



# PARENT GUIDE

Foundational Biblical Truth

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Adult Spiritual Growth Series

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# *What is* **CHRISTIANITY?** *The Cross of Christ*

Many people think Christianity is about love and doing good things with a joyful heart. They believe morality answers our world's problems, so they share Jesus' Sermon on the Mount teaching because they regard Jesus as the greatest philosopher of all time. But that is a shallow misunderstanding of the Christian faith.

Imitating what Jesus taught and how he lived should not be our primary concern when we share the Christian message. Christianity begins with the reality that humanity is fallen and in sin. All people are under the judgment of God's law because we have rebelled against our creator.

In response to our sinful nature, God sent his Son to die upon the cross of Calvary, and he resurrected on the third day so that all who believe can be forgiven of sin and inherit eternal life with Christ. This message of deliverance from our sin opposes all sentimental distortions of Christianity.

Separation from God is the root of all dissatisfaction, anxiety, guilt, shame, and evil in our souls and the world. The Christian gospel of God's grace is our only means of redemption from our sins, the law's curse, and God's righteous judgment. Only Jesus' death and resurrection bring true salvation and freedom from conflict and evil.

# Five Essential Christian Beliefs

1

The Trinity. God exists in three persons. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

2

The full divinity and humanity of Jesus Christ. Christ is fully God as part of the Trinity, but he is fully human at the same time.

3

The substitutionary atonement. Christ took our sins on himself and paid the penalty for our sins. Christ took our place.

4

The physical bodily resurrection of Christ.

5

We appropriate who Christ is and what he did by grace through faith in our salvation.



# What is The Trinity?

*Father. Son. Holy Spirit.*

The meaning of the Trinity for Christians is the unity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one and is rooted in the belief that God communes with Christians in a threefold "God-head" figure.

The Trinity is foundational to the Christian faith because it helps us understand what God is like, how he relates to us, and how we should relate to him.

**God the Father** – the creator and sustainer of all things.

**God the Son** – the incarnation of God as a human being, Jesus Christ, on Earth

**God the Holy Spirit** – the power of God which is active in the world, drawing people towards God

# Father Son Spirit

## *Roles & Actions*

The word "Trinity" does not appear in the Bible, but in the Gospel of John, we understand more clearly how Father, Son, and Spirit work together in their roles of the Godhead. Below are scripture passages from the Gospel of John that show actions common to Father, Son, and Spirit.\*

ACTION	Father	Son	Holy Spirit
<i>Give life</i>	5:21, 26; (6:33); 17:3	5:21, 25-26, 40; 6:33; 17:3	3:6, 8; 6:63
<i>Proclaim future</i>	1:33	13:19, 26, 36-38; 14:3, 29; 16:1-4, 16-28, 32; 20:18	16:13
<i>Indwell believers</i>	14:23	14:20, 23; (15:4-7); 17:23, 26	14:17
<i>Teach</i>	6:45; 7:16, 17; 8:28	7:14; (8:2); 8:20; 13:13-14	14:26
<i>Testify to Jesus</i>	5:32, 37; 6:27; 8:18	8:12-14, 18	15:17
<i>Glorify Jesus</i>	5:22-23; 8:50, 54; 13:31-32; 17:1, 22	(1:14); 2:11; 13:31-32; 17:5, 24	16:14

