

WELCOME TO God's Family!



LEARN HOW TO LIVE FOR JESUS

WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY

“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to these.’ –Matthew 19:14, NIV

Because you said you believe that Jesus is God's Son, and because you say you love Him and want Him in your life, you now have a new family – God's family!

Giving your life to Jesus is the best choice you will ever make!

“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and in your heart you have faith that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved!” –Romans 10:9, CEB

“WHEN I GOT SAVED”

The day I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior: _____

The person who taught me about Jesus: _____

Why I want to give my life to Jesus: _____



ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Now that you've given your life to Jesus, Jesus will never let you go! You're in His family forever! There is nothing you can do to make God kick you out of His family!

“...For God has said, ‘I will never Fail you. I will never abandon you.’” –Hebrews 13:5, NLT

**“And I give them eternal life, so that they will never be lost...
My Father gave them to me, and He is greater than all others. No one can snatch
them from His hands.” –John 10:28-29, CEV**



BAPTISM

Once you've given Jesus your life and let Him into your heart, baptism is your next step! When people get baptized, they typically get dipped in and out of a pool of water. It's a sign to let people know they have allowed Jesus to wash them clean from sin.

Did you know even Jesus got baptized? Read about it in Matthew chapter 3! Whenever we do the things that Jesus did, it makes God happy.

**“Then a voice From heaven said, ‘This is my own dear Son,
and I am pleased with Him.’” –Matthew 3:17, CEV**





A FAMILY REUNION!

Have you ever been to a family reunion? They're so fun! It feels good to get together with people you love and have a good time. Every time you visit your family, it should be a good time. The same thing happens with God's family.

Now that you're in God's family, you're in a family with people of all shapes, sizes and colors! Nobody is better than the other. And when you go to church, think of it like a big family reunion every time you go! At church, you can learn more about Jesus and have fun with other kids who love Jesus just like you!

“Some people have given up the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer.” –Hebrews 10:25, CEV

TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS!

Have you ever gotten some really, really good news that makes you super happy? You want to go tell **everybody** about it, right? Especially the people you love!

When you let Jesus into your heart, that's the best news you can ever share. And there are lots of people around you who need to hear about how amazing Jesus is! You don't have to wait until you become a grown up to tell people about Jesus. You can do it right now!

**“So those who were scattered went on their way
proclaiming the message of good news.” –Acts 8:4, HCSB**

Telling people about Jesus is as simple as talking about how much you love Him, and how being in God's family makes you feel. Then you can help them learn how to join God's family just like you did!

GOD MADE US: In the beginning, God created a perfect world and made people to be just like Him. There was no sin. People didn't do bad things to hurt others.

WE CHOOSE TO SIN: Although God's world and the first people who lived in it were perfect, it didn't take long for Satan to come and start tempting people to do bad. Satan tempted Adam and Eve to sin, and they chose to believe his lies and disobey God. Just as all things that are good are from God, Satan represents all things that are evil. And when Adam and Eve chose to sin and believe Satan instead of God, their sin made God sad because it changed everything in His World!

JESUS COMES TO SAVE US: Whenever you hear someone in church say, “the gospel,” that's just another way of saying, “good news.” Remember when we talked about how fun it is to share good news? Well, the gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ and how He died on the cross and got up from the dead to allow us to join His family. Whenever we share the gospel, all we're doing is telling someone else about how awesome Jesus is, how He saves us from the sin that started with Adam and Eve and how they can join His family.

Can you think of three friends or family members who you can tell about Jesus?
Write their names below:

STUDY YOUR BIBLE

One of the best ways to learn all you can about something is to read about it. This is no different with God and His Son, Jesus. But what book can you read that teaches you all you need to know about living in God's family? That's right. The Bible!

Think of the Bible as God's instruction book – kind of like when you want to learn how to put a toy together, or hook up a gaming system, you read the instructions. The Bible tells you all you need to know about how to live your life in God's family. It may look like a big, scary book to try and read. But the best way to read it is by reading it a little bit at a time, praying and asking God to help it make sense to you, and then asking for help from your mom and dad, your pastor or your Sunday school (small group/Children's church, etc.) teachers at church.

God told people the things to write in the Bible that He knew would help us live in a way that makes Him happy. That's why you may hear some people call the Bible, "God's Word."

**"Everything in the Scriptures is God's Word.
All of it is useful for teaching and helping people and for correcting them
and showing them how to live." –2 Timothy 3:16, CEV**

A good place to start reading your Bible is in the book of John, which shows us how Jesus was both a human being like you and I, as well as God's Son who came to save us from sin.



TALKING TO GOD

Do you have a best friend? Maybe a favorite brother, sister or cousin? If so, you probably like when you talk to them, don't you? Fun families talk to each other as much as they can. When you talk to your family members or your best friends, you learn more about them and grow closer to them.

Guess what? Did you know that you can talk to God? And here's something even better – did you know that God will talk back to you? Pretty cool, right?

Whenever you have a conversation with God it's called prayer. And just like reading your Bible helps you learn more about God, praying to God will help you learn more about Him as well. And the more you talk to God and get really focused in your conversation with Him, you'll start to recognize when God is talking to you.

Even Jesus prayed often to God, and when Jesus' closest friends (His disciples) would hear this, they asked Him to teach them how to pray. This is how Jesus did it:



**“Our Father in Heaven,
help us to honor Your Name.
Come and set up your Kingdom so that everyone
on earth will obey you,
as you are obeyed in heaven.
Give us our Food for today.
Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others.
Keep us from being tempted
and protect us from evil.”**

—Matthew 6:9-13, CEV

Here’s another way to think of the best way to pray. Think of the word A.C.T.S. Each letter stands for a very important part of prayer:

ADORATION: Telling God how much you love Him and how grateful you are for His power and for how good He is.

CONFESSION: Telling God how sorry you are for the sins and mistakes you make and asking Him to forgive you and help you be better each day.

THANKSGIVING: Whenever someone does something good or nice to you, it’s just right to say, “Thank you.” It’s no different with God. In prayer, we should thank Him for all of the awesome things He has given us and does for us. Thank Him for your family, your parents, sisters, brothers and friends. Thank Him for the food you eat, the clothes you wear and the place you live. Thank Him for helping you pass that test or helping you keep calm when you wanted to be mad.

SUPPLICATION: Big word here. But all it means is you get to ask God stuff! You can ask Him for absolutely anything, especially the things that can help you be better as a child of God!

Why do you think talking to God is important?

YOU'RE ON A MISSION

Sometimes in movies, TV shows or cartoons, you'll have two different types of characters: the good guys (or girls) and the bad ones. The bad ones are on a mission to destroy the good ones. But the good ones are on a mission to protect everyone else from the bad.

As a member of God's family, consider yourself as one of the good guys or girls who's on a mission to get as many people into God's family with you as possible. That's something that Jesus expects us to do once we become a part of His family. And there's absolutely no limit to where you can go to share Jesus.

START AT HOME: Tell people in your school, in your family or in your neighborhood about how awesome it is to be a part of God's family. These are likely the people who know you best, and they'll probably be willing to learn about how being in God's family is so important to you.

GO FURTHER: As you get to know Jesus more, don't be surprised if you find yourself going out to other places and finding people beyond your school, church and neighborhood who you can tell about what it means to be in God's family. Some people's mission for God takes them all across the world to find people to invite into God's family!

What are some of the easiest places where you can begin telling people about Jesus today?

What kind of prayers can you pray for people who are on a mission for Jesus all across the world?





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