

# The Way to Salvation!



**life**  
ever  
lasting

Finding New Life in  
Jesus Christ.

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THE GIFT OF GOD IS  
**ETERNAL LIFE**  
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST  
OUR LORD



## Why are we here?

### What is life all about?

Many people when they look at life, begin to ask serious questions about what life is all about.

Despite our technological advances we still see all humanities problems remain unchanged. Daily our newspapers inform us of a downward spiral of violence, insecurity and morality. Often it seems the very foundations that our society are built upon seem shaken and challenged. From family break up, to loss of stable employment, from crimes on the elderly, to the violation of the innocent, people as never before are asking the question:-

### “What is the real meaning, what is the real purpose of life?”

Some people say that there is no overall meaning, that everything including you and me are an accident of nature, and at the very best our meaning is but to continue the species through procreation. With the shadow of nuclear war hanging over us and scientists predicting numerous ways the world will end:-

### “What is the real hope, truth and security that we can put our trust in today?”

Within the Christian faith we find the answers to the tough questions of life. Within the Christian faith we find the real origin and purpose of why we as human beings were put on this earth.

P.T.O.



### Why were we created?

Despite what some scientists say but cannot and have not conclusively proven, the creation of humanity was not the result of some random accident of nature. Christians believe that each person is a valuable part of a master plan which has been instigated by God. Genesis 1 – 2 tells us that out of His creative mind God created the heavens and the earth. Once He had filled the earth with life, He decided to create a being that would be the crown of His creation. The being would have the capacity to experience and value a relationship with the Creator God in a unique way which the rest of creation could not. So God created man and woman and gave them a

### Threefold Purpose:-

**Firstly:-** To enjoy and experience a relationship with God.

**Secondly:-** To look after His creation responsibly.

**Thirdly:-** To multiply and occupy the whole earth.

Our creation was not an accident, but a deliberate act of God to create a being superior to the rest of creation with the wonderful ability to experience His love and provision. **“If we do not have this relationship with the Creator God then we are not fulfilling the Original Purpose each one of us was created for.”**

**Who Created us?** Genesis 1 v 1 says :-

“ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth!”

**What did God think of His creation?** Genesis 1 v 31 says

“ God saw all that He had made, and it was very Good.”

**Who made man?** Malachi 2 v 10 says:-

“ Have we not all One Father? Did not One God create us?”



*Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come!*

## Made in God's image!

We are told something even more wonderful than just the fact of this loving relationship we were created for. In says in the book of Genesis,

found in the bible, that God made us in His own image. What does this mean?

It means that when God created us He gave us special attributes that were similar to some of those He Himself possesses. The reason He created us this way was so that we would have both the natural and spiritual abilities to make contact with Him and enjoy His love. God is a Spiritual Being and so to have a relationship with Him we were created with a spirit.

### **Bible Verse** – Genesis Chapter 1 v 26 – 27

Then God said, “ Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” So God created man in his own image. In the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

### **Ways we are created in His image:-**

**Given a Spirit** so that we have a living relationship with a Spiritual God.

**Rational Mind** able to conceive ideas, make decisions and think through concepts.

**Ability to be creative and imaginative.**

**Created to Worship** and have a sense of wonder and awe.

**Ability to express complex emotions and feelings.** All these

attributes were given to enable us to have a relationship of closeness and intimacy with the God who created us.

P.T.O.



## Famous Quote

“ Countries like ours are full of people who have all the material comforts as they desire, together with such non-material blessings as a happy family and yet lead lives of quiet and at times noisy

desperation, understanding nothing but the fact there is a hole inside of them. And however much food and drink they pour into it, however many cars and television sets they stuff into it and however many well balanced children and loyal friends they parade around the edges of it..... **IT ACHES**

**Bernard Levin** – Columnist (Not a Christian)

### **What the Bible says:-**

**How long has God known you?** Psalm 139 v 13 – 16

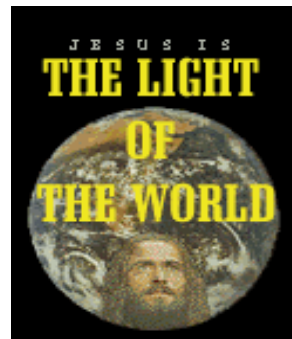
“ For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be!”

