

Read the Directions

¹ Rom. 3:23

² Col. 1:16

³ Bible is called "instruction
in righteousness" 2Tim. 3:16

⁴ Jn. 10:10

⁵ Ex. 20

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LIVING IT UP?



**HOW TO GET
THE MOST OUT OF LIFE**

Every Christmas morning millions of boxes are opened. They are filled with all kinds of wonderful and exciting things. Then the styrofoam, ribbons and wrapping paper are crumpled up and cast aside. Next, depending on what it is, people try to plug it in, turn it on, or make it work. But wait a minute, don't forget to read the directions.

Everything comes with a booklet, pamphlet, or set of instructions these days. Even a can opener comes with its own little booklet. These usually list all the parts, describe the features, explain the operation, and give important warnings. They usually list service or repair centers where you can take the thing if it does not work properly, or becomes broken.

When you were born your mother probably checked all your parts and made sure you had all your fingers and toes. She received you as a gift from God. No doubt, she had the highest of hopes that you would bring joy to many and that you would get the most out of life. Wouldn't it be great if every baby born came with a set of instructions? Even a toaster has a set of instructions.

There is a set of directions for every baby ever born. Most people are so excited with the little present,

they never even notice it. By the time they do, the life may be badly damaged. The instruction booklet is called the Bible. The Jewish people call the Bible the Torah for a reason. Torah means "Instructions." Everyone would be better off if they read them. They were written by our manufacturer and Creator.

Many never enjoy all the features or possibilities of their VCR because they have not read the directions. The little digital clock is always blinking "12 O'clock" because they don't know how to set the silly thing. Worse than that, many have no idea about how to get the most out of life because they have not read the directions. And when they finally realize that their life is "broken," they have no idea where to go to get it fixed. These "Instructions" not only tell us how we were made, they tell us why we were made. They tell us how we are supposed to "work" and why things don't "work."

If people would only read the Ten Commandments they would see that we are not "working" like we should. Just read the daily newspaper. We are all broken. This brokenness is called sin. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."¹ The person who tries to live without God's Word has little idea of what the gift of life is, what is it's

purpose, and can never be sure which end is up.² The person who lives without reading God's Word may suspect they are not getting the most out of life, or if things are working as they should.

God has issued a RECALL. He wants to fix man's problems which are all sin problems. He wants to give each person a new heart, and a new and eternal life. He wants to make us righteous, which means "right."³

Jesus Christ came into the world to die on the cross to pay the penalty for your sin. This was the only way to fix your problem. All who come to Christ by faith suddenly see what they have been missing. This Gospel message has turned some people's worlds "upside down," which really sets them right side up. Jesus said, "I am come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly."⁴

Nothing is so broken in this world that God cannot fix it, but each person must respond personally to his recall. Each must repent, that is, turn around. Trust Christ as your personal Savior right now. Open up God's Word and begin to read, begin to discover just how much more God has in store for you.