

How Does a Person Come to Believe?

God takes action to give us faith in Jesus!

- In **Ephesians chapter 2** it says that *“God ... made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions”* (NIV Ephesians 2:4-5)

- *God* united us to Christ!
- *God* did so by giving us faith to *believe in the Christ as our Savior!*

And why did God have to do so?

Because we were spiritually dead, thus:

- Helpless to believe!
 - Helpless to help God help us to believe!
 - Fully dependent on God!
- In **Ephesians chapter 2** it also says that *“it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God”* (8) *But what do those words mean?*
 - *Grace* – God loves us, *though we are completely undeserving!*
 - *By grace* – Though we are all undeserving, God saved us so *that we will not perish!*
 - *Through faith* – That is the means by which God united us to Jesus, our Savior! *God imparts that gift through Baptism (Acts 2:38-39; Rom. 6:3-4; Gal. 3:27; Titus 3:5) and through His Word (Jam. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23)!*

Conclusion

Believing in Jesus for eternal life is important! It is through believing that we benefit from Jesus finished work – *His sinless life and sacrificial death!* Believing is like the woman on the front of this brochure; as she has her complete trust in the man to catch her, *so we have our complete trust in Jesus to save us!*

Believing is more than something we say; our believing *unites us to Christ our Savior!* Then, united with Christ, our lives are *different:* *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”* (2 Cor. 5:17 NIV)

So what is the object of your faith? Is your trust in Jesus for eternal life? If you are unsure or have questions, let talk! Contact us by using the information in the block below.

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Do You Believe In Jesus For Eternal Life?



**Is your trust in Jesus for your
entrance into heaven?**

Introduction

In today’s world many people call themselves Christians, but are they? Do they *merely go to church and try to be good or do they believe in Jesus for eternal life?*

Jesus said these words to people who were speaking *like* Christians: *“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.”* (Matt. 15:8 NIV)

The Bible uses these words to describe people who confess to be Christians, but live like the sinful world: *“They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him...”* (Titus 1:16 NIV)

May God use this brochure to help you know – *beyond any doubt* – that you believe in Jesus for eternal life!

Why Is Believing Important?

In Numbers chapter 21 the people spoke against God; therefore, God sent poisonous snakes among the people; many died. However, *God made a way for the people to live!* God said to Moses: “**Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.**” (8) But how were the people supposed to “**look at it**”? In faith, believing that God would allow those to live who believed His promise and looked in faith!



In John chapter 3 Jesus drew a parallel between *the snake on the pole* and *Himself on the cross*:

- Both were blessings from God (*since all have sinned, no one deserved either blessing!*)
- Both were lifted up (*one on the pole, one on the cross*)!
- Both were sources of life (*one for physical life, one for eternal life*)!
- Both shower God’s blessing upon those who look with faith!



In reference to Himself, Jesus said: “... **whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.**” (16) Since we all want “**eternal life,**” notice again what Jesus said:

- He used the word “**whoever,**” which literally means “all” or “everyone.” In other words, *no one is excluded*; all who *believe in Jesus* have what God has promised!
- Next, let us realize that belief or faith *must have an object*; therefore, Jesus said: “**whoever believes in Him...**” JESUS is the object of our faith; we *believe in Him for eternal life!*
- Jesus said that those who believe “**should not perish...**” *That is good news!* Since we have all sinned, we all deserve to perish – *just like those who spoke against God in the days of Moses.* But there is good news: God gave His Son so that all who *believe in Jesus* may have His *gift of “eternal life.”*

This comic may help you to better understand God’s gift to us: Dennis and his little friend Joey are leaving Mrs. Wilson’s house, their hands are full of cookies. Joey said to Dennis: **I wonder what good thing we did to deserve these cookies.** Dennis answered: **Look, Joey. Mrs. Wilson gave us these cookies because she is good, not because we are good.**

What Does It Mean to Believe?

To have **FAITH!** *But what is faith?* Here’s a good definition: **Forsaking All I Trust Him!**

- **Forsaking All** – To forsake means to “leave,” “desert,” “abandon” – all trust, all confidence in who we are (*good people*) and what we have done (*good things*) for eternal life!

In summary: God enables us to abandon all of our trust for heaven in anything we have done!

- **I Trust Him** – So I believe Jesus is God’s Son and I believe He lived and died to remove my sins; therefore, by God’s power and blessing, I have all of my confidence in Jesus for eternal life!

In summary: God enables us to trust only in Jesus for heaven!

What else does it mean to believe? To have Knowledge, Agreement, and Trust (KAT)!

- **Knowledge** – God enables us to **know the truth** (about our sin and Jesus saving work)!
- **Agreement** – God enables us to **agree with the truth** (that we have sinned and Jesus is our only Savior)!
- **Trust** – God enables us to **trust in Jesus as our Savior** (thus to trust in Him alone for eternal life)!

There is a huge difference between *trusting in Jesus for healing or guidance* versus *trusting in Him for eternal life!*