**Where does real love come from?** 1 John 4 v 7, 8 , 10

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God..... Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love... This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son Jesus as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”

**Why did Jesus come to this earth?** John 10 v 10 “ I have come that you might have life, and life in all its abundance.”

**!!THE REASON YOU WERE BORN WAS TO KNOW GOD AND ENJOY HIS PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE !!**





## What has gone wrong?

### Suffering in the World

When we come to the subject of God, one of the many questions that are asked is, “if there is a God why is there suffering in the world?” When we see people hurt by others or touched with tragedy, our natural reaction is to ask why is this happening to us? We have been able to change so much about

what happens in the world but still there is evil, still there is sickness and death.

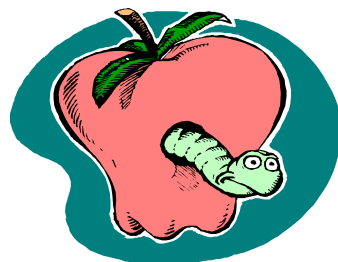
### “If God exists then why do these things happen to us?”

The bible makes it clear that the problems of this world are the result of a lost relationship with God. What God had made perfect, was knocked out of balance by humanities sin and rebellion and therefore suffering, decay and death entered in the world. This fall destroyed our eternal sense of purpose and lost for us both physical and spiritual perfection that only could be found in a relationship with God. So what is this "Fall" that has had such a devastating effect on humanity.

### The Fall

When God created humanity He gave us the ability to make free will decisions. Any act of true love is a voluntary act. If God had made us as robots who were pre- programmed to love him, without an alternative, then it would not have been genuine love that was being expressed. His desire was that humanity would choose to love and be in relationship with Him, so He gave us the ability to make decisions and to choose from two separate realities.

**1) To live in relationship with God.** This is the reason we were created for and in this relationship we would experience the creator God’s love, provision and protection. **P.T.O.**



To know Him would bring the reality of fullness of life now and everlasting life. It would enable us to reach our full potential as human beings and fulfil the intended purpose we were created for.

### 2) To turn our back on God and live for ourselves.

Right from the very beginning of human existence God has given man the freedom to turn our back on the God who created us and spend the inheritance of our lives on ourselves.

### This is what the bible says happened at the very beginning of human history.

In the garden of Eden humanity decided to disobey God and choose to follow selfish pride and ambition. This turning our back on God and living selfishly to please ourselves, is what the bible calls **Sin**. Hatred, anger, jealousy, bitterness, racism, gossip, lust, unforgiveness are all signs of the one sin of turning our back on God and living for ourselves. Since the fall of the first man we have all been born separated from a relationship with God and blind to our spiritual condition.

### What the Bible says:-

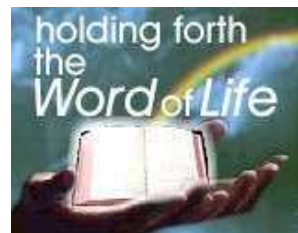
### The true human condition Romans 1 v 18 – 25 :-

“ The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the **godlessness** and **wickedness** of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what ,may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – His eternal power and Divine nature – has been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”

### How many people are affected by sin?

Romans 3 v 23

“There is no difference, for **ALL** have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”





### **The wrong we do separates us from God**

Isaiah 59 v 1 –2

“ Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor His ear to dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”

### **The daily struggle we have to do right** Romans 7 v 14 – 25

“ I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing.”

### **Famous Quote**

“ Man’s highest destiny is to know God and to be in a personal relationship with God. Man’s chief claim to nobility is that he is made in the image of God and therefore is capable of knowing Him. But this God who we are meant to know and whom we ought to know is a Moral Being and we are sinners.

Consequently our sins blot out God’s face from us as effectively as the clouds blot out the sun. Therefore we have no communication with God.”

