

Trade Places

One of Six Decisions that will Change Your Life
June 20 & 21, 2009

There are two halves to this decision:

1. Let Jesus take your place, *after all, he already _____ for us.*

What now? Accept the _____ to
_____ into God's family based on
Christ's death for your sin.

2. Take the place of Jesus, *after all, he already told us to _____ his _____.*

What now? Accept the _____ to
give your life to _____ God by continuing
the work of Christ.

Your decision:

First: *honestly assess where you are.*

In Out

Next: *admit which direction you're facing.*

In Out

Now:

Turn around and look in

Step over the line

Look out

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. We seldom think of Father's Day in terms of honoring our Heavenly Father. What do you think he wants this year? What gift can you give him?

2. Think of something that only God can fix. Have you tried to do it yourself? What has the result been when you have forgotten to ask for help?

3. What does the Bible say about why Jesus was sent here? What is so central about the cross?

4. What is God's standard? (See 1 Pet. 1:16; Heb. 12:14; Rom. 3:23; James 2:10.) Is good enough good enough? Is God unfair?

5. To see a couple verses that clearly teach that salvation is a gift from God, look up Eph. 2:8,9. This is a good passage to memorize. But don't forget verse 10. How is it connected? Why is it included? See also Tit. 3:5. If we are not saved by our own deeds of righteousness, whose deed was it?

6. Many verses talk about the exchange that takes place when we receive Christ and accept his commission to represent him. Take a look at 2 Corinthians 8:9. What does this verse teach? What does it mean?

7. The end of 2 Cor. 5 mentions the ministry of reconciliation several times. What is Paul talking about and what does this mean to us? What are we to do and why?

8. In our culture, it is terribly offensive to draw a line and use words like "in" and "out." We desperately try to avoid such distinctions, hoping every belief, perspective, philosophy and person will merrily coexist. So, why did Jesus speak in such black and white terms? Did he give his strong warnings about heaven and hell because he is *unloving*, or because he is *loving*?

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- 1. Let Jesus take your place,**
after all, he already died for us.

What now? Accept the invitation to come into God's family based on Christ's death for your sin.

- 2. Take the place of Jesus,**
after all, he already told us to follow his example.

What now? Accept the commission to give your life to serve God by continuing the work of Christ.

Your decision:

First: *honestly assess where you are.*

In Out

Next: *admit which direction you're facing.*

In Out

Now:

Turn around and look in

Step over the line

Look out