

## **NEW WORLD/KINGSHIP GOSPEL OUTLINE**

*Adapted from Intervaristy.org and True Story Resources by James Choung*

### **A Few Lead-ins:**

*Talking about church or someone's religious background or misconceptions of Christianity:*

**Lead-in:** "You know, I grew up in church but had never really internalized the big ideas of Christianity until recently. Have you ever heard the whole story of Christianity? Can I summarize it for you sometime? It's really good for me to practice articulating it..."

**Lead-in:**

"You know, I didn't grow up in church either, so I only understood bits and pieces of the main ideas behind Christianity until recently. Actually – I'd love to show you what I've learned recently – can I summarize it for you sometime? It really cleared some things up to have the big picture explained to me..."

*Someone shares a tough situation (the effects of sin) or an illness, tragedy, or even a sad news report:*

**Lead-in:** "Yeah, it's really hard to understand hard things like \_\_\_\_\_. It's interesting, the premise of Christianity and the storyline of the Bible indicate that the reason we ache for a world without tragedy is because a better world once existed and will exist again someday. The Bible is actually a story that asks the question "what is God doing about evil?" Would you like to hear a quick summary?"

*Talking about your majors, future dreams, or questioning your purpose in life:*

**Lead-in:** "You know I've definitely struggled with my purpose in life too...questioned if I'm in the right major and stuff...but I've been learning recently that part of my purpose is to be an agent for good in the world. It's connected with what I've learned recently about the Big Story of the Bible. Would you want to hear it? It'd be good for me to try and articulate it, actually"

**DESIGNED FOR GOOD:**

*(Draw: Circle #1 and 2 stick figure people inside it)*

In the Christian worldview, God created a perfect world – the kind of world we all wish existed. All of life was beautiful and worked together in peace and harmony. We were designed for good! *(Write “Designed for Good” at the top)*

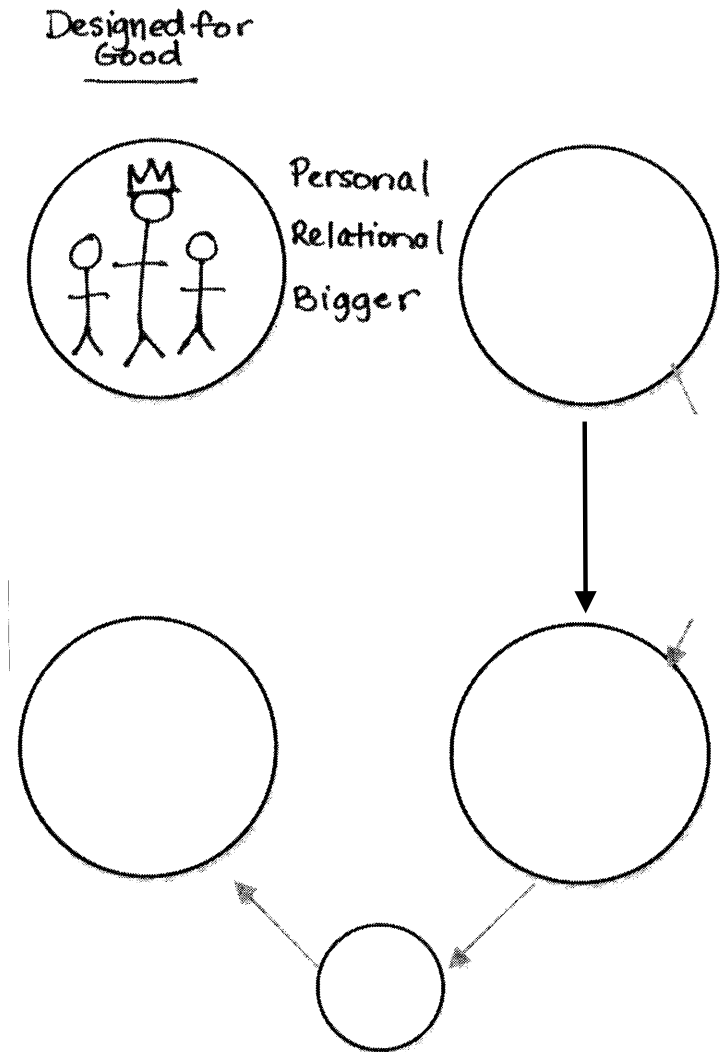
*(Draw: a larger stick figure with a crown between the 2 people (God))*