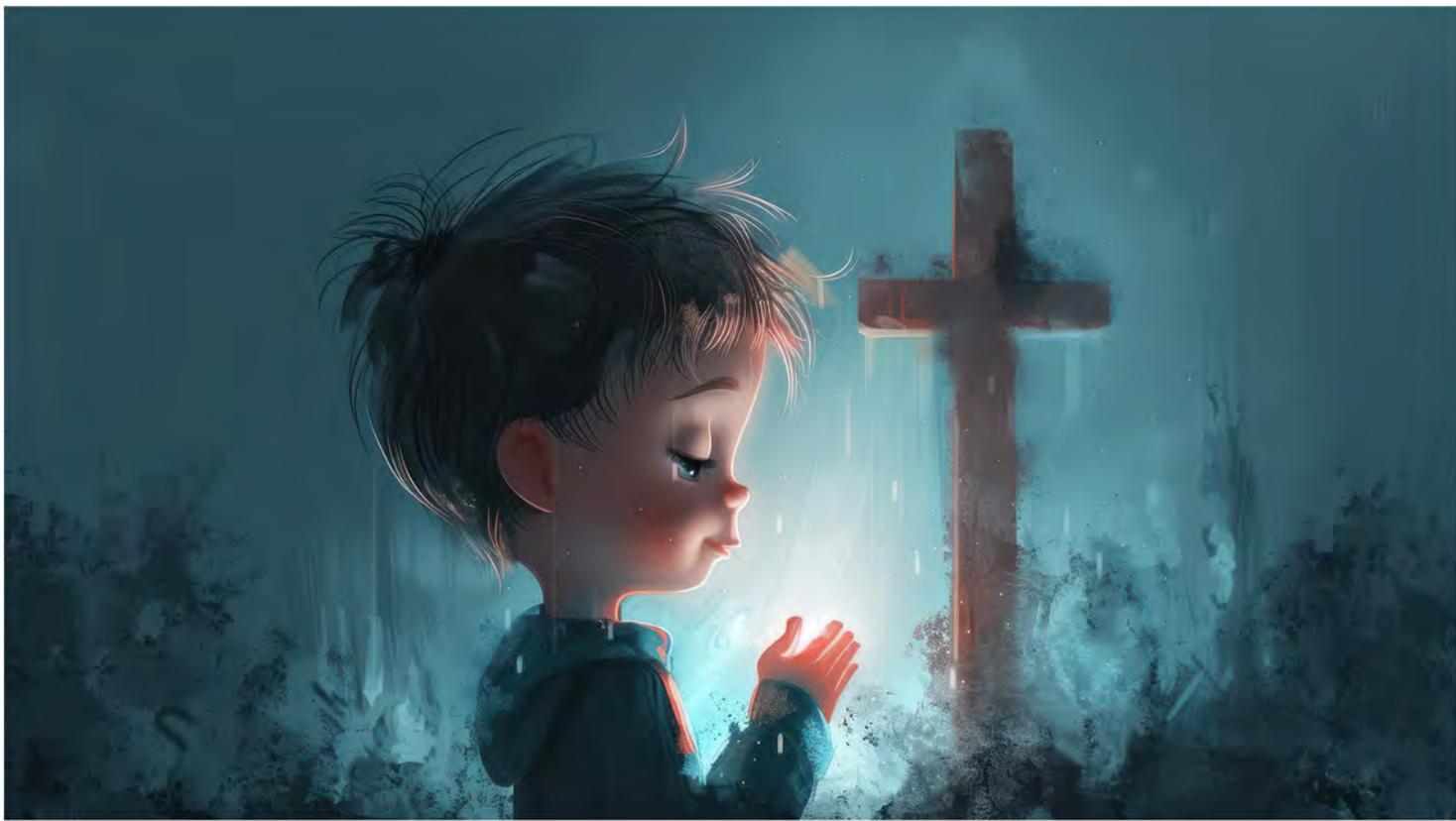
\*ESV.org Resource Study Guide

# Who is Jesus?

Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the Chosen One of God, sometimes referred to as Jesus of Galilee or Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus is the virgin-born, sinless Son of God who took our sins upon himself. He went to the cross at Calvary Hill bearing our sins and paid the penalty for our sins before a holy and righteous God. Jesus was crucified and died and was buried in a tomb. On the third day, he rose and walked out of that tomb in a physically resurrected body. He appeared to Peter and the disciples, then more than five hundred brothers. (1 Corinthians 15:3–7)

# The Gospel

The gospel is not a set of ethical or theological teachings, and the gospel is not a religious system. The gospel is a person. The person of Jesus Christ. Who he is and what he did.



# Knowing God

## Understanding the True Christian



Faithful Christians must know God and have a relationship with him for eternal life. A person might think they are Christian because they have prayed the prayer of salvation and accepted Christ and then do good things and think that's all they need to do. But merely doing good things after your salvation does not make you a Christian.