**John Stott**

### **Results of The Fall:-**

There are a number of consequences to us and on creation because of humanities rebellion against God.

**Whole of creation knocked out of balance** –man’s fall did not just affect himself but damaged and knocked out of balance the whole of creation. In fact today modern man is destroying the earth and its resources at a ever increasing rate. Result of this is global warming, natural disasters and famines.



**Sickness** – The natural viruses and germs that had no effect on us in our unfallen form resulted in sickness and death after the fall. Sicknesses of body mind and spirit entered into human experience and became part of it. The knock on affect also produced birth defects and genetic problems.

**Physical death** – One of the results of the fall is that man was enslaved to physical death.

**Spiritual Death** – this results in us being blind and deaf to God so we cannot experience Him.

**Blind to Spiritual State** – As human beings we are blind to our spiritual state before God and become hard and proud of heart.

**Enslaved to world** – born addicted to selfishness and sin . Addicted to focus on the now and fail to see the big picture.

**False Religions** –man was created to have a relationship and worship the divine. When this relationship with God was broken, man sort ways of restoring and fulfilling that need to worship something greater then himself. The result was that man created idols, images of made creatures and worshiped them instead. Today the need to worship something is still paramount in our society and people fill this vacuum in different ways.

**Under God’s Judgement and punishment** - The bible makes it clear that the true God is a God of justice. Because of our sin we stand before God as guilty people who God will punish on a great last day of judgement. Hell is the eternal destiny of all those who do not find a living faith in Jesus.

### **Something to think about :-**

**“ You may feel a fairly good person, but if you only sin three times a day, that becomes 21 sins a week, over a 1000 in a year, more then 70,000 in a lifetime! Imagine going to court with 70,000 previous convictions!!!!**

**!!THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD !!**

**(Romans 6 v 23)**





## Who is Jesus?

### Jesus the Man of History

people when they think about Jesus put him alongside fictional characters like Winnie the Pooh or Santa Claus. Yet historians have proven without doubt that Jesus did indeed exist within human history. Jesus far from being a made up myth has more evidence to prove conclusively his existence historically than almost any other ancient historical figure. In fact today you can go to modern Israel and see the historical sites of where Jesus lived, ministered, died and rose again. **Christian Evidence for Jesus' existence**

More than 5,300 known ancient Greek manuscripts of the New Testament. Altogether there are 24,000 ancient manuscripts all testifying to the historical facts of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. This is more historical documentation for who Jesus was, when he lived and what he did than for almost any other figure in human history.

### Non-Biblical Evidence for the historical Jesus

**Roman Historian called Cornelius Tacitus** Born A.D. 52 – 54 writing in the time of Nero about Jesus and the early Christians. :-  
“ But Nero falsely laid the guilt of the fire of Rome on the persons commonly called Christians, Christus the founder was put to death by Pontius Pilate, Procurator of Judea in the reign of Tiberius.

### Flavius Josephus born A.D. 37 A Jewish historian

“ At this time there was a wise man called Jesus. And his conduct was good and he was known to be virtuous. And many people from the Jews and other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and die. His disciples reported that he appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was alive; accordingly he was perhaps the Messiah concerning whom the prophets have spoken about.” **P.T.O.**



In many other non-Christian sources Jesus is spoken about and the details of his life are given substantial concrete historical evidence as to make them fact.

The Encyclopaedia Britannica says this of the independent secular accounts of Jesus of Nazareth:-

“ These independent accounts prove in ancient times even the opponents of Christianity never doubted the historicity of Jesus. This has been disputed for the first time **but on inadequate grounds** by several authors at the end of the 18th, during the 19th and at the beginning of the 20th centuries.”

Secular historical evidence proves Jesus lived on earth and that he was worshiped as God. He founded the church who has worshiped him for 2,000 years. Over 2.5 billion people today call themselves Christian and believe that they have a relationship with Him today. He has changed the course of human history.

**“So who was this Jesus and who did he claim to be?”**

### The Claims Of Jesus

We know that Jesus existed historically but what evidence is there that he is God? If God became man what would He look like?

