

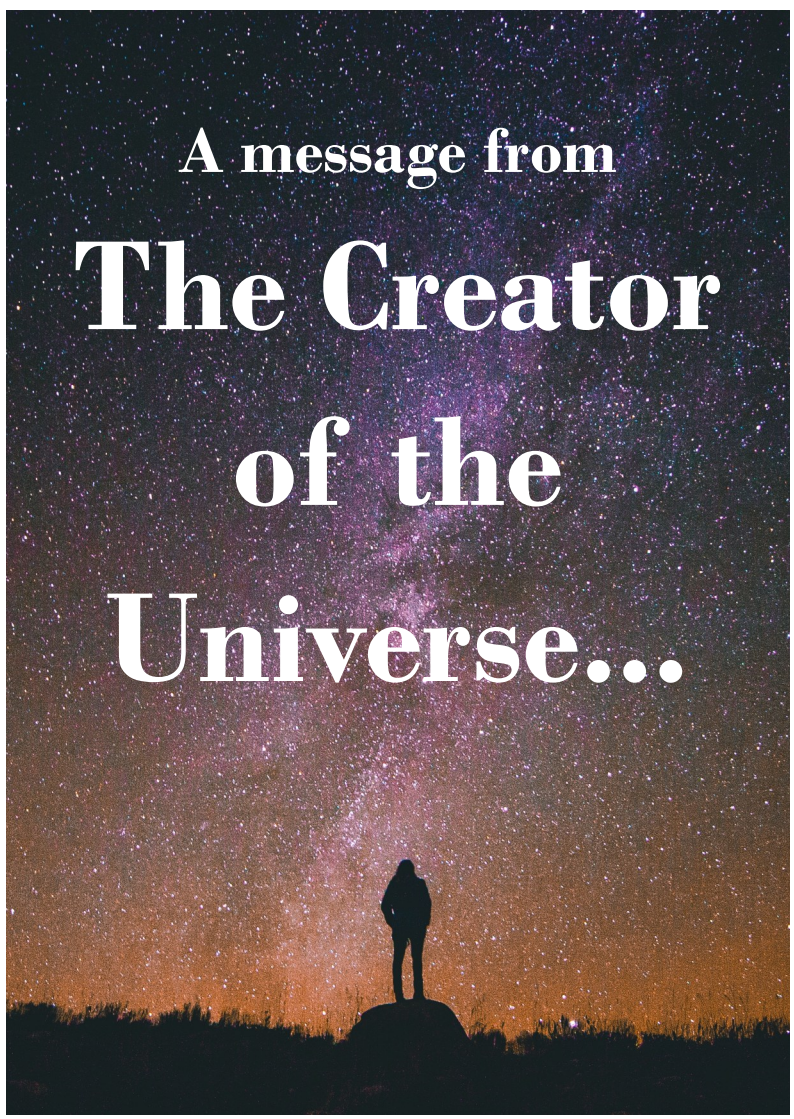
You can pray something like this (remember, saying a prayer does not save you; repentance from sin and faith in Christ does):

"Dear God, I am sorry for everything I have done wrong in my life. I have sinned against you and deserve the penalty. I ask that you will forgive me, and wash me from all my sin in the blood of Jesus Christ who died for me. I confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that you raised Him from the dead. Right now, I make a decision to turn from the way I have been living, and I hand my life over to you. I give you everything, and I put my trust in you from now on. Please give me a new heart, with new desires, and the gift of your Holy Spirit, who will live inside me and give me the power to overcome sin, and who will change me into who you want me to be. Help me to love and serve you all the days of my life, with everything that I am, in Jesus' name I pray Amen."

Romans 10:17 says that faith comes from hearing the Word of God, so, to help you grow in your faith, read the Bible (The Word of God) and obey what you read. Take time to regularly commune with God in prayer; and Hebrews 10:25 says we should not neglect meeting together, so find a Bible Believing Church and get connected. Be sure to share your new-found faith with others through evangelism (as Jesus told us to in Mark 16:15).

"The kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe the good news." Mark 1:15.

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A message from The Creator of the Universe...

Hello. I know what you have gone through. I am still here and ready to take away your pain if you will let me in. My love for you is greater than you could imagine, and I desperately want to have a living personal relationship with you - this is what I created you for.

I planned you and purposed that you would exist. I wrote the days of your life before even one had passed. What upsets me is when you think you can do this life on your own and you leave me out of it. When you go your own way and do not trust in me, you walk into unnecessary pain and confusion, but that is not what I had in mind for you when I made you. You may have many questions - about me, about the world, about your own life and purpose - and I am willing to answer them. Come to me with an open heart, and see what I can do!

In the beginning, I made everything that you see and touch, and it was perfect! Unfortunately, the very first humans fell for a trick of the devil and gave away the power and dominion, which I gave them over Earth and for living, over to the devil. He has since brought in all kinds of evil to Earth, through humans' free will, and ruined the beautiful image I made. All hope is not lost though. It is not over yet.

Yes, there may be much chaos and uncertainty around you and much fear in peoples' hearts, but it is not necessary that you go through this inner turmoil too. For those who put their trust in me, they experience a different life than what you might expect. Before you can begin a personal living relationship with me, there is something you must understand...

When someone breaks the law of a ruling body on Earth, there is a penalty, a price to pay. When someone breaks my law (or sins), there is also a penalty. In my justice system, the penalty for sin is "spiritual death" - in other words, "separation" from me. If someone's life on Earth ends while they are in this separated state, they will spend eternity away from me, in hell.

Sin can only be forgiven by the shedding of blood from a death. Sin cannot be removed by doing good deeds; the debt of sin is too high for that. Even if you did good deeds your whole life, it would never be good enough. In the Old Testament, I commanded that people who wanted to be forgiven had to make an animal sacrifice - usually an innocent lamb without blemish. The sin of the individual was transferred to the animal, the animal would die, and I would consider the animal as having paid the penalty for the human. Through this the sinner would be reconciled to me and restored to spiritual life... until the next time they sinned and they had to make another animal sacrifice.

I did away with that system when I asked my only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to go down to Earth, over 2000 years ago, and pay for the sin of the world by becoming the perfect and final sacrifice. He was that lamb - innocent and without blemish. He followed God's righteous standard perfectly, and because He had no debt of sin, He was able to pay for all your debts to be cleared. The sin of the whole world was transferred to Him, and He carried all of your grief, pain and sorrow. He then willingly took the punishment that you deserved for your sin when He suffered and died on the cross.

I accepted Jesus' payment for your sin and proved it when I raised Him from the dead 3 days later. Now everyone who repents (it is more than feeling bad and saying you are sorry; it is a decision to turn from sin and back to God) and puts their trust in Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour, is reconciled to me and has eternal life.

My Holy Spirit will come and dwell in you, making you a new creature, and He will give you new desires and the power to live a life that pleases me. What I have just explained is what is known as the **"good news"** or **"gospel"**, and this is how you can begin a personal living relationship with me.