We must love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and fellowship with him. (Matthew 22:36-40) How could anyone understand the gospel and be saved if we did not know God? God has revealed himself to us in scripture and Jesus Christ.

We get to know God by spending time with him in silence and solitude. We sit in a quiet place and allow God to fill our thoughts. We talk to him through prayer and listen for him to speak with us. We read, study, meditate, and memorize scripture to get to know his character and promises, and we spend time with other Christians to know him. (1 Corinthians 2:1-16)

# HOW WE KNOW

## THE BIBLE SHOWS US GOD'S CHARACTER

The Apostle Paul says “I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes, Jew and Gentile alike.” (Romans 1:16) God calls us into a relationship with himself. Why does God do that? The motive is love. God's grace that makes us respond in faith is motivated by His love for us. But God is so much more than love. We learn different aspects of God's character throughout the bible.

### We know from scripture that God is:

1. Compassionate and gracious (*Exodus 34:6-7*)
2. Holy (*Leviticus 11:44*)
3. A consuming fire (*Deuteronomy 4:24*)
4. God (*Deuteronomy 7:9*)
5. Mighty (*Deuteronomy 10:17*)
5. Exalted in His power (*1 Chronicles 29:11*)
6. A righteous judge (*Psalm 7:11*)
7. My rock (*Psalm 18:2*)
8. King of all the earth (*Psalm 47:7*)
9. Our refuge and strength (*Psalm 46:1*)
10. The strength of my heart (*Psalm 73:26*)
11. A sun and shield (*Psalm 84:11*)
12. Greatly to be feared (*Psalm 89:7*)
15. Righteous (*Psalm 145:17*)
14. My salvation (*Isaiah 12:2*)
16. The truth (*John 14:6*)
17. Faithful (*1 Corinthians 1:9*)
19. Living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword (*Hebrews 4:12*)
18. Light (*1 John 1:5*)
20. Just (*1 John 1:9*)
21. Love (*1 John 4:16*)

—GOD

# The Name God

The name of God is a personal disclosure revealing his relationship with his people. His name is known because he chose to make it known. The Hebrews knew God as both mysterious and hidden but also revealed.

The truth of God's character focuses on his name. The divine name reveals God's power, authority, and holiness, which explains Israel's reverence for his name. The Third Commandment prohibits using the 'name of the Lord your God in vain.' (Exodus 20:7; Deuteronomy 5:11)

In the Old Testament, prophets spoke with authority when they uttered God's name. Oaths taken in God's name were considered binding, and battles fought in the name of God were victorious.

In the New Testament, God's name is manifested most clearly in Jesus Christ. God is called "the Word" (John 1:1), and Jesus himself makes the claim that he has revealed the name of God. (John 17:6) God's name is his promise to dwell with his people.

## *Other Names of God*

El-Shaddai "God of the Mountains" or "The Almighty God" (Genesis 17:1-2)

El-Elyon "The Most High God" or "The Exalted One" (Numbers 24:16; 2 Samuel 22:14; Psalm 18:13)

El-Olam "God of Eternity" or "God the Everlasting One" (Genesis 21:33; Isaiah 26:4; Psalm 90:2)

El-Berith "God of the Covenant" (Judges 9:46)

El-Roi "God who sees me" or "God of vision" (Genesis 16:13)

Yahweh-Jireh "The LORD will provide" (Genesis 22:14)

Yahweh-Shalom "The LORD is peace" (Judges 6:24)

# A GOD OF love & justice



God makes it clear in the generations following Genesis that he is holy and righteous and a God of justice who must and will punish man's sin. That's the meaning of condemnation. (Hebrews 10:26-31)

Jesus, the Apostles, and the Christian church always taught that man in sin is under the wrath and condemnation of God. You find this in the Ten Commandments and the moral law Moses gave. There is no Christian message or good news apart from this.

The Bible is good news because of our condition of sin. The good news of the gospel is that God restored us through the work of Christ on the cross and his resurrection. Despite our hostility and rejection of God, he has reached out to us in love.

