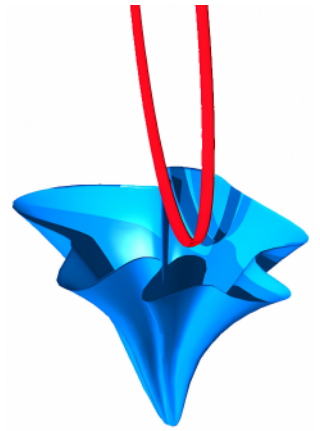


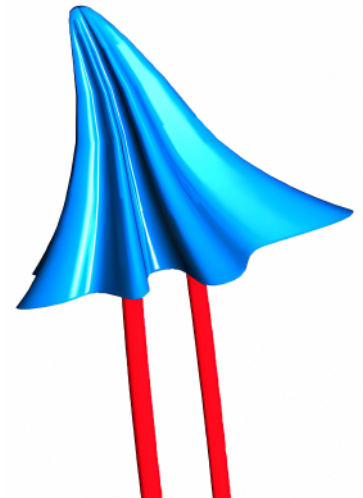
## IN OTHER WORDS, GOD LOVED

us so much that He sent Jesus to die in our place. He was buried and the third day rose from the dead, and is now at the right hand of God. He is willing to forgive all who trust Him to forgive them. Believe His promise to forgive you: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins" (1 John 1:9). Pray like this: "Lord Jesus, I am a sinner and I need You. Thank You for dying for me and rising from the dead. Forgive my sins. Cut the ties of sin from me and set me free." Stop doing what you know is wrong. Seek God daily by reading the Bible and praying regularly.



## THE BIBLE ALSO TELLS US

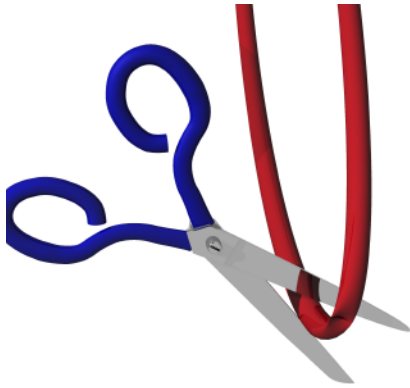
about the scissors that cuts off that life-giving connection to God. It is called sin. The Bible explains that we were born in sin, born with the tendency to go our own way and not God's way. This cuts off our life with Him and shuts the door of heaven. There is no good thing we can do to fix this in ourselves.



But God has made a way to restore the rope and open the door to heaven. Because sin is wrong, we must be punished. But God sent His Son Jesus into the world to be punished for us.

## THE CUT AND RESTORED ROPE

trick has been performed many times over the centuries. It seems simple enough: a rope is shown to be solid and strong, then it is cut in



## THE BOAT DRIFTS AWAY TO SEA

and is caught in a storm. Your belongings are scattered across the road and broken up.

There is a parallel in our spiritual life as well. The Bible tells us that we have spiritual life through Jesus Christ: "He who has the Son has life" (1 John 5:12). That life is shown by a relationship with God, and includes knowing and obeying God's will, receiving wisdom for and protection from life's difficulties, and in the end everlasting life in heaven with Jesus Christ, God's Son.



we see something deeper. A rope, for instance, is often used to tie something to something else. A boat is moored to the pier. Your belongings are tied to the rooftop of the car when traveling. Trouble comes when that rope breaks.