**On a personal level,** we were each designed to live in a loving and trusting relationship with our creator King, God himself. God was our intimate friend, but also our wise and just leader. As his subjects, we experienced the good life in His kingdom.

**On a relational level,** *(motion between the 2 people)* people were designed to love and serve one another. Relationships worked the way we want them to work!

**And on a bigger level,** *(motion around the circle)* the world God created was designed to take care of us, too. The land and food flourished as we cared for it.

The world and all that’s in it was designed for good. So how did we get this way? How did the world become such a mess?



## DAMAGED BY EVIL

*(Draw circle #2 with 2 stick figures in it)*

When we lived under God's leadership and kingship, we experienced a good world. But the story of the Bible says that we rejected God's kingship, took charge, and essentially became our own king and our own god. We rebelled. By doing so, we betrayed our King and friend.

*(Draw king outside the circle)*

We broke our relationship with God when we betrayed him, and as a result, we also separated ourselves from the source of life – leaving ourselves and our world in a state of death and corruption. *(Draw a squiggly line representing damage around the world)*

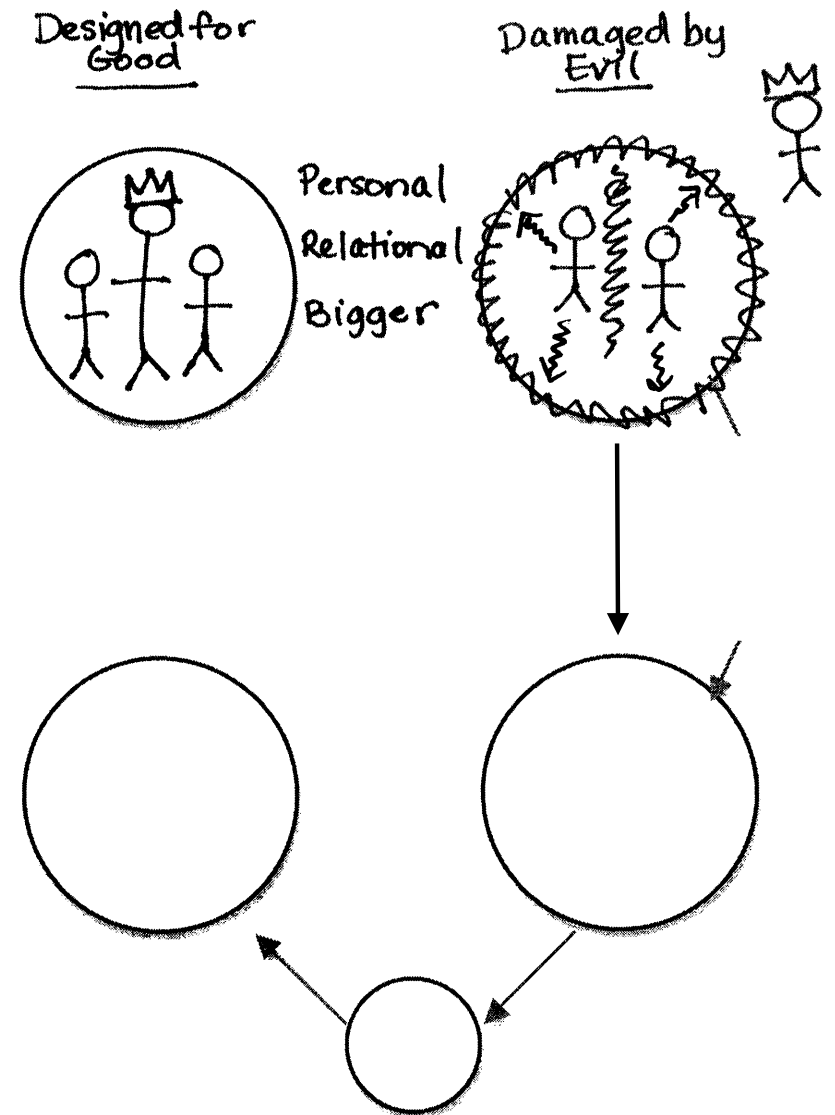
On all levels, we became corrupted and damaged without the God as our King. By humanity's own choice, everything has been *damaged by evil*. *(Write: "Damaged by Evil")*

