

WHERE CHRISTIANS MEET
4050 80th Avenue North
PO Box 3118
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781
Phone 727 709-2799

VOLUME 22

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

NUMBER 6



Several years ago, we purchased a swing set for the kids. I have always thought of myself as somewhat mechanically inclined. My hobby was restoring antique cars. I did everything from engine overhauls to body and paint work. So, a swing set was no challenge. So I bought. Of course the assembly instructions came in the box with all the parts. But having rebuilt transmissions my thought was, "I don't need to read the instructions. I got about halfway through the assembly process before I realized something was wrong.

I probably don't have to tell you that there was a step-by-step procedure for the assembling of the swing set and if those steps were not followed exactly in the proper sequence assembly was impossible. The step-by-step procedure was carefully and clearly outlined in the instructions for assembly manual. In an attempt to save time, and thinking I knew more than the manufacturer, I avoided reading the instruction manual and ended up disassembling what I had tried to put together doubling the time it would have taken had I read the instructions.

There is an instruction manual available for those who want to go to heaven. It has been written by the Creator of earth and heaven. It is written in plain, understandable language and it gives step-by-step instructions. Many people ignore these instructions and try to reach their goal by following the directions of man or their own thinking. Just like a failure to follow assembly instructions for putting together a swing set can result in problems, the failure to follow God's instructions will result in eternal disaster. Those who fail to follow the Bible's instructions are saying they are smarter than God. They think they know more about what God wants us to do than God Himself.

If we fail to read the instruction manual when we are trying to assemble something, and we run into problems, we always have a second chance. We can go to the manual, follow the procedure outlined in it and successfully accomplish the job. But, if we fail to read God's instruction manual and we miss heaven, there is no second chance. The Bible says, "It is appointed unto man to die once and after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

Why would anyone want to risk missing heaven because they did not read the manual? Why would a person think they can make it on their own? What about you? Are you trying to get to heaven by your own merits? Or, by following the instructions of man? You will not make it! God wrote the manual and we must follow it. Someone came up with the logo on the right that expresses exactly what the Bible is all about. The Bible is Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth. Are you following this manual? **WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS--READ THE INSTRUCTIONS!**