*For All  
have sinned  
and fall short  
of the glory  
of God*

(Romans 3:23)

# Satan Sin Salvation



## 1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

## Romans 3:23-24

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus

## Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. (1 John 3:6-10)



# Steps to Salvation

REPENT, CONFESS, BELIEVE, TRUST

01



## REPENT

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)

02



## CONFESS

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 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)

03



## BELIEVE

Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)

04



## TRUST

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)



“Jesus said •  
**Forgiven**

“Your sins are forgiven.” “Your  
faith has saved you, *go in peace.*

(Luke 7:48-49)

I pray that you receive the abundant life in God's Kingdom that he desires for his children and that you become vessels to pour into the lives of others. If a voice is whispering in your heart, take comfort that this is Jesus calling you out of darkness into his light. Knowing God is our everything, and anything that brings you to him will bear fruit, answer his call and take his hand. He will never let you go. When you are ready, you may pray a prayer like this for yourself or others who ask you to lead them in the prayer of salvation.

*Jesus, I can no longer live in my power. Deep in my heart, I know there is another way to live that only you offer. I admit I'm a sinner and have done wrong things that hurt me and others. Please forgive me. I want to change my ways to turn to follow you. I believe you died to take away all my sins, and I receive your forgiveness. I confess that I depend entirely on you, and I'm ready to surrender my life to you and live with you now in the Kingdom of God. Please fill my life with your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name. Amen.*



# Saved by grace through faith

1 John  
1:7-9

## I'M SAVED. NOW WHAT?

After salvation, we must understand Christian growth and how sin works.

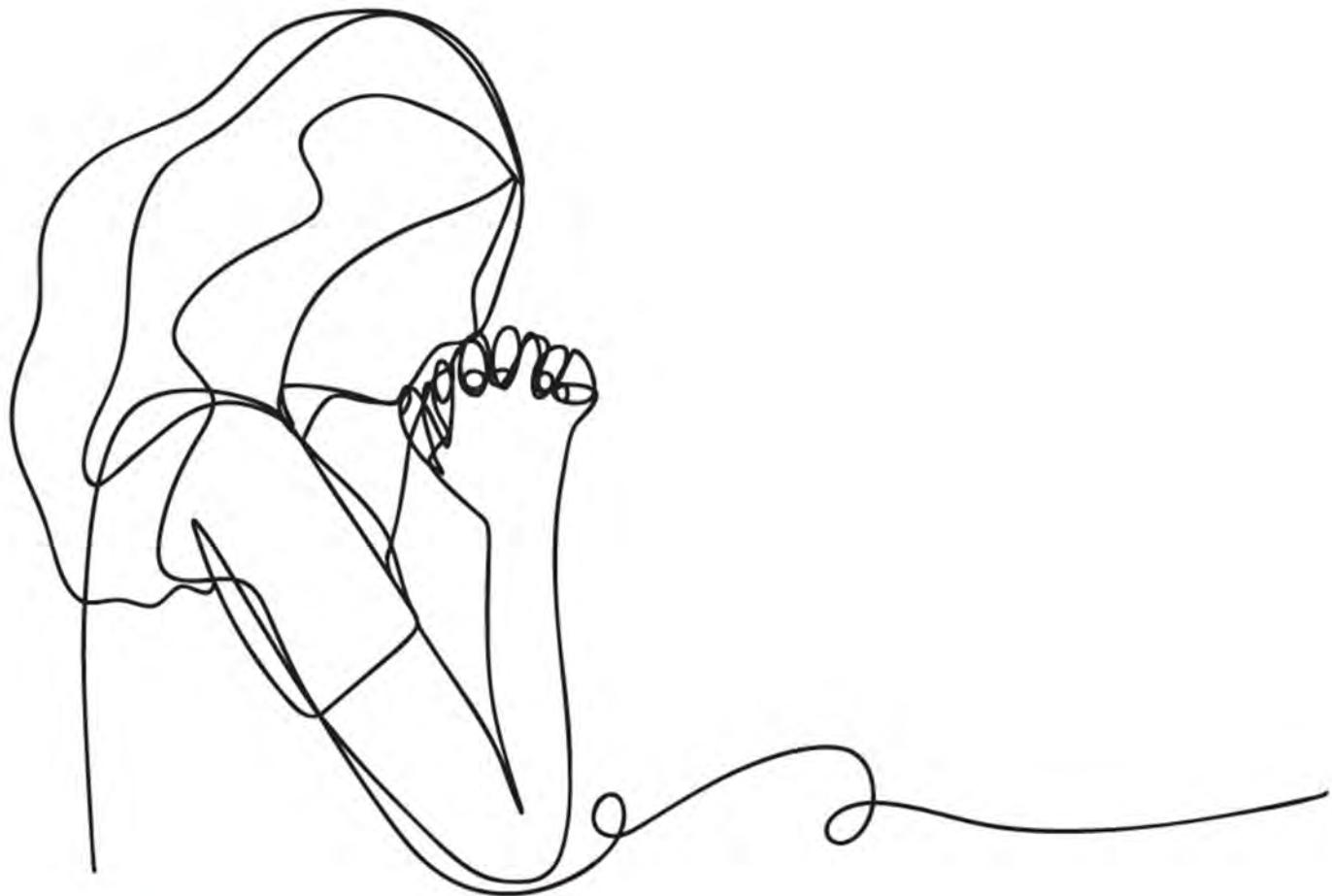
Many people think they will never sin again after salvation because their faith brings them out of darkness into light. That's a misunderstanding of salvation.