*(Point to the words as you speak)*

**On a personal level**, we damaged ourselves by refusing to come under the King's leadership. Without God, we ruined everything.

**On a relational level**, we damaged our interpersonal relationships – our families, marriages, and friendships have all become broken by our selfishness. We all do damage to our relationships in some way or another. *(Draw a squiggly line between the people)*

**On a bigger level**, creation itself was corrupted. The world that was once designed to flourish and provide for us, is being destroyed by the many destructive ways that we use it.



## RESTORED BY JESUS

*(Draw circle #3 with the squiggly lines around it to represent damage and 2 stick figures inside of it)*

But God loved the world too much to leave the world full of damage & evil, and He loved the world too much to leave us with an imperfect system like animal sacrifice.

**So God came into the world to deal with the damage himself.**

*(Draw a King inside the circle again)*

Jesus did three things:

*(Write)* **Identified:**

Jesus Identified with us by becoming one of us. God squished himself into a human body and lived among us in the damaged world (though he never contributed to the damage himself).

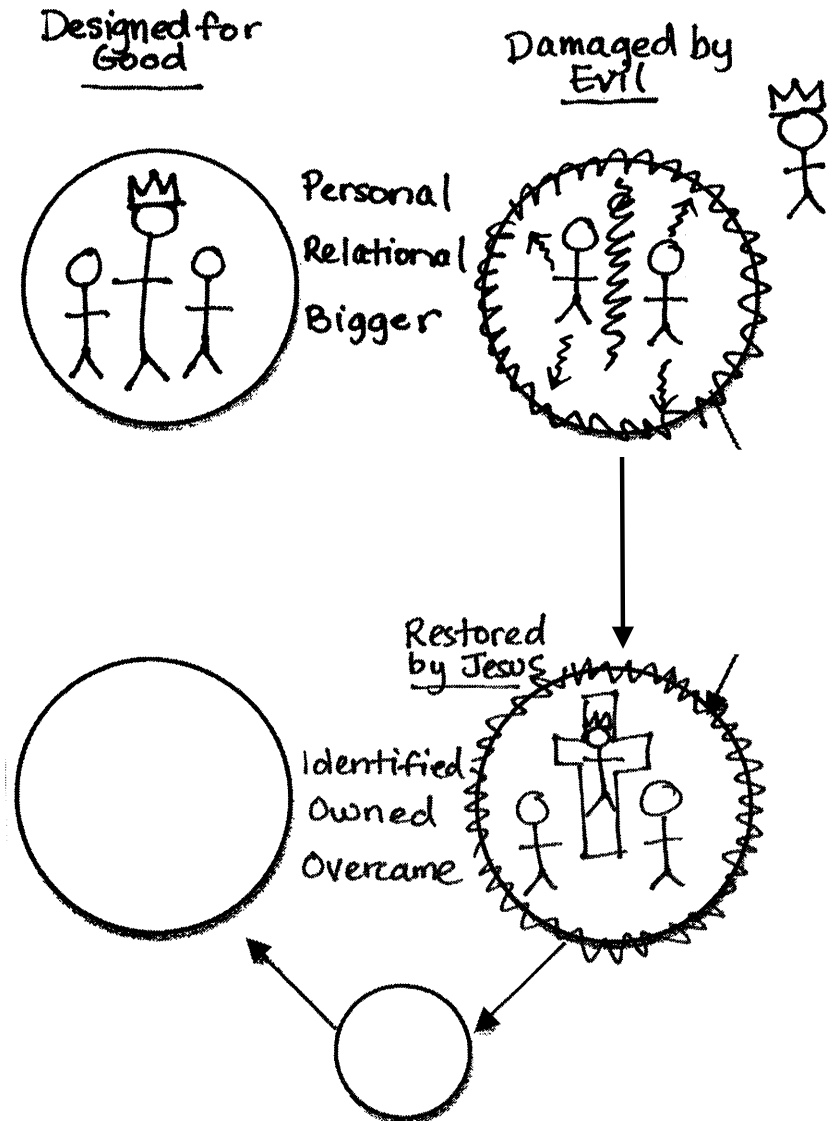
*(Write)* **Owned**

Jesus owned our judgment. *(draw a cross)* Jesus died on a cross owning the judgment we all deserve for our rebellion against God, our selfishness and the ways we have damaged others. Jesus became a "once and for all" sacrifice for all of humanity.

*(Write)* **Overcame:**

But Jesus didn't stay dead! He rose from the dead, overcoming death and unleashing power to restore our damaged world. His life gives us the power we need to live differently.

**Jesus came to restore the world and everything in it to what God intended.** *(Write Restored by Christ)*



**CHOICE TO FOLLOW:**

(Draw an arrow to another little circle in-between Circle #3 and what will be Circle #4.)

Jesus invites every person to be restored themselves.  
A person can decide that they want Jesus' sacrifice to count for them!

Write "Choice to Follow"

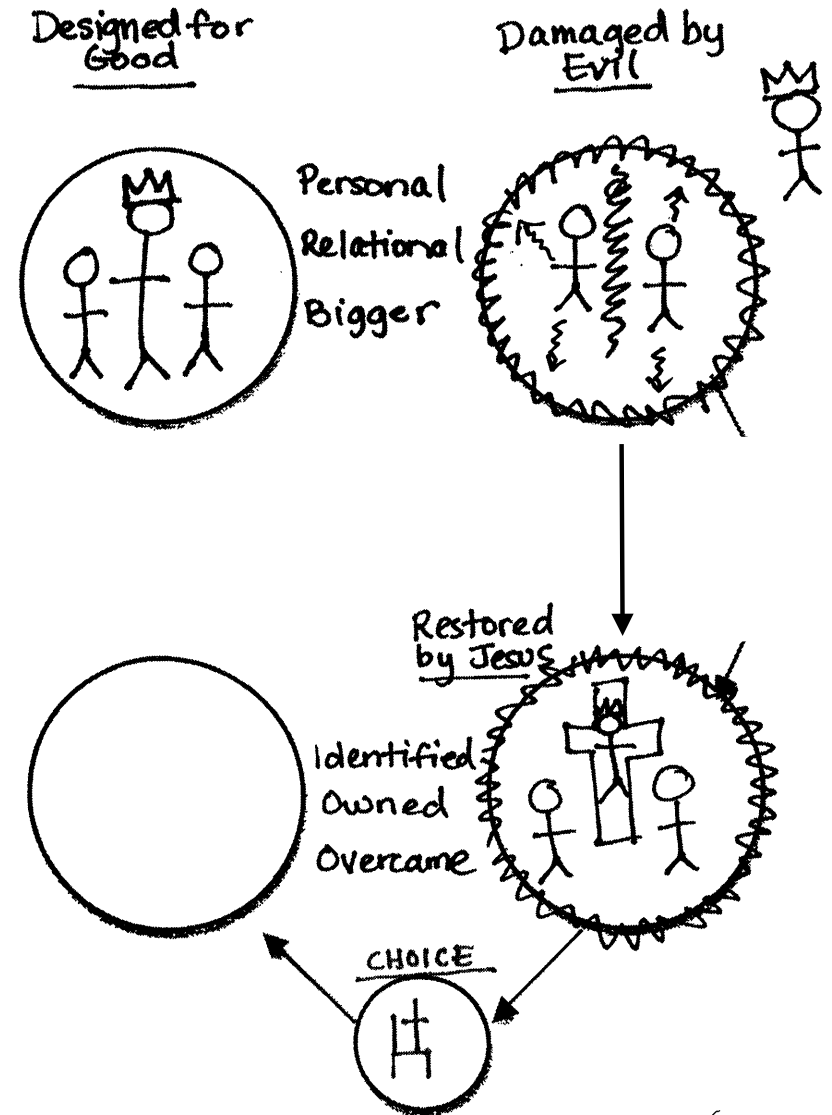
How can Jesus' sacrifice count for you?

