

Why I Believe... Lesson 4  
“Why I Believe God is the Answer”  
John 6:65-69  
**By Russell Earl**

Thesis: I want to show why I believe God is the answer.

- Intro:
1. Mankind has repeatedly tried to find the answer to problems by itself.
  2. Today we will be reminded why God is the answer and the only answer for man.

I. The Situation of Man

A. Sin is the problem of all mankind.

1. History reveals mankind made horrible decisions and entered into a state of sin (**1 Kings 8:46a**).
  - a. Paul repeats this same teaching (**Rom 3:23**).
  - b. Throughout the Old Testament sin's presences and it's destruction consequences are discussed (**Isa 59:1-2**).
  - c. The New Testament reveals the same problem (**1 Jn 3:4**).

B. Mankind's situation is serious (**Ezk 18:20a**).

1. Each person is responsible for him/herself, spiritually speaking.
  - a. Mankind does not inherit sin or guilt, but we do have to face the consequences of our sins of the past and our own today.
2. Each person carries his own sin.
  - a. Therefore, man's chance of redemption sits on his own shoulders (**Ezk 18:20b**)
3. Isaiah reminds us that mankind cannot find peace on the crooked path of sin (**Isa 59:8; 57:21**).

II. Mankind without God

A. By the numbers

1. **An estimated 18% of America suffers from anxiety.**
2. **In 2017 38% of Americans suffered from some form of drug addiction.**
3. **Nearly half of all women and men in the United States have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime** (48.4% women and 48.8% men, respectively). [National Domestic Violence Hotline]

B. Success rates

1. When look at success rates, such is difficult to find. Notice this phrase from “American Addiction Centers”.
  - a. **Concerning success rates - “This is difficult to answer because studies that look at 2-5 years out are rare relative to those that look within the first year of the designated conclusion of “treatment.”**
    - i. Much of the text deals with defining “treatment” and “rehab”.
  - b. **Joseph A. Califano, Jr., former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and founder of the National Center on Addiction and Substance. Califano told Sheff, “The therapeutic community claims a 30% success rate, but they only count**

*people who complete the program.” Califano adds that the other 70-80 percent have dropped out by the 3-6 month marker.*

2. Mankind has tried and failed.
  - a. Man’s idea of having “everything under control” can be see here:
    - Drug/Ecstasy Addiction
    - Cocaine Hotline
    - Sex Addiction
    - Gamblers Anonymous
    - Compulsive Gambling Hotline
    - National Problem Gambling Hotline
    - Video Game & Internet Addiction
    - Computer Gaming Addicts Anonymous
    - On-Line Gamers Anonymous

National Association for Children of Alcoholics

National Youth Crisis Hotline

***Responds to youth dealing with pregnancy, molestation, suicide, and child abuse.***

Children of Alcoholics Foundation

Families Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous

Cocaine Anonymous

Crystal Meth Anonymous

Marijuana Anonymous

Nicotine Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous

### III. Lessons for us today.

- A. The World does not have the answers.
  1. Man’s failures in society are due to its separation from God.
  2. The Bible records how man has repeatedly tried to do things his own way and failed.
    - i. In the garden man tried to do things their own way and failed, sinned and God rocked their world when He expelled them from the garden (Genesis 3).
    - ii. Man has created their own gods repeatedly and some where fortunate enough to come to realize there was only one true God (Daniel 3).
    - ii. that day (Acts 5).
    - iii. **Proverbs 14:12**
- B. God’s answer (God’s plan in action)
  1. Listen to God
    - a. God leads man to the right path (**Psalm 23:3**).

## 2. Follow God

- a. By following God man no longer relies on his own ways.
- b. When man puts his obedient faith in God He finds eternal security and peace in this life. (**John 10:7-10**).
  - i. When mankind doesn't listen to the hireling, also the words of the world, mankind can hear and obey God.
  - ii. Man find the true answer-God!

### Application & Conclusion:

1. If man wants to not only survive the trials of this life but to be successful, He must turn to God.
2. Success is not material matters, social relationships etc, but instead a life that is obedient to God and is waiting for the appearing of His Son.
3. Full Invitation

### Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

### Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9