Through salvation, God does bring us into his light, where we no longer reject him or think the gospel is foolish. But salvation doesn't mean perfection, and "walking in the light" doesn't mean we become sinless. It means we sin less because now we see God's holiness, and that's what we want above all else.

In our salvation, a pattern of progression begins that starts with regeneration (being born again). Then we move to justification (God forgives our sins), and from there, sanctification (living a Christlike life) until glorification (the day we meet Jesus face-to-face).

So when we stumble into sin after our salvation, we should confess our wrongdoing to God, ask for his forgiveness, and press on in our desire to become more Christlike (sanctification).

After salvation, we aim to become disciples of Jesus, walking with him where we are right now with everyday easy obedience. Our obedience will be imperfect. But righteousness is not our goal. It's not what we do in life that matters most. It's who we become.



# Spiritual Disciplines

## 01 SILENCE AND SOLITUDE

Spend time with God in silence and solitude. Sit in a quiet place and allow him to fill your thoughts and desires.

## 02 PRAYER

Talk to God through prayer and listen for him to speak to you.

## 03 READ AND STUDY

Read, study, meditate, and memorize scripture to know God's character and his promises.

## 04 FELLOWSHIP

Spend time with other friends in the family of God through church, youth groups, school, and in your community.

## 05 SERVE

Serve others with our gifts and strengths in the spirit of living a life of active love.

## 06 SUBMISSION

With humility and honesty confess and repent regularly, submitting to God's authority.

# The Progression of *Salvation & Spiritual Formation*

Regeneration

Justification

Santification

Glorification



*Spiritual formation is a transformation of the soul. In the life of a saved Christian, it means living a life of active love done in the power of Christ.*



*For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:5–11)*

# Prayers for Unbelievers

*Always pray and never lose heart (Luke 18:1)*

Don't be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil to correct our opponents with gentleness. God may grant repentance that can guide someone to a knowledge of the truth and cause them to turn from their desires for unholy things and obediently follow Jesus. (2 Timothy 2:24–26)

*After a person experiences the freedom salvation brings, they want to share the good news with their spouse, family, or friends. The Bible tells us to pray for unbelievers' salvation and for God's word to be heard. (Romans 10:19) Like the Apostle Paul, our heart's desire and prayer should be to save others. (Romans 10:1) Here are prayers you can pray.*

Father, I pray in your mercy, bought by the blood of your son Jesus that you replace my friend's heart of stone with a tender, soft heart toward you with a new spirit and affection to love your word and keep it. Become my friend's God and make my friend your child. (Ezekiel 11:19–21)

Father, none of us loves you first and turns your heart to love us. We can't love you unless you first cleanse our hearts in your grace and love. You cut away the old nature of our selfish pride and our desire that we want to rule our lives. You did this for me. I didn't deserve that, just like my friend doesn't deserve it, but I pray for you to cleanse my friend's heart and awaken them to your truth and goodness, and beauty. (Deuteronomy 30:6)