### Jesus' Life

All the major experiences of his life bear witness to Jesus being God. From his unusual birth, to the voice of his Father at his baptism. From his dynamic ministry, to his death and Resurrection, all these events and more paint for us a portrait of a man who was God.

### Jesus' Words

Jesus spoke some of the greatest words that have ever been spoken. His words have shaped nations, changed billions of lives and have had a lasting and universal effect.



### Famous Quote:-

“ I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Jesus. “ I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept His claim to be God.” That is the one thing we must not say. A man who is merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic on the level of a man who says he is a poached egg or else he would be the devil of hell. You must make your chose. Either Jesus was and is the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse.”

(C.S. Lewis)

### Jesus’ Actions

When we look at Jesus’ actions we get a visible demonstrate of the invisible God at work. In every sense Jesus reveals to us the love of God in action. From healing the sick, to caring for the outcasts, from feeding the five Thousand, to raising the died, Jesus showed the compassion, supernatural power and authority of God at work. His ability to look into people’s hearts and satisfy the spiritual hunger of people, clearly supports Jesus’ claim to be God.

### So what did Jesus say about himself?

Many times Jesus personally testified that he was God. He said “ If you don’t believe my words that look at the miracles and actions that I do.”

### Here are a number of times Jesus testified to his divinity:-

Again the high priest asked him “ Are you the Christ the Son of the Blessed One?” “I am,” said Jesus “ And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right-hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” (Mark 14 v 61 – 62)

“ I and the Father are one whoever has seen me has seen the Father.”

“I am the Way and the Truth and the Life no one comes to the Father except through me.” (John Ch 14 v 6) P.T.O



### Famous Quote:-

“ You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit on him and kill him as a Demon, or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come up with any patronising nonsense about him being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us, he did not intend to!”

C. S. Lewis

### What the Bible says:-

#### Special from Birth – Luke 1 v 30 – 32, 35

“ The angel said to Mary, “ Do not be afraid Mary, you have found favour with God . You will be with child and give birth to a son and you will give Him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.....The Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.”

#### Jesus is the image of the invisible God Colossians 1 v 15 – 17

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers, or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”

#### Universe was created through Him? Hebrews 1 v 1 – 3

“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son (Jesus) is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.”

So the question is who is Jesus and how should we respond to him? He cannot be a good, moral teacher and a liar at the same time!! He either is who he says he is the Son of God, or a liar. Who do you think he is?

!!Scripture declares that Jesus is God, who took on our humanity and lived a real human life, did many miraculous signs and has overcome sin and even death, to open up a new way for us to come back to the Living God !!





# What has He accomplished?

## Jesus Paid Our Debt

Many people ask, “why is Jesus relevant to us today?” After all he lived and died 2000 years ago. How on earth can he still have any significance today?

The reason why Jesus is as relevant today as 2000 years ago is because what he achieved on the cross has freed us from the slavery and consequences of wrongdoing that we commit. As we have already looked at, the reason we were created was to have a relationship with God. We were created for His special purposes. The bible says that the wrong things that we do and the selfish ways that we live, separate us from God and place us under his judgement and punishment. Just as we punish our own children when they rebel against us and do something wrong, so the God who created us, punishes us for the rebellion that we commit against Him. That punishment is spiritual death now and everlasting punishment in hell when we die.

No parent would punish a child without the possibility of that child being restored. True love has at its core both the desire for perfect justice but also the desire for perfect mercy. So Jesus came into the world and died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin and to fulfil perfect justice. As Jesus hung on the cross all our sin, guilt, shame entered into his body and as Jesus breathed his last he cried, **“It is finished”** In this single statement of Jesus we see that our sin has been paid for, our guilt has been taken away and the barrier of sin and rebellion between us and God has been removed once and for all. Jesus took the full weight of our punishment of sin upon himself, he suffered our humiliation and died our death and in this one act satisfied God’s desire for justice thus making us free people. Jesus was a perfect sacrifice because he never sinned and what he did he did once and for all, satisfying fully the justice of God in regard to sin.



