

This is all God requires, that we love God and love others, that we forgive others who hurt us, and that we humble ourselves, acknowledging what we're really like.

But have we done these three simple things? No, we have not!

The Bible says that we have all sinned, that is, we have refused to do justly, loving God and others. We often refuse to forgive others, harboring anger, resentment and bitterness against others. And we have all been proud, refusing to submit ourselves to the loving rulership of God, thinking that we can live our lives without Him. We have gone our own selfish ways, and as a result have separated ourselves from God.

But God still loves us, and desires to restore our broken relationship. To do this, God became a man (called Jesus), lived with us here on the earth, and then died a horrible death on a cross. Through His death on the cross, He provided a way for us to be forgiven of our sin, and restored to a relationship with Him.

God has provided the way to come back to Him, but we have to choose to come. He will not force Himself on us, but if we meet the conditions, God

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God has provided the way to come back to Him, but we have to choose to come. He will not force Himself on us, but if we meet the conditions, God

will forgive us, give us eternal life, and establish an intimate friendship relationship with us.

To meet the conditions and come to know God, you must:

**1. Acknowledge that you have rebelled against God.** ("All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23)

**2. Turn away from your lifestyle of selfishness.** ("Repent for the forgiveness of your sins." Acts 2:38)

**3. Commit yourself to living the way God commands you to live—loving God, and loving others as yourself.** ("Love the Lord your God, and love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:30, 31)

**4. Ask God's forgiveness for your sins.** ("If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." I John 1:9)

**5. Take your hands off your own life and allow Jesus to be your master.** ("If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Rom. 10:9, 10)

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# What Does God Require Of Me?

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## WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE OF ME?

Many people today are interested in what God demands of them. Does God insist that I keep the Ten Commandments? That I go to church every Sunday? That I keep a list of rules: don't drink, don't smoke, don't dance, don't go to movies?

What does God require of me?  
Actually the answer is quite simple!

In the Bible, God's Word, we can read exactly what God expects us to do:

"He has shown you, O man, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you, but to **do justly**, and to **love mercy**, and to **walk humbly** with your God?" (Micah 6:8)

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## DO JUSTLY

What does it mean to do justly? That means to do what is right. Do what is fair for every person, including God. God created us to love Him and to love other people. When we love, we are fulfilling the law of God

There are two supreme ends in life that a person can have. He can live to love God and other people, or he can live to love himself. We can put God and others first, choosing for their good, or we can live for ourselves, making our own selfish gratification our ultimate goal in life

So, we have to make a choice. Love God, and love others, or love ourselves supremely.

God expects us to do what is right.

## LOVE MERCY

To love mercy means to be merciful and forgiving to other people. Jesus said that if we do not forgive others, then God will not forgive us. Why? Is God being weird? No.

God demands that we be forgiving to others because that is what is best for us. If we refuse to

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God demands that we be forgiving to others because that is what is best for us. If we refuse to

forgive, we don't really love others, and since it is good for us to love others, God is only asking us to do what is good for everyone involved. He wants our very best, so He requires us to forgive those who hurt us.

Also, forgiving others is a sign that we really want to do justly—to do what is right.

## WALK HUMBLY

When we are proud, thinking that we don't need God or other people, we can't have a good relationship with God (or with anyone else, for that matter). So, God requires that we be humble.

We need to admit that we can't run our own lives and that we desperately need God. When we acknowledge that we are just weak, helpless, selfish people, God will come to us to help us.

The Bible says, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6). So, if we want God to show us His favor (grace) we need to be completely honest with ourselves and God, admitting our great need for Him.

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