Father, no one deserves salvation, your gift of repentance, or escape from Satan. But, you are a God of mercy. I know this because you saved me when I was just as blind and living in darkness through my dead heart of stone. I love and trust you for the grace you gave me, and I ask that you grant repentance, freedom from sin, and faith for my unbelieving friend. I know you have mercy on whom you have mercy, and your wisdom surpasses any human understanding, and as your child, I ask that, for the glory of your grace, you would give repentance to my unbelieving friend. (2 Timothy 2:24–26)

Lord, open my friend's heart like you did Lydia's. (Acts 16:14)

Father, shine the light of the gospel for the glory of God in the face of Christ into my friend's heart. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

Lord Jesus, you said, 'What is impossible with man is possible with God.' I pray, Lord, that you do the impossible and convert my friend. (Luke 18:27)

Create in me  
a clean heart

O God  
and renew a right spirit  
in me

(Psalm 51:10)



# Frequently Asked QUESTION

*How can I have a relationship with God?*

Spend time with God in silence and solitude. Read, study, meditate, and memorize scripture to know his character and promises. Talk to God through prayer and spend time with other Christians. (John 14:23)

Q1

Q2

*Can I ever lose my salvation?*

No, you cannot lose your salvation if you genuinely believe in Christ. A born-again person cannot become dead and be unborn again. (1 John 5:11)

*Can you explain Hebrews 10:26, which says, "For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins"?*

Suppose a person continues in a deliberate, persistent pattern of sinning after salvation and doesn't accept Jesus' shed blood for their salvation. That shows that person never sincerely believed in Christ. Because if they did, there would be a spiritual newness inside them. They would live their new life in Christ in a way that honors God, striving to live a life worthy of the nature of their relationship with God. They wouldn't participate in willful sinning because they want to live a life that makes God proud.

Hebrews 3:14 says We have come to share in Christ if we hold fast to the end," which means that if we don't hold fast, like the person in Hebrews 10:26, then we never had come to share in Christ. We didn't lose our share in Christ. We never had it.

For further reflection, study: Hebrews 10:14, 12:14.

Q3

# Frequently Asked QUESTION

*If I'm saved and have faith in Christ, knowing he died for all my sins and forgives me, why should I stop sinning?*

Q4

It's true when Christ died, he paid the total price for all of our sins, but how can a person who died to sin still live in it? People can't go on practicing sin if they died with Christ to sin. (Romans 6:1-2)

Suppose a person continues in a pattern of sinning after salvation and doesn't fight their sins but becomes comfortable in them, thinking God has covered them. In reality, people who willfully walk in sin after salvation never were in Christ in the first place. A person who has genuine faith in Christ will persevere in faith, fight their sin, and mature in holiness. God keeps us saved through sanctification by helping us to fight sin in a progressive pursuit of righteousness. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)

A person who intentionally sins after salvation doesn't mean they lose their salvation. It means that the way they live shows they never had it, even if it may have appeared they had it for a time. That's why John said in 1 John 2:19, "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us."

For further reflection, study:

Romans 5:20-21, 8:1, 8:13-14; 1 John 2:3, 3:6, 3:14, 5:18;

Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Corinthians 1:8-9;

James 2:14, 17; 2 Peter 1:10.

# Frequently Asked QUESTION

*Can you explain Genesis 3:15? I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."*

Q5

In Genesis 3, God judges Adam, Eve, and the serpent for their sins and puts enmity (hostility or hatred) between the serpent, the woman, and their offspring. (Some bible translations refer to "offspring" as "seed.") The "enmity" God speaks of is between Satan and Christ.

The woman's offspring is Jesus. Being virgin-born, Jesus is the offspring of a woman (Matthew 1:25; Galatians 4:4). Being the Son of Man, Jesus is the perfect representative of humankind.

The serpent's offspring are evil men and demonic forces who struck Jesus' heel when Judas, the Pharisees, and the Romans, conspired to condemn Jesus to be crucified.

