

GREAT STUFF IN THE BOOK

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S E S S I O N 1

**ARE YOU
SURE?**



Answering important questions

When you walk into class on Monday morning and discover you blew it on Friday's test, what difference does it make if you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?

A person without Jesus Christ has no resources outside of himself to deal with the problems that smack him in the face every day. But, a follower of Jesus can handle any problem or frustration by focusing on the resources available through Jesus Christ.

You'll discover what some of those resources are throughout the ten Bible studies in this book. But to tap into them for your own life, you must be able to answer three basic questions in your mind and heart:

- > What is a Christian?
- > How do you become a Christian?
- > How do you know if you're really a Christian?



WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

Why do you think God created you?



Read 1 John 1:3 to discover God's perspective on why He created you. Now, how would you answer that question?

A Christian is someone who has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. But that relationship is not something you're born with, earn, or buy.



Look at Romans 3:23 and 6:23.

- > SIN means to "miss the mark." It means going your way instead of God's way and, therefore, being separated from God.
- > DEATH means "spiritual separation."

To solve the problems of sin and death and to bring us into a personal relationship with Himself, God did something unique and amazing. Read Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 Peter 3:18.

Write in your own words what God did.

Now check the following verses from the Gospel of John to see why Jesus came:

1:4 _____

1:11-13 _____

1:17 _____

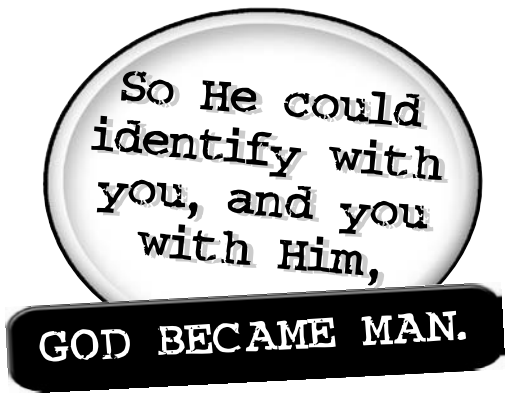
2:19-22 _____

3:3 _____

3:16 _____



Read Philippians 2:6-11. Though He didn't have to, Jesus willingly gave up the privileges of heaven with God his Father, and came to earth in human form to experience life as you experience it. Think about that for a minute.



Jesus faced the same kinds of struggles you face:

- disappointment
- rejection
- hurt
- sadness
- anger
- physical pain
- broken relationships

But He also gave His very life for you. Because He loved you so much, He willingly endured the humiliation and pain of death on the cross to pay the penalty for your sin.

As you think about what Jesus Christ did for you, what emotions do you feel?



HOW DO YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

How do you think a person becomes a Christian? Write your opinion below.

Does what you've written agree with God's thoughts? To make sure, look at the following five steps to become a Christian.

5 STEPS TO RECEIVE CHRIST:

At each step, read the Scripture passages and answer the questions. Then read the additional comments and, in the space provided, write how you have already responded or need to respond to each step.



Admit You Need Jesus

According to Romans 3:10, why do you need Jesus?

Basic human nature is rebellious and opposes God. It can cause you to say, "I don't need God."

GRACE IS:

"the free gift of God" given to help you turn to Jesus and to supply you with the power to live for Him.

But because of God’s grace you can say, “I need God.” God offers grace to you so you can admit that you need Him.

How does Step 1 relate to you?

2

Turn from Your Sins

What does Mark 1:15 say to you about turning from your sins?

REPENT MEANS:

“to turn around” --
to turn away from
a self-centered,
self-controlled
life.

How does Step 2 relate to you?



Give Your Life to Christ

From John 1:12 and 2 Corinthians 5:15, what do you need to do to give your life to Christ?

CHRISTIAN MEANS:

*"Christ in one."
Christ lives in you.
He comes to take
control of
your life.*

How does Step 3 relate to you?



Believe That Jesus Lives in You and Gives You Eternal Life

What does John 3:16-18 say about believing in Christ?

How does Step 4 relate to you?

BELIEVE MEANS:

"total trust" -
trusting Jesus now
and every day.



Follow Christ in Obedience

From John 8:31 and Romans 10:8-10, what are your first steps of obedience?

Baptism is an initial way to identify with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. What are some other ways you can continue to identify with Him? Look up Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 2:41-47, and Acts 8:35-39. Then write your answer.

OBEDIENCE MEANS:

saying yes
to Jesus about
every decision,
every day.

How does Step 5 relate to you?



These steps to becoming a Christian can lead you to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Go back and look at the five steps asking yourself, “Where am I in my personal relationship to Jesus?”

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU'RE REALLY A CHRISTIAN?

Open your Bible to one of the most exciting books in the New Testament—I John. It contains so much about what Jesus Christ has done for you. Check it out.



According to 1 John 5:11-13, what can you know?



Read 1 John 2:3-5:1. How can you know if you're truly a Christian – a child of God? Write down what you learn from each set of verses.

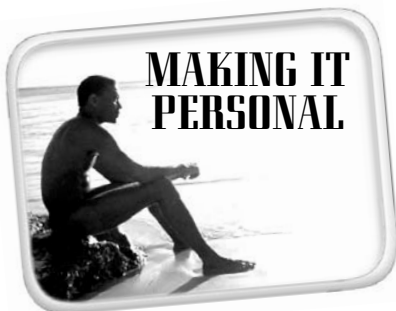
2:3-6

3:14

3:24; 4:13

4:15

5:1



If you haven't asked Jesus into your life, you can do so right now. This prayer will guide you:

“Lord Jesus, I admit that I am selfish. I confess my sins, turn from them, and ask You to come into my life. I give my life to You, Jesus. I ask You to take control of every area. More than anything else in the world, I want to follow and obey You. Amen.”

If you have already asked Jesus into your life, thank Him for living in you. As you pray, tell Him the reason you know for sure that He lives in you, and that you have a personal relationship to Him.



Memorize 1 John 5:11.