**Identifying:** You must identify with this story and believe that Jesus' death and resurrection has the power to break the cycle of evil.

**Owning:**  
You have to own responsibility for the damage we have inside of us and that we've done to others and receive Jesus' forgiveness.

**Overcome:** (draw a throne and cross)  
Jesus must overcome your desire to rule your own life. If you choose to follow, it means that Jesus becomes the supreme ruler and King of your life. No longer can you self-direct your life or be on the "throne" of your life.

If a person is ready to make Jesus King of their life, then Jesus' death counts for them.



## SENT TO HEAL

This last picture demonstrates how Jesus's followers are sent to help heal to the damaged world. (Write "sent to heal")

(Draw Circle #4 with damage around it and 2-3 stick figures and a king inside of it. Draw arrows pointing out.)

If a person has decided to make Jesus King again, He then calls us to follow Him by becoming agents of healing in the world. Jesus changes the world by changing people's hearts.

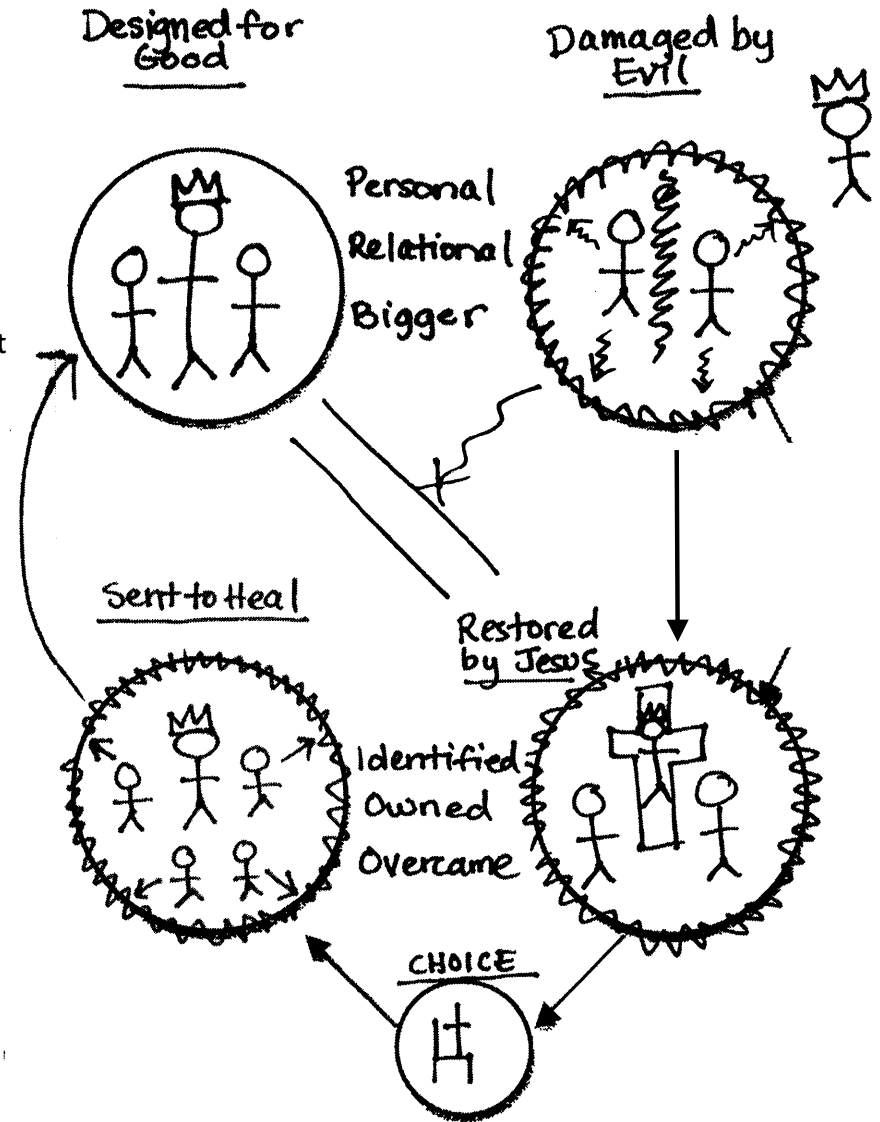
**On a personal level,** Jesus has the power to restore *our* hearts. His Spirit comes to live inside of us and shows us when our hearts are being corrupted. Then we can go to Jesus for healing & change.

