

God Is . . . Script

Greg approaches a teenage brother and sister, Tom and Sally, sitting at a table in a local park where Greg likes to go "fishing."

Greg: Hello, my name is Greg. I am out here in the park today asking people a simple question. Would you mind answering the question?

Sally: Sure, what is it?

Greg: How would you finish the phrase, "God is . . . "?

Tom: LOVE! God is love.

Sally: Yeah, I remember hearing someone in church say that when I was younger.

Greg: Yes, that is taught in 1 John. That is the response I hear from most people. Would you mind if I sat down and asked you a few more questions?

Tom: No, have a seat.

Greg: If God is love, does He ever get mad at anybody?

Tom: If He does, He forgives them.

Greg: Do you think God is mad at you?

Tom: I don't see why he would be.

Sally: Me either. There are a lot of people worse than me, and I try to help others whenever I can.

Greg: There is another verse in the Bible that talks about God's love: John 3:16 . . .

Tom: For God so loved the world that He sent His Son.

Greg: That's part of it, but listen to all of what Jesus said: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light,

lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Greg: Did you hear the word “condemned” in that passage? That sounds like language that a judge would use. Have you ever thought of God as a judge?

Sally: I don’t think God is a judge. God loves everyone and He wouldn’t condemn people for living their lives.

Greg: Sally, would you read this verse from Psalm 7 for me? *[Greg turns his Bible to Psalm 7:11 and hands her the Bible.]*

Sally: “God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day.” Wow! I have never heard that before.

Greg: It sounds like both of you have some idea of what the Bible teaches. What do you know about sin?

Tom: Our parents dragged us to church when we were little kids. Sins are things like lying and stealing and stuff.

Greg: So have you ever done those things: lying, stealing, cheating, dishonoring your parents, things that are sexually forbidden by God, or coveting what others have?

Sally: Well, yes.

Tom: Sure.

Greg: Since those things are sins in God’s eyes, then you have broken God’s laws. As the just Judge, he must find you guilty, and you stand condemned before Him.

Sally: Well, the God I believe in would never judge anyone.

Greg: If someone murdered your mother and the judge just let them go, would he be a good judge?

Sally: No, he would be wicked for just letting the murderer go free and not punishing him.

Tom: I see where you are going. If God is just and good, He must punish sin or He is not just.

Greg: That is exactly right. But remember, God sent Jesus to demonstrate His love. Jesus came and lived a perfect life, died on the Cross as He took the punishment for sin, and then rose again to show He had conquered death and sin. You can avoid the condemnation by trusting in Christ and repenting of your sins. Because God is a good, loving, and just, He can forgive you because Jesus has already paid the penalty. That is the good news of the gospel.

Sally: What are you, some kind of a prophet?

Greg: Well, not like you may have heard about in the Old Testament. God sent many prophets to Israel to call them to repent of their sins and to trust in and worship God alone. Even when they didn't listen, God was patient with them, but His patience eventually had to give way to His justice. I am here today as an ambassador of Jesus Christ to call you to repentance. We have God's Word that He will judge all people for their sin just as He judged Israel for their rebellion. Only those who turn to Christ and away from their sin will be free from that condemnation. Please seriously consider what I have said, call out to God to be merciful to you, and place your faith in Christ.