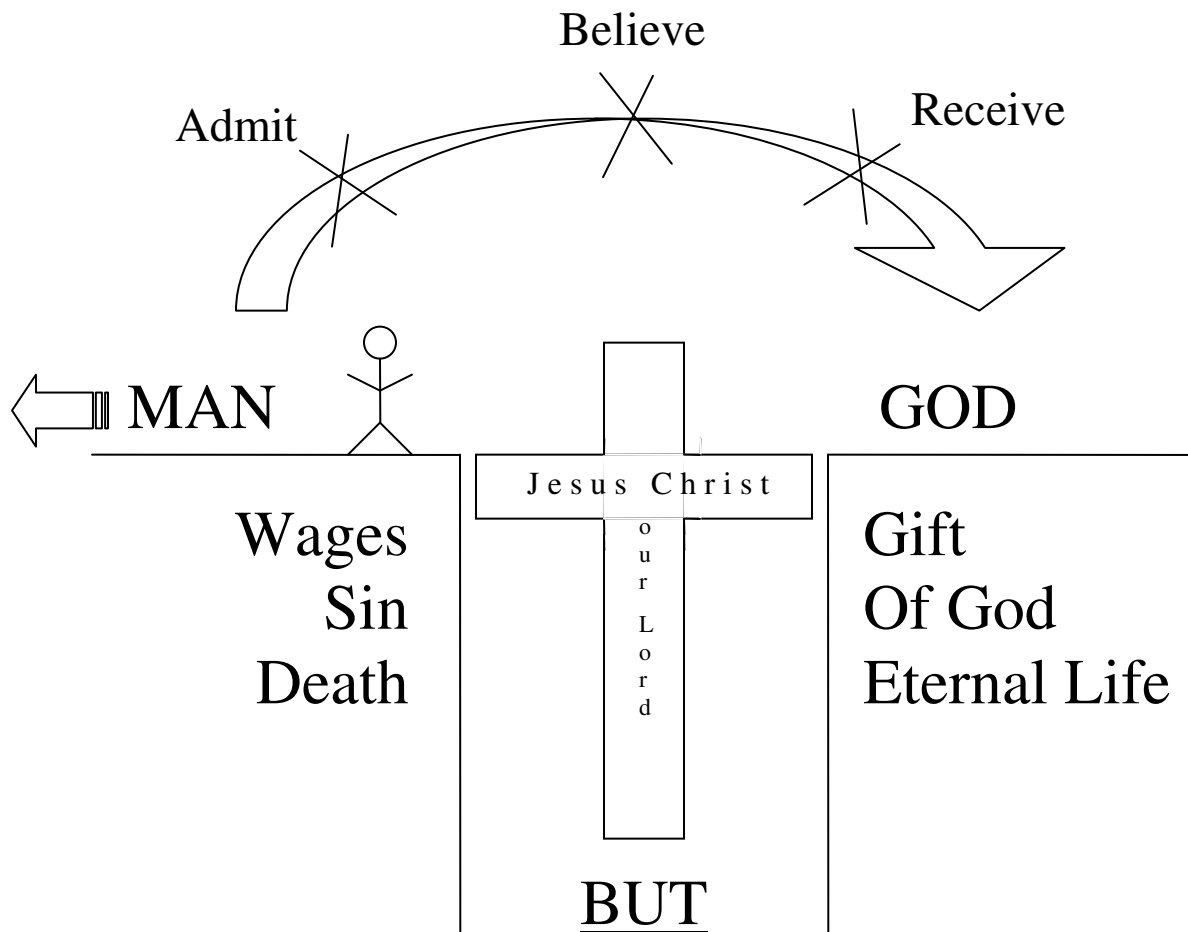


One Verse Evangelism Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”



***The key to the “Bridge Diagram” is to draw the cliff first, with MAN and GOD, and then fill in the rest with the words, then the cross, and then the arrow as you go along.

1. Wages
 - “How would you define wages?”
 - “How would you feel if your boss didn’t pay you what you deserved?”
 - ***Point out that we have earned wages from God for how we live our lives.
2. Sin
 - “How would you define sin?”
 - “How would a person have to live in order to get to heaven?”
 - “Have you always lived a life as you just described?”
 - ***Point out that sin is an attitude of independence and ignoring God. Explain how sin has separated us from God. (Explain using the “cliff” in the picture).
3. Death
 - “What thoughts come to mind when you think about death?”

- ***Point out that the sin that separates us from God will extend even into eternity if unaltered. This is eternal death or what the Bible describes as Hell.
4. BUT
***Point: This is a very important word because it indicates that there is hope for us. Up until this point the message is bad news. Now we turn our attention to the good news!
 5. Gift
***Point: From now on, be sure and point out the contrast between the words opposite each other in the diagram (i.e., wages and gift, sin and God, etc.).
***Point out that while some people try to earn God's favor with religious deeds, good morals, ethics, etc., it is impossible to earn the gift that God has already purchased for us.
 6. Of God
***Point: Explain that all of us have sinned, but God alone is perfect. It is this sin, which makes a relationship with God impossible on our own. The good news is this: God wants to give you a gift!
 7. Eternal Life
***Point: In contrast to the wages of death, which we deserve, the free gift of God is eternal life. It can only come from God...we cannot earn it.
 8. Jesus Christ
***Point: At this stage, draw a cross between the two cliffs. This is the "bridge to life."
Jesus is the means by which we obtain eternal life. By dying on the cross he bore the penalty for the sins, which we should have received. Thus, He has purchased eternal life for us.
 9. Our Lord
***Point: Jesus is not only our Savior who dies for our sins, but the Lord and Master of our life whom we obey when we:
ADMIT our sin. We confess that we have ignored God and offended Him in thought, word, and deed.
BELIEVE that Jesus Christ died to forgive us completely of our sins so that God treats us as if we were perfect, just like Christ.
RECEIVE Jesus Christ personally into our lives. Just as a gift is not truly yours until you receive it, so Christ must be received by us to have a relationship with Him.

*Another word that can be used in place of RECEIVE, is COMMIT. Same meaning, but it goes well with the "ABC" effect of becoming a Christian.

(Based on "One Verse Evangelism" by Randy Raysbrook, Discipleship Journal).