**On a relational level,** Jesus has the power to restore our relationships. He invites us to follow him by serving, loving, & forgiving one another.

**On a bigger level,** Jesus has the power to restore the bigger broken things about our world. He invites us to expose corruption and bring justice to those who can't defend ourselves, and take up causes.

In all of these things, Jesus wants his followers to heal the world **together**. This is the purpose of Christian community (church).

Finally, the Bible tells us that there is hope of **totally renewed world someday**. Jesus is going to return again to right all wrongs and put an end to evil once and for all. God's kingdom will be back to it's original design and all damaged erased forever. (Draw a final arrow to Circle #1)



(see previous page)

**FOLLOWUP:**

**Q: So why can't we just jump from Circle #2 (damaged by evil) to the last circle? There are lots of people who aren't Christians trying to make change in the world!**

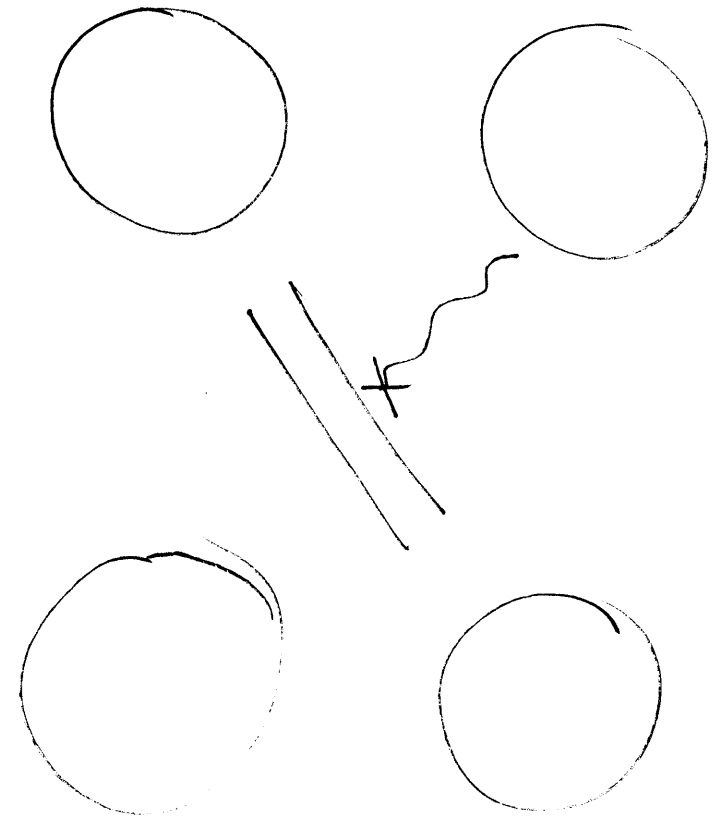
A: Well, two issues – first - the world's problems are infinite and we are going to get overwhelmed trying to solve the worlds problems by ourselves...especially when we ourselves seem to battle selfishness daily. So we actually need Jesus' resources to *become* the kind of good we want to see on our planet.

