

## Study Guide Template

All Lines 1.5 line spacing    Bullet points all except prayer

### Key Scriptures:

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death

Hebrews 2:1-3 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

### Start Talking:

Do you know of anyone like the "man" in the video, who said such things as: "I'm a good person." "I try to be good." "I'm no worse than anyone else." What is wrong with this way of thinking about your position before God? Discuss.

How would it make you feel if you asked a judge to fix your ticket, and you thought he did, only to find out that he paid it instead?

Why do you think many people get hung up on the fact that everybody has sinned, and therefore conclude that God couldn't keep them from heaven?

People go through great lengths to avoid physical death - doctors, treatments, procedures, medicines, etc. Why is there not the same panic to avoid spiritual death, which lasts an eternity?

### Start Thinking:

If the judge would have fixed the speeders ticket, would he have been a "just" judge? Explain why a just judge would have to pay the price for the offence instead of just pretending that it didn't happen, or covering it up.

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When Romans 6:23 says, “For the wages of sin is death”, does this mean that if a person committed only one sin, that his eternal life would have to be lost as the price to pay for it? Do you think most people believe this? Why is it true?

### Start Sharing

Knowing that you probably will sin again, describe the kind of person God wants you to be in your walk with Him. How do you reconcile your upcoming sins with knowing that Jesus removed their penalty by his crucifixion and death?

Pastor Bobby talked about Pilate’s attempt to clear himself of any responsibility for the death of Jesus by washing his hands of it. In Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, after Macbeth and Lady Macbeth commit murder, Lady Macbeth proclaims, “A little water clears is of this blood.” But, Macbeth, after seeing the blood on his hands, says, “Will all great Neptune’s ocean wash this blood clean from my hand?”, and answers himself with, “No, this my hand will rather the multitudinous seas incarnadine making the green one red.” He knows that his sin cannot be washed from his hands by washing the blood off of them. His blood would even turn the ocean red if he tried to use its water to cleanse himself of the guilt. Later, in Act 5, Lady Macbeth cries, “Out, damned spot! Out, I say!” referring to imagined blood on her own hands. Can person wash away his guilt before God by removing the evidence? Can you think of any ways people try to do this?

Pastor Bobby reminded us that Jesus said, “You are either for Me or against Me.” (Matthew 12:30) Do you think that most people see themselves as being strictly on one side or the other? What causes so many to try to stay in the middle?

### Start Praying:

“Lord, help me to see that You are The Holy One, who will not dwell with sin and sinners. Empower us with the knowledge that the only way to be clean before You is by faith in what Christ did at the crucifixion and resurrection. Help us to never excuse our sin before You. In Jesus Name, Amen.”

### Start Doing:

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Read James 4:6 or 1 Peter 5:5. Write down some ways you can stop making excuses for your sin and plead guilty, so that God will move towards you.

Pastor Bobby pointed out that if you are not found in Jesus, your life will be judged by God, and you will be found guilty; however, a pre-trial diversion, in which Jesus takes on the penalty for your sins, makes you right before God. His blood is on your hands or in your heart! What can you do to convince a lost person that this is the reality of everyone's eternal destiny?