**The Roman Road to Salvation: A Guide for Veterans**

**Step 1: Recognize the Battle**

* **Bible Verse:** Romans 3:23 – "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
* **Simple Explanation:** As veterans, we know that no mission goes perfectly. We’ve all made mistakes—and spiritually, that separates us from God.

**Veteran Perspective:** In combat, understanding the problem is the first step to victory. Recognizing our sin is the first step in our spiritual journey.

**Step 2: Understand the Cost**

* **Bible Verse:** Romans 6:23 – "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
* **Simple Explanation:** The price of sin is eternal separation from God. But God offers us eternal life as a free gift through Jesus Christ.

**Veteran Perspective:** Just like freedom isn’t free, salvation came at a cost. Jesus paid that price for us on the cross.

**Step 3: God’s Mission of Love**

* **Bible Verse:** Romans 5:8 – "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
* **Simple Explanation:** God loved us even when we were far from Him. Jesus gave His life so we could be saved.

**Veteran Perspective:** The greatest act of love is laying down your life for someone else. Jesus’ sacrifice was the ultimate mission for our salvation.

**Step 4: Secure the Victory**

* **Bible Verse:** Romans 10:9 – "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
* **Simple Explanation:** Victory in life’s ultimate battle comes by trusting Jesus. Confess and believe, and salvation is yours.

**Veteran Perspective:** In the military, we follow orders to achieve victory. Following Jesus means trusting Him as the ultimate Commander.

**Step 5: A New Mission**

* **Bible Verse:** Romans 8:1 – "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
* **Simple Explanation:** When you accept Jesus, your past is wiped clean. You have a new mission: to live for Him.

**Veteran Perspective:** Just as a soldier starts fresh with a new assignment, accepting Jesus gives you a new purpose and direction.

**Step 6: Assurance of Victory**

* **Bible Verse:** Romans 10:13 – "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."
* **Simple Explanation:** God’s promise of salvation is for everyone. If you call out to Him, He will answer.

**Veteran Perspective:** No matter your rank or role, God’s promise is for you. Your service and sacrifice matter, and so does your soul.

**How to Accept Jesus:**

1. **Admit** you’ve sinned and need God’s forgiveness.
2. **Believe** Jesus died and rose again to save you.
3. **Confess** Jesus as your Lord and commit to follow Him.

**A Veteran’s Prayer:**

"Lord, I admit I’ve fought battles on my own and fallen short. I believe Jesus died for my sins and rose again to give me eternal life. I accept Him as my Savior and commit to following Him as my Commander. Help me to live a life that honors You. Amen."

**What’s Next?**

1. **Gear Up:** Start reading the Bible and building your spiritual armor.
2. **Communicate with HQ:** Pray daily and stay connected to God.
3. **Find Your Unit:** Join a church, men’s discipleship ministry or veteran’s group to find camaraderie and support.
4. **Share the Mission:** Tell others about the hope you’ve found in Jesus.

**Final Thought:**

As veterans, we understand the value of teamwork, sacrifice, and mission. The greatest mission you’ll ever undertake is following Jesus. Will you accept the call today?