We were created for worship. Louie Giglio, in his book, 'The Air I Breathe', writes, "Worship is the activity of the human soul."

Why do you think people in crisis, cry out 'O my God'? Could it be that in their fear, they are crying out to God for answers? The deepest cry of our hearts is to know and worship God.

As we develop our relationship with God, he transforms us through his Holy Spirit into the person we were created to be (2Corinthians 3:18). And as we are changed through his Word, we begin to exercise and develop the gifts God has placed within us (Romans 12).

We discover our fullest potential and true spiritual fulfillment as we walk in the purposes and plans that God not only designed for us, but designed us for (2Thess. 1:11). No earthly accomplishment compares to this experience.

#### 6. Experience Eternity with God

A very important Bible verse is, Ecclesiastes 3:11, which says that God has "set eternity in the hearts of men." I believe this is the reason we experience an inner longing, or emptiness, until our spirits are made alive in Christ. Then, as God's children, receive 'eternal life' as a gift (Romans 6:23). This life with God never ends!

Eternity with God will far exceed any earthly expectation we can begin to imagine about heaven: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him." (1Corinthians 2:9 NLT)

I'm wondering if you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? It is simply a choice you must make. A Bible verse I love, is that of John 14:23, where Jesus said, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my words. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make

#### our home with him."

Would you like to have a living relationship with Jesus and God as your personal friends? You need only believe!

Pray and ask the Lord Jesus to come and live with you. Jesus says, "Here I am! I stand at your door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in ..." (NIV) (Revelation 3:20).

If you want to begin a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you might want to offer Him a prayer like this:

Jesus, I know that You died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. You rose from the dead to prove that You have conquered sin and death so that all who believe in You can live forever with You in heaven. I now trust You Lord Jesus and ask you to come into my life and make me a member of your family. I turn away from my sins and receive You as my Saviour and Lord. Help me to serve You faithfully and look forward to being with You in heaven for all eternity. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for loving me and saving me. Amen.

Please contact us for further information

PMA PO Box 2300, Port Orchard, WA 98366 www.prisonmission.org



# Why Become A Christian?



6 Reasons to Convert to Christianity



PMA PO Box 2300, Port Orchard, WA 98366 www.prisonmission.org

### Why Become a Christian?

It's been over 50 years since I gave my life to Christ, and I can tell you, the Christian life is not an easy, 'feel good' road. It doesn't come with a 'benefits package' guaranteed to fix all of your problems, at least not this side of heaven. But I wouldn't trade it now for any other path.

The benefits far outweigh the challenges. But, the only real reason to become a Christian, or as some say, to convert to Christianity, is because you believe with all of your heart that God exists, that his Word—the Bible—is true, and that Jesus Christ is who he says he is: He said, "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:16 NIV)

Becoming a Christian won't make your life easier. If you think so, I suggest you take a look at Christians around you and see how they struggle with life. Most likely, you won't experience sea-parting miracles every day. Yet the Bible does present several very convincing reasons to become a Christian.

#### 6 Reasons to Convert to Christianity

Here are six life-changing experiences worth considering as reasons to convert to Christ and Christianity.

#### 1. Experience the Greatest of Loves

There is no greater demonstration of devotion, no greater sacrifice of love, than to lay down your life for another. John 10:11 says, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (NIV)

The Christian faith is built upon this kind of love. Jesus gave his life for us: He said, "I lay down my life for my sheep" (John 10:15). We also read that "God demonstrated his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8 NIV).

In Romans 8:35-39 we see that once we've experienced Christ's radical, unconditional love, nothing can separate us from it. And just as we freely receive Christ's love, as his followers, we learn to spread this love to others.

#### 2. Experience Freedom

Similar to knowing God's love, absolutely nothing compares to the freedom a child of God experiences when released from the heaviness, guilt and shame caused by sin. Romans 8:2 says, "And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death." (NLT)

At the moment of salvation, our sins are forgiven, or "washed away" (Acts 26:18). As we read God's Word and allow his Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, we are increasingly set free from sin's power (Galatians 5:16 - 23).

And not only do we experience freedom through forgiveness of sin and freedom from sin's power over us, we also begin to learn how to forgive others (Luke 17: 3 - 4).

As we let go of anger, bitterness and resentment, the chains that held us captive are broken through our own acts of forgiveness (Ephesians 4:31 - 32).

Holocaust victim, Eva Mozes Kor writes, "God has the power to forgive, to forgive us, and enable us to forgive other people."

Jesus speaking of himself said, "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).

#### 3. Experience Lasting Joy & Peace

The freedom we experience in Christ gives birth to lasting joy and abiding peace. 1 Peter 1:8-9 says, "Though you have not seen him,

you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls." (NIV)

When we experience God's love and forgiveness, Christ becomes the center of our joy. It doesn't seem possible, but even in the midst of great trials, the joy of the Lord bubbles deep within us and his peace settles over us: "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7 NIV).

#### 4. Experience Relationship

God sent Jesus, his only Son, so that we could have relationship with him. 1 John 4:9 says, "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him." (NIV)

God wants to connect with us in intimate friendship. He is ever present in our lives, to comfort us, to strengthen us, to listen and to teach. He speaks to us through his Word, he leads us by his Spirit. Jesus wants to be our closest friend.

Jesus said, "Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him (personally)" (John 14:21). This is a beautiful experience!

## 5. Experience Your True Potential And Purpose

We were created by God and for God. Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (NIV)