

What is a "Christian" anyway?

A Christian is a follower of Jesus Christ. The word "Christian" literally means "Christ's one" or "of Christ." Therefore, a "Christian" is a person who has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

When Jesus spoke about His followers He preferred the term "disciple," which means "student or learner." That is what a Christian is—a student of Jesus' teachings and way of life learning a new way of life that experiences loving God, others, and themselves.

The first step in becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ is getting to know Him—what He taught, what He claimed about Himself, what He offers His followers, and what He did for us by dying on the cross for our sins and rising from the dead.

The second phase in becoming a disciple is giving your life to Jesus. Jesus offers many incredible things—forgiveness for every wrong thing we've ever done, abundant life, freedom from guilt, a purpose for living, and eternal life (just to name a few!) But, to receive those gifts, we must give our life—our heart, mind, habits, dreams, past, fears, and future to Him. Read on to discover how.

Sunday Worship Gatherings

9 am Sunday School

Mothers Gathering (*Meet in Nursery*)

Children's Bible School

Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School

Adult Bible Class

10 am Worship Gathering

Nursery care

Children's Bible School

Bible Studies & Mid-week Program

Monday

Bible Study 6 pm @ CCL

Tuesday

Bible Study 1 pm @ CCL

Wednesday

Life Group 6:30 pm

Youth Group 6:30 pm @ CCL

Thursday

Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm @ CCL

Friday (Men only)

Bible Study (Men) 6 am @ CCL

Saturday

Bible Study 6 pm @ CCL

Sunday

Life Group (Married) 6 pm @ CCL

Pastors and Staff

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How to become a Christian
Restoring Hope

Giving Your Life to Jesus **Believe (Mind)**

The Bible says that we are saved by our faith in Jesus Christ. What does it mean to have faith? Faith combines intellectual belief in certain truths with a heart-felt devotion of trust.

What are we to believe about Jesus?

1. Jesus is God's only Son.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (New International Version)

2. Jesus died for your sins on the cross.

"For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins." Romans 3:23-24 (New Living Translation)

3. Jesus rose bodily from the dead and is alive today.

"In God's great mercy he has caused us to be born again into a living hope, because Jesus Christ rose from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3 (New Century Version)

These are the core truths about Jesus that a person must believe if they are to be a disciple of Jesus. It is this faith-the acceptance of these truths-and the willingness to change your life because of them that saves us. This faith then leads us to...

Repent (Heart)

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."

Acts 3:19 (New International Version)

Repentance, which literally means "turning around," is the decision to change from a self-directed life to a Jesus-directed one. It is deep regret and sorrow for the sins we have committed and the desire to leave that way of life and live according to God's principles and instructions. This leads us to...

Confess (Mouth)

"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." Romans 10:9-10 (New International Version)

How do we "confess" Jesus? This simply means to "acknowledge" or "speak out." To become a follower of Jesus we must verbalize to others that we have faith in Jesus and want to live for Him.

Be Baptized (Body)

"When we were baptized, we were buried with Christ and shared his death. So, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the wonderful power of the Father, we also can live a new life." Romans 6:4 (New Century Version)

"You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ." Galatians 3:26-27 (New International Version)

Baptism is being immersed (submerged) in water and demonstrates your faith by symbolizing the death of your old life and the "re-birth" into a new life.

What Next?

First, talk to a pastor or Christian friend to let them know about your decision.

Second, make it a priority to grow in your faith by gathering with other Christians for worship, Bible study, service, and encouragement.