

Good News

“For God so loved the world, He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16)

For God...

God is the maker of the heavens and the earth (Psalm 146:6).

...so loves

God loves you! (Psalm 100:5) Before the foundation of the world He knew you.

...the world

The Good News is a message for everyone because all of us have sinned against a Holy and just God. We have all denied God in our heart, in our thoughts and by actions.

...He gave His one and only Son

God sent His Son, Jesus Christ to become flesh (John 1:14). Though Jesus was without sin, He died on the cross to take our punishment so that we might go free (1 Peter 2:24). Jesus died, was buried and rose again from the dead three days later proving that He is the Son of God, and demonstrating that He had paid our penalty in full. When we are born again, our sins are forgiven (1 John 1:9).

...that whoever

No matter who you are, where you have come from, what you have done, God's love and forgiveness is available for anyone who calls on the Name of Jesus. Jesus is mighty to save (Romans 10:13).

...believes in Him

Believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Believe that Jesus died on the cross to take away your sin. Believe that He rose from the grave three days later. Believe Jesus said “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6)

...shall not perish but have eternal life

By believing in and trusting in the finished work of Jesus on the cross, we can have an eternal relationship with God the Father through Jesus both now (John 15:15) and the promise of eternal life with Him forever (1 John 2:25).

Our Response

Repent

The call to repent means to rethink what we believe. God has revealed Himself to us, but the issue is that we have rejected this truth. We have all rejected God (2 Timothy 4:4).

God has given everyone, everywhere knowledge of Himself. Our response? Acknowledge with our mind what we already believe in our heart - that God is Who He says He is!

Believe

Believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Believe that he came to take away the sins of the world. Believe that when Jesus died on the cross, He was taking the punishment for all your sins. Believe that by trusting in Jesus you will not perish but receive eternal life (John 3:15).

Be Born Again

Jesus said in John 3:3 “unless one is born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God”. To be born again is to die to self. To be born again is to turn away from self, and turn towards God in every aspect of our lives. It is stop living for ourselves and begin living for God’s purposes. It is to stop trusting in all we have been trusting in and a complete surrendering of ourselves to God and His mercy. To be born again is to be born of water and of Spirit.

Confess Jesus is Lord

Confess that Jesus is the Christ and confess Him as Lord, the Son of the living God. Romans 10:9-10 says, “...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 the heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth you confess and are saved.”

Repent from Sin

Just as we change in our minds what we believe about God, we are called to change in our minds our attitude toward sin. Repentance is more than being sorry for sin, it means to be deeply sorry and ashamed of it. It means to see sin how God sees sin, and to hate and abhor it just as He does.

Be Baptised

The Bible commands everyone who believes to be “repent and be baptised in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins” (Acts 2:38). Acts 22:16 says, “And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptised and wash away your sins, calling on His name.”

Receive the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:38 says “Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Ephesians 1:13 says that those who hear the truth of the Gospel and believe in Jesus Christ, receive the seal of the Holy Spirit. Ezekiel 36:26 says “And I will give you a new heart and a new Spirit I will put within you.”

He gives us new desires and the power to live in accordance to His will. The life we now live, while not perfect, will be dramatically different from our former life. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come.”

It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that we can now live a life that is pleasing to God. Through this we demonstrate the Holiness of God to others.

Surrender

Jesus made it clear that we are to submit to Him and make Him Lord of our life. As we learn to walk in relationship with Him as our Lord, we grow in our obedience to Him and we will learn to discern His will for us. This begins by intentionally laying down our own will for our lives and being prepared to live as He shows us.

Cost

“But don’t begin until you count the cost”(Luke 14:28). As we submit our lives and our will to Him, we must be prepared and will to face suffering and tough times just as Jesus did. However, as a Christian, God will teach, encourage and help you, even in times of failure, He knows what is best for you and will never leave you.

Begin Now

If you believe that Jesus is God’s own Son, and if you are ready to surrender your life to Him as your Lord and Saviour, and if you have counted the cost and are prepared to become His disciple, then begin your relationship with Him by praying this prayer from your heart, with conviction and in the assurance that God will answer you.

Lord God, I believe that Jesus is Your Son, Who died on the cross for my sins.

I believe that Jesus rose again from the dead three days later.

I confess that Jesus is my Lord and that I am a sinner in need of Your forgiveness. I repent of my sinful life. I choose to die to my old life and ways, and to follow You in all Your ways.

I ask You to strengthen me so I can follow You and Your ways for the rest of my life. I choose to be Your servant and I thank You for this gift of salvation that You have offered to me. I choose to obey You in water baptism and I ask You for the gift of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Thank You Heavenly Father, and thank You Jesus. Amen!



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