

# The Bridge to Life

## A Tool for Sharing the Gospel

Your non-Christian friends may have many questions before they are ready to trust Christ. But one thing *all* of them need at some point is a clear explanation of the Gospel and how they must respond to receive God's gift. Are you ready to provide this crucial information clearly? This "Bridge Illustration" can be sketched out anytime, anywhere, in 15 or 20 minutes. When you draw out the Bridge for a friend, you walk them through four major points of the Gospel:

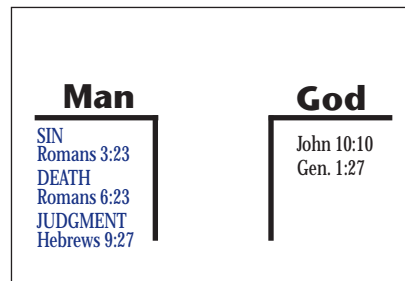
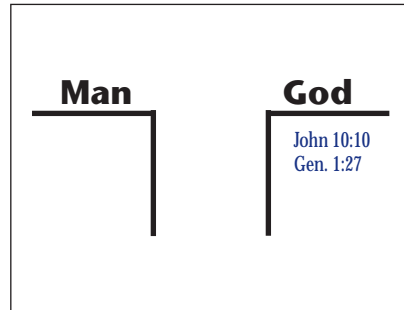
(I.) God's Love (II.) Man's Problem (III.) God's Remedy (IV.) Man's Response

As you draw out the illustration, turn to each Scripture reference and have your friend read it. Included with each step of the diagram are several questions for you to ask. These will help you understand what your friend thinks about his/her relationship with God.

### I. God's Love

God created us in His own image to be His friend and to experience a full life assured of His love. But He didn't make us robots—He gave us the freedom of choice.

- Q1 What do you think it means to really live life to the fullest?
- Q2 How are God and mankind different?



### II. Man's Problem

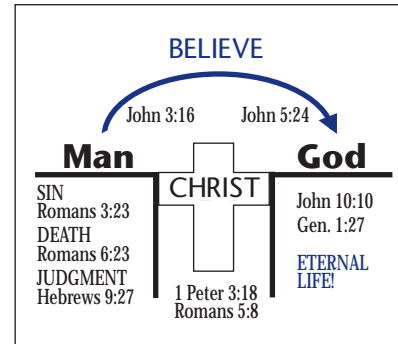
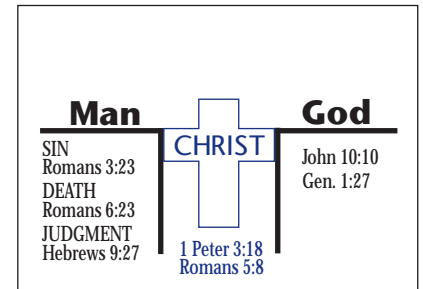
Mankind has chosen to disobey God and thus become separated from Him. This separation means the penalty of an eternal spiritual death.

- Q3 Have you ever wanted to talk to God but He seemed far away?
- Q4 When you think of death, what do you think of?

### III. God's Remedy

On our own, we cannot attain the perfection needed to bridge the gap between mankind and God. Christ's death alone is adequate for our sin and bridges the gulf between God and man.

- Q5 If death can be defined as separation from God, what is life?
- Q6 Why did Christ die?



### IV. Man's Response

Believing means trust and commitment—acknowledging our sinfulness, trusting Christ's forgiveness, and letting Him control our life. Eternal life is a gift for us to receive.

- Q7 Where would you place yourself in this illustration?
- Q8 Is there any reason why you shouldn't cross over to God's side and be certain of eternal life?

Once you've memorized and practiced this "Bridge Illustration," invite a Christian friend out to lunch or coffee. Ask them to pose as a non-Christian friend while you practice drawing out the Bridge on a table napkin. Have your friend give you feedback. Then invite a non-Christian friend out for lunch and share the Gospel!

### What should you do when someone accepts Christ?

A good place to start would be to send us an e-mail message at: [devotion@navigators.org](mailto:devotion@navigators.org) Give us your address, and we'll send you information about basic steps to take to help a new believer grow.

Spending time in God's Word is essential in a new believer's life. Two good resources to help establish patterns in Bible reading are **DAILY WALK** and **CLOSER WALK**, monthly devotionals offered by The Navigators. DAILY WALK is designed for reading through the Bible in a year. CLOSER WALK takes readers through the New Testament in a year. For more information and a free six-month subscription for you or a new believer, check out the devotional Web site at <http://www.navigators.org/devotion> or call (719) 594-2371.

*The Bridge to Life* (a pocket-size version) is available from NavPress. For more information, call (800) 366-7788 or visit <http://www.navpress.org>.