*(draw a blockage/wall between circle #2 & circle #4)*

Second, without a restored relationship with Jesus, we are just treating symptoms. Our corruption *started* with a broken relationship with our Creator King. So until we offer a restored relationship with the King, there is no real rescue. True restoration involves the physical as well as the spiritual.

**Q: So, which one of these three worlds would you place yourself in?**

- In the first, everything is fine and the world is OK.
- In the second, you see and experience the damage and corruption in the world but haven't received the solution.
- In the third, you have some understanding of what Jesus has done for us & the world, but you haven't chosen to follow yet.
- Maybe, you are at a spot where you need to make a choice to let Jesus be the King of your life.
- In the fourth world, you are following Jesus with his power and community as an agent of healing in the world.



**So, where would you place yourself?**

**If you are in world #1**, the world is perfect; but in my mind it is hard to reconcile this with the suffering in the world.

How do you reconcile those things?

**If you are in world #2**, you experience damage & corruption in the yourself and others and Jesus is calling you to follow Him.

*“Would you like to become a follower of Jesus today?”*

If yes, pray with them (you can use the prayer at right)

If no, “What barriers are in the way of you becoming a Jesus follower?”

**If you are in world #3**, you have some understanding of what Jesus did and he is calling you to follow him.

*“Would you like to become a follower of Jesus today?”*

If yes, pray with them (you can use the prayer at right)

If no, “What barriers are in the way of you becoming a Jesus follower?”

**If you are in world #4**, you are doing good in the world as Jesus’ follower.

In what ways are you engaged in God’s mission?

Are you a part of a Christian community?

**A PRAYER RESPONSE TO JESUS:**

*Jesus, I believe that your death and resurrection broke the cycle of corruption in the world and in me. I acknowledge my responsibility in contributing to the damage in the world. I receive your forgiveness. I choose to follow you and let you be my King and leader of my life. I receive your Holy Spirit in me to be my guide and helper.*



**THE JEWS & JUDGEMENT** (Optional -- use when appropriate questions arise)

Draw an arrow pointing out to a smaller circle. This circle should land between "Damaged by Evil" and "Rescued by Christ" (which hasn't been drawn yet). Draw many little stick figures inside this small circle, representing the Jews.

Have you heard of the Old Testament? It's the first half of the Bible. Amazingly, it only takes the first few chapters of the story to go from "Designed for Good" to "Damaged by Evil." So most of the rest of the Old Testament follows the story of a group of people called the Jews.

God decided that he would spend some time focusing in on a specific people group. This group of people was to be his "model community" – if the Jews lived out their lives as a community under God's leadership and followed His laws, they would be blessed. (Kind of like a mini-version of Circle #1!) If they broke the agreement they had with God, they forfeited those blessings and risked losing their identity as God's community.

In the meantime, God gave them a way to deal with the damage they all committed on a daily basis.

*(draw a little stick figure sheep)*

They had an animal sacrifice system – judgment and justice was being carried out for their evil choices when an animal died in their place.

You see, if God is truly a good king, he can't let evil go unpunished or unanswered. We recognize that a GOOD king must care about justice.

