How to Know Jesus Christ as Your Personal Savior

by Joshua L. Yeager

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A simple guide to salvation and your new life in Christ

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This ebook is a clear, step-by-step guide to help you understand how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and how to begin walking with Him day by day. Whether you are exploring faith for the first time or seeking assurance about your relationship with God, the aim here is simplicity without losing the power of the gospel. As you read, pause to reflect, pray honestly, and consider what God is showing you about Himself and about your need for grace.

We begin with the foundational truth that every person has fallen short of God's standard. That is not meant to crush you but to awaken you to your real need. From there, we look soberly at the cost of sin and the kindness of God who offers life as a gift in Christ. Then we look at what Jesus has already done for you—historical, finished, and sufficient. Finally, we talk about how to respond: turning to God in repentance and trusting Christ, and then stepping forward into a new life of daily fellowship, prayer, Scripture, and community. Throughout, you will find Scripture references you can read in the King James Version, short explanations to help you process what you're reading, and a simple prayer you can make your own if you are ready to call upon the Lord.

No matter your past, no matter your questions, God invites you to come. He is not waiting for you to make yourself worthy; He is offering you a Savior who is worthy. As you move through these pages, keep this in mind: salvation is not about trying harder; it is about trusting the One who has done all that is needed. With that assurance, let's begin with the first step: acknowledging our need before a holy and loving God.



1. Acknowledge that you are a sinner



For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. — Romans 3:23 (KJV)

The first step is being honest with God. I have sinned. You have sinned. Every one of us has fallen short of what God requires. Sin shows up in what we do, what we say, and what we choose in our hearts.

It’s easy to look around and find somebody we think has done worse. But when we stand before God, the question is whether we have met His standard. Once you see that you’ve fallen short, you can begin to see why you need a Savior.

Acknowledging sin is not about despair; it is about clarity. Imagine a doctor giving you an accurate diagnosis—not to condemn you, but to point you toward the cure. Scripture names our condition so that we will stop pretending we can fix ourselves and start seeking the One who can save us. Honesty before God opens the door to hope because it aligns us with the truth, and God meets us in the truth with mercy. If you feel a sting of conviction, do not turn away; let it move you to the next step where the cost of sin and the gift of God are placed side by side so you can see the path forward.

Pause and reflect: Where have you seen sin’s effects in your words, choices, or relationships? Bring that to God without excuses. He already knows, and He is ready to forgive through Christ. This acknowledgment is not the end—it is the beginning of grace taking root in your life.

2. Understand what sin costs

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For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. — Romans 6:23 (KJV)

A wage is something you earn. A gift is something you receive. That one verse tells us what our sin has earned and what God offers us through Jesus Christ. Sin brings death and judgment. God offers eternal life as a gift.

If you could make yourself right with God by doing better, you could settle this on your own. But you need somebody who can deal with your sin. That is why Jesus came.

Seeing sin’s cost helps us stop treating it lightly. Death in Scripture is not only physical; it is separation from God, the source of life. But God’s answer is not to demand we purchase our way back—He offers life freely through His Son. Gifts are received, not earned; that is the shape of grace. The cross declares that the debt has a real cost and that God Himself has paid it. When you grasp the seriousness of sin and the generosity of God, your heart is prepared to hear the good news about what Jesus has done for you personally.

3. Believe what Jesus did for you

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

God showed His love for you while you were still a sinner. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, took the judgment we deserved. He died for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day. That is the gospel. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (KJV): https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%2015%3A3-4&version=KJV

Think about those two words in Romans 5:8, “for us.” When you understand that Christ died for your sins, the cross becomes personal. The risen Savior is the One you can trust with your soul.

Faith is not vague optimism; it is trust in a crucified and risen Savior. The resurrection is God’s public declaration that the payment was accepted and that Jesus has power over sin and death. Because He lives, those who trust Him are secure. Believing the gospel means resting your hope not in your performance but in Christ’s finished work. You can tell Him simply, “Lord Jesus, I believe You died for me and rose again. I receive Your gift of eternal life.” That confession is not a formula; it is the heart turning toward the living Christ.



4. Repent and trust Christ as your Savior

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. — Acts 3:19 (KJV)

To repent is to turn to God, owning your sin and turning from it. To believe is to put your trust in Jesus Christ and depend on Him to save you. You come to Him as you are, trusting His grace. Read Ephesians 2:8–9 (KJV): Click here

Right where you are, you can call on the Lord. Jesus saves you as you repent and trust Him. If you're unsure how to put that into words, here is a simple prayer you can make your own.

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Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and I cannot save myself. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I turn from my sin and place my trust in You alone. Please forgive me, make me new, and help me follow You. Amen.

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For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. — Romans 10:13 (KJV)

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That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. — Romans 10:9 (KJV)

If you have turned to Christ, take a moment to thank Him. Assurance does not rest on how intensely you felt but on what God has promised and on Christ's finished work. Share your decision with a trusted believer or pastor, and consider marking this moment by writing the date in your Bible as a reminder of God's grace in your life.

5. Begin your new life in Christ

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Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. — 2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)

When you trust Christ, you are forgiven and belong to Him. On days when you wonder whether you felt enough or said the right words, go back to what God promised. He says you can know that you have eternal life. Read 1 John 5:11–13 (KJV) Click here

Here are a few simple ways to begin walking with Him.

- Read your Bible. Start with the Gospel of John. Read a little at a time and pay attention to what Jesus says and does.
- Talk to God in prayer. Thank Him for saving you. Tell Him where you’re struggling, and ask Him to help you obey Him.
- Tell someone you’ve trusted Christ. Talk with a pastor about believer’s baptism as your first public step of obedience. Read Acts 2:41–42 (KJV) Click here
- Find a church that teaches the Bible. Worship with other believers and get to know people who will pray with you and help you grow.

If you've trusted Christ or still have questions about salvation, I'd be glad to talk with you. You can reach out through https://joshualyeager.com/.

I'm grateful you took time to read this. As you begin this new life, take the next step you know to take. Open your Bible. Talk to the Lord. Let somebody walk alongside you. The same Savior who forgave you is the One you can trust to help you follow Him day by day.

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