



How to Know God

Realize that you are a sinner. No matter how good a life we try to live, we still fall miserably short of being a good person. That is because we are all sinners. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Simply put, sin is anything we do against God or against others. It is anything that breaks God's laws. Anyone can read the Ten Commandments and realize that at some point, we have all failed to keep God's standard. But, through Jesus Christ, God has made a way for us to be seen as good in His eyes.

Recognize that Jesus Christ died on the cross for you. The Bible tells us that "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Why did Jesus—the Son of God (also God the Son)—die on a cross? Death is the punishment for sin, and Jesus willingly took that punishment for us. This is the Good News, that God loves us so much that He sent His only Son to die in our place when we least deserved it.

Repent of your sin. The Bible tells us to "repent" of our sins and turn to God, so that that our sins will be wiped away. The word repent means to turn around or to change our direction in life. Instead of running from God, we can run toward Him. Instead of living to please ourselves, we can live to please Him.

Receive Jesus Christ into your life. Becoming a Christian is about more than just changing your behavior or going to church. It is having Jesus Christ Himself live in your heart. Jesus said, "...I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in . . ." If you would like to have a relationship with Jesus, you simply need to open the door of your life. You can do this through a simple prayer. The Bible promises us that "if we confess our sins He (God) is faithful to forgive us..." We can be confident that God never turns away those who come to Him. You can pray a prayer like this:

"Jesus, I know I am a sinner, but I believe You died on the cross to pay for my sins. I believe that you also rose from the dead on the third day, defeating death so that I can live forever in heaven with You. Right now, I turn from my sins and open the door of my heart and life to you. I confess that You are now the Lord and leader of my life. Thank You for saving me. Amen."

If you sincerely prayed this prayer, you are a child of God! You can grow in your faith by praying, by reading the Bible, by being part of a church that teaches the Bible and by sharing your faith with others.