When God pronounces, "He shall bruise your head," the "He" refers to the woman's offspring (Jesus), and "your" is the serpent himself, not Satan's offspring. The head crushing refers to a future day when the woman's perfect offspring, Jesus Christ, would die on the cross and crush the head of Satan. (Romans 16:20; Hebrews 2:14)

Genesis 3:15 is known as the protoevangelium—the first gospel. The verse introduces the curse on humanity because of Adam's sin and God's provision for a savior from sin who would take the curse upon himself.

Satan's only eternally destructive weapon is to accuse us of sin before God that we are guilty and should perish with him. But Jesus' death on the cross canceled that. All who trust Christ will never die. Satan cannot separate us from the love of God in Christ (Romans 8:37–39).

We know from Colossians 2:14–15 that God set aside the record of debt that stands against us when Jesus was nailed to the cross, thereby disarming the authorities and putting them to shame by triumphing over them. When Christ died for our sins and rose on the third day, he "crushed" the devil's head, and Satan was defeated forever because Jesus conquered the power of death.

# Frequently Asked QUESTION

## *Why does God allow Satan's evil?*

Although Satan is still active in this world, he is a defeated enemy. We know the end, "And the devil was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur" (Revelation 20:10). Until that time, there remains enmity between Satan and God's children.

Satan will always be the enemy of humanity. People who choose Satan are at cross-purposes with God and will remain in a perpetual battle between good and evil until they accept our Savior's salvation. (Ephesians 6:12)

Genesis 3 shows us God always had the plan of salvation in mind as he announced his plan as soon as sin entered the world. Satan plotted a scheme involving the serpent in Eden, but God, as always, was infinitely wiser, having already ordained the Serpent-crusher. Jesus Christ perfectly fulfilled God's mission: "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work" (1 John 3:8).

We know that "all things were created through Christ and for Christ" (Colossians 1:16). The Son of God, Jesus Christ, will be more honored in the end because he defeats Satan through longsuffering, patience, humility, servanthood, and death, rather than through power. The more honored the Son is, the greater the joy of those who love him.

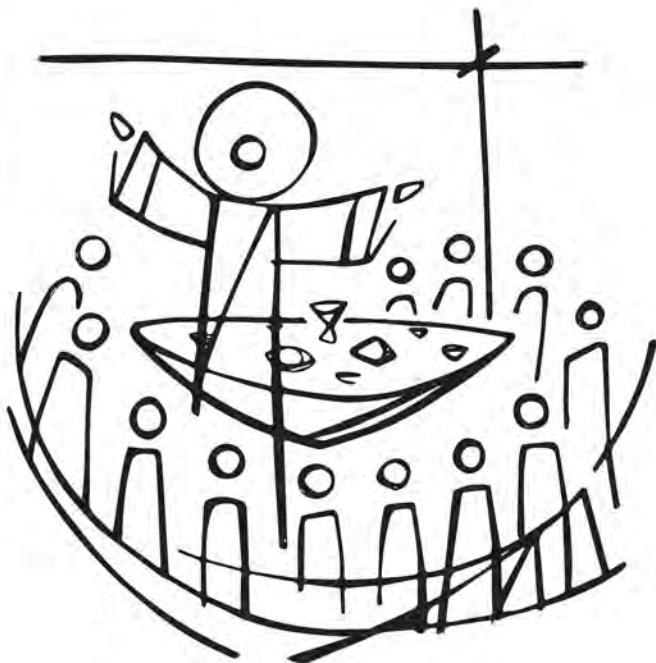
The ultimate glory of Christ comes from the obedient sacrifice of the cross, where Jesus triumphed over the devil (Colossians 2:15). Jesus said, "Now [in my final hour] is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him" (John 13:31). Paul said, "We preach Christ crucified...the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Corinthians 1:23–24). Jesus said to Paul about Satan's thorn in Paul's side, "My power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

In the end, Satan and all his evil magnify the power, wisdom, love, grace, mercy, patience, and wrath of Jesus Christ. We would not know God in the fullness of his glory if he did not defeat Satan the way he did.