Jesus opened up the Way back to God This freedom that Jesus has bought for us has freed us from

our sin, made us morally and spiritually clean in the eyes of God and has opened up the possibility for us once again to experience a relationship with the God who made us. This idea of being put right through faith in Jesus is what the bible calls **“justification by faith”** Jesus’ death justifies us in the eyes of God and places us in a restored position before our Maker in heaven. Through faith in Jesus we receive this forgiveness of our sin, cleansing of our guilt and restoration of the true purpose to why we were created. The death of Jesus on the cross has forever repaired our relationship with God. Now we can experience Him and enter into His presence holy, pure and faultless in His sight. This condition is not ours by right, but it is a sharing in the spiritual state of Jesus and His standing before our heavenly Father. The bible calls this experience of a new relationship with God, as being **“Born Again.”**

Where we were once spiritual dead to God, deaf and blind to His presence, now we can experience His power, presence and reality guiding and shaping our lives. Like any relationship the more time we spend with God in prayer, worship and in reading His word the more He reveals Himself to us and we get to know Him better. **Jesus is the only way to a relationship with God** because only Jesus has paid for our sin, died in our place and taken away the offending barrier between us and God. Only Jesus is the one who has satisfied once and for all, the full requirements of God’s justice in regard to sin. Salvation comes through faith in Jesus and claiming what he has done on the cross. No amount of good works, or religious duties can earn for you, what you can freely receive through faith in Jesus. We are saved **by grace** God’s undeserved favour **through faith alone** (In Christ)



## Famous Quote

“All heaven is interested in the Cross of Christ, all hell terribly afraid of it, while men are the only beings who more or less ignore its meaning to their eternal damnation. Get alone with Jesus and either tell Him that you do not want sin to die out in you – or else tell him that at all costs you want to be identified with His death. Today Jesus is being dispatched as the Figurehead of a Religion, a mere example. He is that, but He is infinitely more; He is salvation itself, he is the Gospel of the living God and in Him eternal hope and the destiny of humanity meet.

Oswald Chambers

## Jesus secured for us eternal life

The bible says even more wonderful things about Jesus. It says that after he died on the cross, his body was taken down and put into an air tight tomb guarded by Roman soldiers. On the third day some women came to anoint the body as was their tradition and found that the body was no longer there. Jesus had raised physically from the dead and he appeared to well over 500 people. He talked with them and ate with them . He also promised that through his resurrection we to would have the promise of eternal life.

This Eternal life means two things:-

### Firstly – Fullness of life now

When we become a Christian, God gives us his presence and power so that we can fully live our lives for him. This presence of God that fills our lives is called the Holy Spirit. He comes to live within us so that we can become better people and experience real intimacy with God. This is called in the bible **regeneration**. This word means that we are regenerated from death – to life; from slavery to sin – to freedom of will, regenerated morally and spiritually to be a new creation which has infinite possibilities to experience God’s love and grace in our lives. **P.T.O**

FOR GOD SO LOVED  
THE WORLD THAT  
HE GAVE HIS ONLY  
BEGOTTEN SON,  
THAT WHOEVER  
BELIEVES IN HIM  
SHOULD NOT  
PERISH BUT HAVE  
EVERLASTING LIFE.



This regeneration is only possible because Jesus died on that cross and rose to new life three days later. It is the Holy Spirit that develops within us a real quality of life. He enables us to reach our full potential as people developing our gifts and abilities to the level that God intended for us to have in the first place. He develops our character, changing the bad habits, the hurts, the rough edges and gives us a character which is more like Jesus’. This results in our relationship with both ourselves and with other people getting better.

**Secondly – Everlasting Life when we die:-** Revelation 21 makes it clear that when Jesus **Comes Again** there will be a making of everything new. This will result in a physical resurrection of each one of us. We will receive a new body which will not age, get sick, or be damaged. We will live for ever in the presence of God in perfect happiness, fulfilment, peace, joy, excitement. There will no longer be any more death, suffering, sickness or pain for the old order of corrupt society and man will be done away with. We will be God’s children and He will be our visible, eternal Father.

