

# How to Establish a Relationship with God

Establishing a relationship with God is the most important decision you'll ever make. However, God says there's only one way to do this - His way. As you share the good news (Gospel) of Jesus Christ with people, the truths in the acronym below are simply designed to serve as a guide. Elaborate on any points as the Holy Spirit leads you:

**G**od created us to be with Him forever. At one time, humanity was perfect. But, we chose to sin.  
(Genesis 1)

**O**ur sin has separated us from God (He demands 100% perfection). As a result, we're spiritually dead.  
(Genesis 3)

**S**in cannot be removed by religion or good works. We're helplessly lost and deserve eternal death (hell).  
(Genesis 4 - Malachi 4)

**P**aying the **PERFECT** price for our sins, Jesus lived a sinless life, died in our place, and **rose again**.  
(Matthew - Luke)

**E**veryone who trusts in Jesus receives **eternal life**. (His deity, His birth; His death; His resurrection).  
(John)

**L**ife with Jesus (who is God in human form) starts the moment you trust Him, and it lasts forever.  
(Acts - Revelation)

## Key Reminders

- Your sin has caused spiritual death (separation from God). You're helplessly lost, and you can't fix your problem.
- What you need is "new life" made available only by Jesus Christ (God). (**John 3:3**) The first step is repentance...
- Biblical repentance for salvation **IS NOT** turning from our individual acts of sin, or committing to sin less.
- Biblical repentance for salvation **IS** a "change of mind" where you agree with God that you're a sinner; that you need saved from your sin; that Jesus is God; and that He's the only way to heaven. (**Romans 3:23, John 14:1-11**)
- You need to **turn from your unbelief** in Jesus and place 100% of your trust in Him for new life. (**Rom 10 & John 16**)
- When you do this, you're declared not guilty in God's eyes forever. You become perfectly justified. (**Rom 5:1**)
- At the moment you trust Jesus, you also become a **new creation**: you're 'born again' (spiritually). (**2 Cor 5:17-21**)
- Justification is a permanent, one-time event where God **guarantees** your salvation. (**2 Cor 1:21-22**)
- Past, present & future actions (good or bad), do not affect your salvation (it can't be earned or lost). (**Titus 3:3-7**)
- Obedience and good works are natural results of salvation, but never how you acquire or keep it. (**Eph 2:8-9**)

**Summary:** Personally trusting in Jesus - that He died to pay for your sins, and that He arose from the dead defeating death to give you eternal life, means that:

- a. You have **new spiritual life** (immediately). God now lives in you. He directs and powers your life.
- b. You've been **forgiven of all sins** (past, present & future), and **saved from the penalty of sin**: eternal death.
- c. You are **perfect** and **holy** in God's eyes, because of who you are **in Christ**.
- d. You've established a **personal relationship** with God that is **permanent** (lasting for all eternity).
- e. You're **guaranteed heaven** when you die, but eternal life begins the moment you become saved.

## Free Resources

- *Why Trust Jesus?* Well, Jesus **proved** that He is God, and the **only way to heaven**: <http://whytrustjesus.org>
- Learn how to easily share the good news of Jesus during everyday conversations: <http://tiny.cc/convstarters>
- For other simple, biblical overviews of how to know God, visit: <http://tiny.cc/knowgod>
- For new Christian believers - Beginning Steps: <http://tiny.cc/beginningsteps> Bible 101: <http://tiny.cc/bible101>
- Invite them to church, Sunday School, or your own small group. Learn more: <http://tiny.cc/bibleimpactgroups>