God created us to have intimate friendship with Him. But because we have all rebelled and gone our own ways (this is called sin), we are separated from Him. God still loved us, though, and became a man—called Jesus—and died a horrible death on a cross for us. Through His death on the cross we can be forgiven of all our sin, and come back into the relationship we were originally supposed to have with God (this relationship is called "eternal life").

God won't force Himself on us, though, so there are some conditions we have to meet if we want to be forgiven, know God, and have eternal life.

These conditions are:

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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You Have Your Truth And I Have Mine!

"You have your truth and I have mine!"

"Do your own thing, as long as you don't hurt anybody."

"Everything is relative."

"Everybody makes up his own standard of right and wrong."

"Don't knock it if you haven't tried it." "If it feels good, do it!"

Sure, you've heard statements like these before. But have you ever really thought about what they are saying?

Most people today believe that their experiences develop their truth. That is, truth is no longer absolute to them. They believe that truth is determined by feelings or experiences, and since we all have different experiences in life, then the truth differs from person to person.

But is this idea really right?

DO THINGS REALLY EXIST?

Just because someone has never seen or touched the Eifel Tower in Paris, does that mean it doesn't exist? Of course not! So, things can exist whether we experience them or not. Things have absolute existence. The problem is, how can we be sure that they exist?

IS THERE REAL RIGHT AND WRONG?

Just because someone thinks that murder is OK doesn't make it right, does it? What about Charles Manson? He thought it was just fine to murder other people. What about Hitler? He thought it was OK to kill anyone who stood in his way. Was that right?

"But those are extreme examples," you might say.

You're right, of course, they are extreme. But the problem is that these are real examples. Manson and Hitler were real people who murdered other real people, and thought it was OK. Were they right or were they wrong?

You see, morality is absolute, no matter how much people want to bend the rules to suit themselves. But the question is, how will we determine what is right and wrong? Can anyone determine that absolutely?

CAN WE KNOW ANYTHING FOR SURE?

Or what about knowledge? Some people think you can't know something unless you've experienced it. How can you know drugs are a bad experience if you haven't tried them? Well, you don't have to stick your head into a cement mixer to know that it will hurt, do you? But how can we know that our feelings about this are true? Can anyone know anything for sure?

With our finite (limited) minds we can never be absolutely sure about these things. People have different experiences, so our experiences will never be enough to tell us what we need to know about life. We cannot determine absolute existence, absolute morality, or absolute knowledge with our experiences alone.

We need something more

WHAT IS THE ANSWER THEN?

Fortunately for us, God (the infinite, spiritual personal Creator of the universe) has told us what we need to know. He has told us in the Bible—His verbal communication with man—that things are real, what is right and wrong, and what we can know for sure. Because **He** said it from **His infinite perspective**, we can know these things **absolutely**. Our experiences will never determine absolutes, but God has revealed these absolutes to us in His Word.

As important as these things are, there is something even more important! God has told us how we can have an intimate love relationship with Him. Imagine that! We can know the God Who created all things!