### What the Bible says:-

**Jesus was sent to die for us because God loved us and did not want us to be lost** :- John 3 v 16

“ For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believed in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”

**Jesus died our death and took our sins upon the cross :-** 1 peter 2 v 24 “ Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live a life right with God; by his wounds you have been healed.





### Jesus the perfect sacrifice because he never did anything wrong:-

2 Corinthians 5 v 21

“ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.”

### Jesus came to give us a new spiritual birth:-

John 3 v 3 – 7

“ In reply Jesus declared, “ I tell you the truth, no-one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is Born Again.”

..... Jesus answered, “ I tell you the truth, no– one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and of the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to the spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, You must be Born Again.”

### In Jesus we are made new people and given a new start:-

2 Corinthians 5 v 17

“ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. All this from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ.”

**Jesus God’s great gift of Love:-** Romans 5 v 8 “ God demonstrated His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!!”



## How do I respond?

### What is Conversion?

Conversion is the door by which we enter into a new life and new relationship with God. Conversion is made up of two basic elements:-

**Firstly** turning our lives away from wrongdoing and selfish living.

**Secondly**, turning our lives back to God by putting our faith and trust in Jesus. Conversion is the way we respond and receive God’s saving work in Jesus Christ.

**Read:-** John Ch 3 v 16 – 18, Acts Ch 2 v 37 – 41, Acts Ch 20 v 20 – 21, Acts Ch 26 v 20

Conversion is our human response to God’s love and call upon our lives. It involves a turning away from sin through repentance and a turning towards God through faith. **Read** – Luke Ch 13 v 3 – 5, Mark Ch 1 v 15

**Repentance** – Is at the heart of entering into a new relationship with God. Without repentance people do not enter into a position before God where they might be transformed. Repentance is about taking personal responsibility for the wrong things in your life, seeing your sins through the eyes of God. There is then a **saying sorry** for the wrong things we do and a **turning away from sinful lifestyle** to godly living. It is not just an intellectual decision, but a decision of the will and also of the heart.

**Saving Faith** – Is that faith by which we understand who Jesus is, what he has done and accept in full trust, both the blessing and responsibilities of his saving grace. This saving faith is about completely giving ourselves over to God and committing our lives both to follow him and serve him. Through this expression of faith we are united with Christ both in his death and his resurrection power. This faith is about absolute trust in God, obedience and submission in all areas of our lives to Him.

FOR WHOSEVER SHALL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.



P.T.O.





## What does conversion do?

**Conversion makes us right (justifies) us before God.**

Through faith in Jesus and trust in what he has done for us, we are completely forgiven by God for the wrong things that we do. We are declared not guilty and the sin which separated us from God, caused spiritual death and placed us under God's judgement, is taken away. **Through claiming the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for our own**, Jesus takes our guilt and sin, pays the cost of our disobedience by dying in our place. His death frees us from judgement and punishment and leaves us in a right standing before God. As a result of this God declares us free of both the charges levelled at us and the punishment for sin. Being made right by faith enables us to have access to God and develop a relationship with Him. The Christian faith **is not** about an intellectual understanding or philosophy to live by, it is a reconstructing of a new personal relationship with God through Christ.

**Conversion involves a New Birth** – John Ch 3 v 3 – 5, Romans Ch 6 v 1 – 14

When we give our lives to Jesus, this spiritual part of us that was died and unable to sense or experience God suddenly bursts into new life. This new spiritual birth opens our lives up to experience a real relationship with God and enables us to experience provision for our live. In every sense we take on are given a new identity:-

**All sins are washed away** by the blood of Jesus - are completely forgiven and no longer exist before God.

**Become a new creature** - through the new birth experience.

**Become a child** of the One True Living God – a child of His Kingdom, with God Himself as our Spiritual Father and King.

**The Holy Spirit** comes to live within us opening up intimacy with God, confidence of our salvation and releasing all the provision of heaven.

