



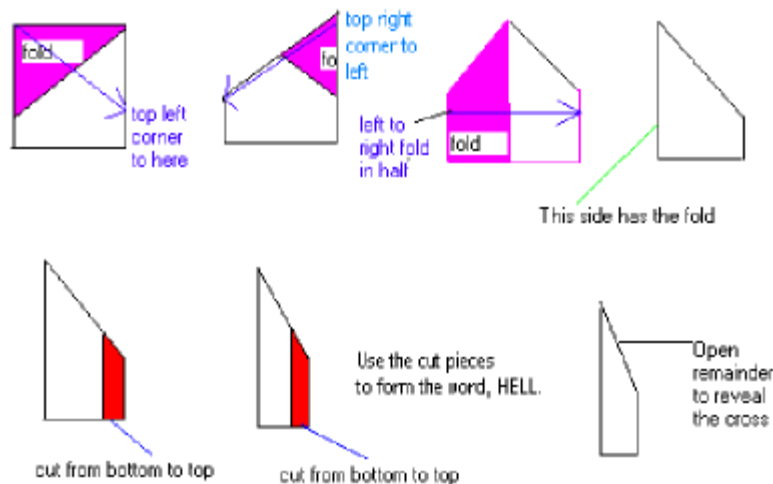
# A TICKET TO HEAVEN

by Donald Burns

A Paper Cutting Story - John 14:6

**Props:** You'll need an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper, a scissors.

**Directions:** Fold the top left corner to the right side of the paper, forming a triangle, then the point at the top right over to the left side of the paper. Now it looks like a house with a pitched roof. Now fold the paper in half and hold it at the folded side. (See illustration, below.)



**Tell the story:** There was a man who sees another man with a ticket to heaven, and the man demanded a portion of his ticket. (At the open end of the paper, cut a piece off, bottom to top, and hand it to the demanding man.) So the man gave him a piece of his ticket. The demanding man decided that if he had just a little more of the ticket, he would receive more rewards in Heaven. (At the open end, bottom to top, cut off another piece and give it to him.) The demanding man with the pieces of the ticket went before God and presented it to him. God said, "This ticket shows me that you are not my son." (Use the cut pieces to spell out 'hell'.) Then, the man who gave the pieces away, presented his ticket to God. (Unfold the large paper to reveal the cross.) God

said to him, "This shows that you are my son. Welcome to Heaven!"

Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6). Jesus suffered and sacrificed himself on the cross for our sins. He offers us the only way to heaven. Do you have your ticket?

Editor's Note: This story illustrates that we cannot get to heaven on our own merits, or anyone else's for that matter. Being born into a Christian home, knowing the right people, or behaving a certain way, doesn't get you to heaven. Only Jesus has the power to cleanse us of our sins and make us presentable to God. (See Ephesians 2:8-10)

If you would like to receive God's free gift, say a prayer telling God that you agree with him that you are a sinner\* in need of forgiveness, and that you believe that he sent his only Son, Jesus, to die for your sins so that you can have eternal life with him in heaven. (Read John 3:16) Then, ask God to help you to follow him, and begin to read his Word daily so that you may grow in wisdom and knowledge. A good place to start reading the Bible\* is in the Gospel of John, or the book of Romans. (\* Sinner means, one who misses the mark of perfection. God cannot have imperfection in his perfect presence. He provided our rescue!)

\* It is very important to use a modern Bible translation so you can understand it! If you don't have one, our [Bookstore](#) has many choices.)

## **Alternative Folding Cross Sermon**

by Jan Rowan

### **Question:**

What can you do with the folded cross?  
Gift to someone, for yourself, OR better yet...

### **Answer:**

Memorize folding the cross and use it as a witnessing tool.

One idea is to tell a story as you do the folding.

### **Simple short story:**

(As you tell the story slowly start folding the sheet of paper you are going to use to make the cross. Pause some while you are talking to make them interested in the story and what you are doing with your hands.)

I once heard about this man who could teach and do many wonderful things.  
Many people liked him but many didn't.  
They accused him of saying and doing things that could get him put to death.

One day they decided they would bring him to trial. They got several people to lie to the courts which believed them. They took this man and beat him badly and he never said a word in his own defense.

They made him walk a long ways carrying his own death tool. They hammered nails into his wrist and feet an left him there to die.

Many people called him LORD but his name was Jesus.  
(Begin to re-fold the cross as you continue the story.)

He died accused, alone and in great pain for something he didn't do.

They buried him in a cave sealing it with a huge stone. When some women came to pay their respect for him the cave was empty. No body! No nothing! A couple of the women ran to tell her friends what they found. One of the women stayed there and was crying and someone asked her why she was weeping. She said; they have taken my LORD and I don't know where they have taken him. This person said, He is not here, for HE has risen as he said he would do. Go and tell his followers.

I know you know who this Jesus is. I too am one of his followers and I am here to tell you JESUS loves me and died for me. He took all that I have done wrong against God upon His self,. Yes he died for me because He loves but did not stay dead. He rose up from that grave and LIVES!

He lives inside of me.  
He wants to live in side of you too.  
Do you believe he died for me?  
I tell you He died for you too!  
He loves you and wants to come into you too.

Thank Him for what he did for you and ask Him to come into your life and you will never be the same.

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