

How to Know God Personally

What does it take to begin a relationship with God (**the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**)? Devote yourself to unselfish religious deeds? Become a better person so that God will accept you?

You may be shocked that none of those things will work. But God has made it very clear in the Bible how we can know Him.

The following steps will explain how you can personally begin a relationship with God, right now, through the **only way of salvation** found in Jesus Christ.

Jesus saith unto him, **I AM** the way, **the truth**, and **the life**: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.** John 14:6

Step 1:

God loves you and offers a salvation and a plan for your life.

God's Love

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16 (KJV)

God's Plan

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.** John 10:10(KJV)

Why is it that most people are not living this abundant life?

Because...

Step 2:

All of us sin and our sin has separated us from God.

We Are Sinful

For all have sinned, and come short (fallen short) of the glory of God; Romans 3:23

We were created to have fellowship (friendship) with God; but, because of our stubborn self-will, we chose to go our own independent way, and fellowship (friendship) with God was broken. This self-will, characterized by an attitude of active rebellion or passive indifference, is evidence of what the Bible calls sin.



We are separated

For the wages of sin is death; [spiritual separation from God] but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

This diagram illustrates that God is holy and people are sinful. A great gulf separates us. The arrows illustrate that we are continually trying to reach God and earn salvation through our own efforts, such as charitable deeds, good works, and living a good life, philosophy, or religion - but we inevitably fail.

The third step explains the only way to bridge this gulf...

Step 3:

Jesus Christ is God's only provision for our sin. Through Him we can know and experience God's salvation, love and purpose for our life.

He Died in Our Place

But God commendeth (demonstrates) his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 (KJV)



This picture illustrates that God has bridged the gulf which separates us from Him by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross in our place to pay the penalty for our sins

He Rose From the Dead

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, **how that Christ died for**

our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 1 Corinthians 15:3-6 (KJV)

He Is the Only Way to God

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (through me). John 14:6 (KJV)

It is not enough just to know these three steps...

Step 4:

We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and purpose for our lives.

We Must Receive Christ

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons (children) of God, even to them that believe on his name: John 1:12 (KJV)

We Receive Christ Through Faith

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works (as a result of good works) lest any man (no one) should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV).

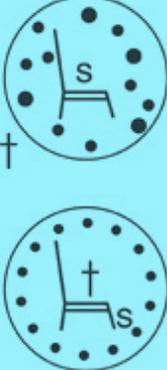
When We Receive Christ, We Experience a New Birth

We Receive Christ by Personal Invitation

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. [Christ speaking] Revelation 3:20 (KJV)

Receiving Christ involves turning to God from self (repentance) and trusting Christ to come into our lives to forgive our sins and to make us what He wants us to be. Just to agree intellectually that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for your sins is not enough. Nor is it enough to have an emotional experience. **You receive Jesus Christ by faith, as an act of the will.**

These two circles represent two kinds of lives:



Self-Directed Life
Self is on the throne, directing decisions and actions (represented by the dots), often resulting in frustration. Jesus is outside the life.

Christ-Directed Life
Jesus is in the life and on the throne. Self is yielding to Jesus. The person sees Jesus' influence and direction in their life.

Which circle best describes your life? Which circle would you like to represent your life?

The following explains how you can receive Christ:

You can receive Christ right now by faith through prayer

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:13

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (KJV)

Prayer is simply talking to God from the heart. The following is a suggested prayer:

Dear Father God, I realise I am separated from you by my sinfulness and need your forgiveness in my life. I am sorry that I have been going my own way instead of your way. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for me on the cross paying in full for all my sin, I confess with my mouth that Jesus is my Lord and believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead. I willingly turn from my life of separation from You. I now invite you Jesus Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour and Lord. I believe I am forgiven and saved and that you have giving me eternal life,

Amen.

If this prayer expresses the desire of your heart, then you can pray this prayer right now and Christ will come into your life, as He promised.

If you have prayed this pray or have a question please contact us through the UKMCE website contact tab.