**P.T.O.**



## Famous Quote

“ When travelling to another country by aeroplane, it isn't **Knowing about** the aeroplane –time, costs, routes etc, - that gets you there. You have to act on your knowledge – exercise **FAITH** – **get on** the aircraft, and trust it to take you where you what to go! Similarly, if you **believe** what God has done for you and you want to accept His offer of eternal life, then you must act on your belief and trust Jesus Christ **alone**. There is no other way!”

**From just grace (Evangelism Explosion)**

## How do I become a Christian

Becoming a Christian is about putting Jesus at the centre of our lives. Instead of letting our own desires, pleasures or whims direct our lives, we submit ourselves to the direction and will of God. Jesus in every sense takes the steering wheel of our lives and directs and leads us down the paths that He wants us to Go. This is the cost of being a Christian learning to say **No to self** and say **Yes to Christ!** This means a life long commitment to trust and obey God in all areas of our lives. If we say yes to God and give our lives to him, he promises to give us his power to help us live our lives for him.

## So How do I become a Christian?

In prayer you need to ask Jesus into your life. You do this by:-

**Admitting** – the wrong things that you have done and saying sorry for them. Admit that you need His help to sort them out.

**Believing** – That Jesus is the Son of God and died in your place on the cross

**Confessing** - Jesus as your Lord and Saviour of your life. (This is making him No. 1 in your life.)

**Inviting**– Jesus into your life by asking to be filled with the Holy Spirit, asking that he will give you the strength and courage to live your new life completely for God.



### Sample Prayer:-

“ Lord Jesus I recognise that I have done many things wrong and have not lived my life as you intended me to. I have gone my own way and used my life selfishly. I am sorry for my rebellion against you and the wrong things I have done. Lord Jesus I recognise that you are the Son of God and that when you died on that cross, you died for me. As you hung there you took my sin, my guilt, my shame, my death and died on my behalf. Thank you Jesus that you loved me so much that you did this for me. I now give my life completely over to you and ask you to be both my Saviour and my Lord. Come into my life by your Holy Spirit and fill me with the strength, love and power to live my life completely for you. I ask this in your holy name the name of Jesus.

**Amen**

You can say this prayer on your own in your bedroom or with a Christian friend, but it is important that you share it with a Christian so that they can help you take the next step. It is also important that you find a church and go on a short nurture course to help you learn how to grow in this new identity that God has given you.

### What the bible says

**One Way back to God** John 14 v 5 :-

“ Jesus answered, “ I am the Way the Truth and the Life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.”

**We cannot save ourselves by our own good works, efforts or deeds** Ephesians 2 v 8 – 9

“ For it is by grace (undeserved favour) that you have been saved, **THROUGH FAITH**, - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no-one can boast.”

**P.T.O.**



**So how are we saved?** Mark 1 v 15:-

“ Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “ The Kingdom of God is near. **REPENT** and **BELIEVE** the good news!”

**Heart faith in Jesus opens the way to salvation** Romans 10 v 9 – 13 “That if you confess with your mouth, “ Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, “ Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.”

**Believing in Jesus opens the way to Eternal Life?** John 5 v 24

“ I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”

**As you can see being a Christian is about a new standing, a new life, a new relationship with the God who created us. It is the greatest miracle that God does in our lives, bringing us from death TO life – darkness TO light – sinner TO saint – under God’s wrath TO under God’s blessing!!**

### Ongoing Response.

If you have given your life and Jesus and prayed this prayer of commitment, then there are a number of practical things you can do to help you grow in this new relationship you have with Jesus.

**1) Find yourself a bible believing and Spirit led church.**

As someone new to the Lord there is a need to meet with Christian brothers and sisters in the Lord who can encourage you, support you in prayer and advice and help you grow in your faith.

**2) Start reading the bible and talking to the Lord in Prayer**

Find a local Christian book shop and buy a good study bible that will help you read and understand the Word of God. There are also bible notes that you can buy to help you read the bible each day.

**3) Make it a goal to tell at least one new person a week that you have become a Christian.**