Q6

# The Twelve *Apostles*\*

- 1 Simon, who is called Peter
- 2 Andrew (Simon Peter's brother)
- 3 James (the son of Zebedee)
- 4 John (son of Zebedee, James', brother)
- 5 Philip
- 6 Bartholomew
- 7 Thomas
- 8 Matthew (the tax collector)
- 9 James (the son of Alphaeus)
- 10 Thaddaeus
- 11 Simon the Zealot
- 12 Judas Iscariot



\*Others in the New Testament are regarded as apostles besides the twelve, notably James the brother of Jesus (Acts 15:12–21; 1 Corinthians 15; Galatians 1:19), Paul (Acts 14:4, 14; 1 Corinthians 9:1; 15:8–9), and Barnabas (Acts 14:4, 14).

This Book of the Law  
shall not depart from  
your mouth, but you shall  
meditate on it day and  
night, so that you may be  
careful to do according  
to all that is written in it.  
For then you will make  
your way prosperous,  
and then you will have  
good success.

(Joshua 1:8)

# Books of the *Bible*

## Old Testament

1	Genesis	28
2	Exodus	29
3	Leviticus	30
4	Numbers	31
5	Deuteronomy	32
6	Joshua	33
7	Judges	34
8	Ruth	35
9	1 Samuel	36
10	2 Samuel	37
11	1 Kings	38
12	2 Kings	39
13	1 Chronicles	
14	2 Chronicles	
15	Ezra	
16	Nehemiah	
17	Esther	
18	Job	
19	Psalms	
20	Proverbs	
21	Ecclesiastes	
22	The Song of Solomon	
23	Isaiah	
24	Jeremiah	
25	Lamentations	
26	Ezekiel	
27	Daniel	

## New Testament

Hosea	1	Matthew
Joel	2	Mark
Amos	3	Luke
Obadiah	4	John
Jonah	5	Acts of the Apostles
Micah	6	Romans
Nahum	7	1 Corinthians
Habakkuk	8	2 Corinthians
Zephaniah	9	Galatians
Haggai	10	Ephesians
Zechariah	11	Philippians
Malachi	12	Colossians
	13	1 Thessalonians
	14	2 Thessalonians
	15	1 Timothy
	16	2 Timothy
	17	Titus
	18	Philemon
	19	Hebrews
	20	James
	21	1 Peter
	22	2 Peter
	23	1 John
	24	2 John
	25	3 John
	26	Jude
	27	Revelation

**"Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers."**

**(1 Timothy 4:15-16)**



# THE 10 COMMANDMENTS





**And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.**

- 1. You shall have no other gods before me.**
- 2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.**
- 3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.**
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.**
- 5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.**
- 6. You shall not murder.**
- 7. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 8. You shall not steal.**
- 9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.**

**Exodus 20:1-17**



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# A Guide to Resources

## Church

### Bible Study Groups

If you don't attend church, ask a Christian you know where they worship and go to a service with them. Most churches today will have age and gender-specific Bible study groups you can join.

## Desiring God

John Piper

<https://www.desiringgod.org>

Thousands of free sermons, videos, podcasts, books, and scholar-researched articles.

Ask Pastor John Podcast - John Piper answers tough questions about God from the Bible.

Look at the Book Videos - John Piper studies passages of Scripture through short videos using color-coded highlights and onscreen notes as he explains each verse to help you interpret Scripture.

Solid Joys Devotionals - Read or listen to a short, daily, God-centered devotional from John Piper.

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## ESV Bible

English Standard Version Bible  
<https://www.esv.org/about/>

Free or subscription-based Bible study plans.

The English Standard Version (ESV) is an "essentially literal" translation of the Bible in contemporary English. Created by a team of more than 100 leading evangelical scholars and pastors, the ESV Bible emphasizes "word-for-word" accuracy, literary excellence, and depth of meaning.



## BibleProject

Tim Mackie and Jon Collins  
<https://bibleproject.com>

BibleProject is a nonprofit, crowdfunded organization that produces 100% free Bible videos, podcasts, blogs, classes, and educational Bible resources to help make the biblical story accessible to everyone.



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