

## Have you ever broken the law?

Most people try to avoid breaking the law. Especially if breaking it results in a fine or worse still - a gaol sentence. But try as we may, there is one law that we all fail to obey and that's the law of God summed up in the Ten Commandments. Starting with just five commands, ask yourself, have I ever lied? Stolen anything? Hated anyone? Disrespected my parents? Or used God's name in vain? The Lord Jesus Christ summed up these commandments in one: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, ...soul, ...mind and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." (Matthew 22:37). Ask yourself, have I always loved God first and others as myself? We want to love but we all fail at times. This brings pain to us and others. Our lack of love for God and people grieves the Holy Spirit too. God calls breaking His law, sin. He says, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God..." (Romans 3:23). He warns us, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." (Ezekiel 18:4). So what can we do about our sin? Will doing good work save us? No. God says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8,9). That is the good news - we are saved by God's amazing grace! So even though I've broken God's law I don't have to face the punishment, if by faith I believe that Jesus Christ took my punishment when He died on the cross. "Christ died for our sins." (1 Corinthians 15:3). The moment I confess 'own up' to God that I have sinned and receive Jesus Christ as my risen Saviour, He forgives me and cleanses me from all sin and gives me His righteousness. Why be punished for breaking God's law when you can be pardoned? Receive the Lord Jesus Christ by calling out to Him, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Romans 10:13). Why not call today? It's a free call!

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