

Can You Know For Sure That You Are A Christian?

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WHAT IS GOD'S PART IN MY BECOMING A CHRISTIAN?

Before we were ever born, God has already done His part to restore our relationship to Him. He took the initiative. Now He waits for each of us to individually accept what He has done for us. Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins and has made a way to restore our relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Jesus Christ said, *"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me."* John 14:6

"This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His only Son into the world that we might have life through Him." I John 4:9

"God is on one side and all people are on the other side, and Jesus Christ is between them to bring them together, by giving His life for all mankind." I Timothy 2:5-6

"Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God ..." I Peter 3:18

WHAT IS MY PART IN RESTORING MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

1. Admit that God has not been first place in my life. "Whether or not I have been religious, up until now, I have been leading my own life and basically deciding how I should live apart from God's leadership."
2. Believe that Jesus died to pay for my sins and is alive today.
3. Accept God's free gift of salvation (don't try to earn it by being good enough or smart enough or religious enough ...) by inviting Jesus Christ to come into my life and be my Savior (forgiving me for past sins) and manager (boss) of my life.

"If you confess that Jesus is your Lord, and you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

"Jesus say, 'Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in.'" Rev. 3:20

The following is a simple prayer that summarizes the above steps

"Dear Jesus, thank-you for making me and loving me, I realize I need you in my life. I ask you to forgive me for my sins and for going my own way. Thank-you for dying on the cross for me. Please help me to understand it more. As much as I know how, I want to follow you from now on. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept your gift of salvation. Please help me to grow now as a Christian. If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you did not merely turn over a "new leaf" but the Bible says you have a "new life".

Now that I have asked Jesus Christ to come into my life, can I really know for sure that I am a Christian?

According to God's Word, the answer is 100% YES!!

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus Christ said, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will go in and eat with him and he with me." Revelation 3:20

Coupled with this wonderful truth is the statement in the Gospel of John that "To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12

If you have, to the best of your knowledge, received Jesus Christ as your own Savior and Lord, according to the promises in God's Word, you have become a child of God. It is important to remember, as a Christian, you need to expect your feelings to go up and down. Too many people make the mistake of measuring the certainty of their salvation by their feelings. Don't make this tragic mistake. Believe God! Take him at his word: "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life." (I John 5:13). The following are some more verses that will be helpful for you to study: John 10:7-29, Romans 8:37-39, John 5:24, John 3:36, John 3:16, John 6:37-39, Gal. 3:26, John 1:12

Along with the "assurance" that you can have in knowing you are a Christian, the Bible is clear that some of the fruits of being "rooted" in Jesus Christ will include the following:

1. Hunger for Bible Study (I Peter 2:2)
2. Desire for living a life that pleases God (I John 2:3)
3. A growing love for others (I John 3:11-14)
4. A growing desire to tell others about God's love (Acts 4:20)