

How to Begin a Relationship with God

To begin a personal relationship with God, please consider these four fundamental truths from the Bible:

- (1) God loves you and wants you to enjoy a forever relationship with Him. (John 3:16)
- (2) Failure to live up to God's standard of holy perfection (sin) has resulted in separation from God that will last forever for everyone who does not believe. (Romans 3:23, 6:23)
- (3) To solve the problem of sin that separates you from God, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the penalty for your sin by dying on the cross. (1 Peter 3:18)
- (4) Everyone who makes a personal decision to trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior from sin receives forgiveness from sin and enters God's forever family. (John 1:12)

If you want to make the decision today to begin a relationship with God, you can express your faith in Christ by personally praying the following:

"Father, thank You for loving me and wanting a relationship with me. I admit that I have sinned and that I need a Savior. I believe that Your Son, Jesus, died on the cross to pay for my sins. I trust Jesus alone as my Savior. Thank You for making me part of your family."

If you made a decision today to trust in Jesus as your Savior, let us know by indicating on the communication card OR by telling a pastor. We want the opportunity to rejoice with you and help you take your first steps in this new relationship.



Acts 3:1-5:

Acts 3:6-10:

Acts 3:11-16:

Textual Point: After _____ the crippled man and healing him by _____, Peter and John made sure to use that opportunity to point people to _____.

Timeless Principle: Christ-followers _____ engage the world when they see people as _____ sees them, believe that God wants to use them to _____ others, and use every _____ to point people to Jesus.

Three Tough Questions:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Personal Study

(1) Read Acts 3:1-10. Luke (who was a physician) describes body parts in telling this story. Write down all the ones mentioned and their significance to the story:

(2) Read Acts 3:11-16. Peter is very bold in his message to the crowd. What phrases emphasize his courage?

(3) Read Acts 3:17-26. What part of the gospel is Peter emphasizing to this group at the temple? Why do you think he does that?

(4) Read Luke 10:25-37. What are the parallels between Jesus' parable in Luke 10 and the actions of the apostles in Acts 3?

(5) Read Psalm 103:8. How does our view of God impact our ability and/or willingness to show compassion to others?

(6) Read Mark 6:33-34. What does the phrase "sheep without a shepherd" mean for how Jesus sees us?

(7) Read Ephesians 4:32. What is the basis for Paul's instruction to be compassionate toward each other?

Personal Application

(1) Do you see people around and their hurts/needs? What do you see when you see others?

(2) What most moves your heart to compassion?

(3) What gets in the way most often of you taking the time and energy to compassionately serve another person?

(4) When God uses you to bless someone else, how do you make sure to give God credit without sounding too churchy?

(5) How is your relationship with God connected to your ability to serve others with compassion?

(6) What do you believe God sees when He looks at you?

(7) What does God want you to learn from this study?
