

WHERE DO I GO NOW?

A GUIDE FOR NEW
CHRISTIANS



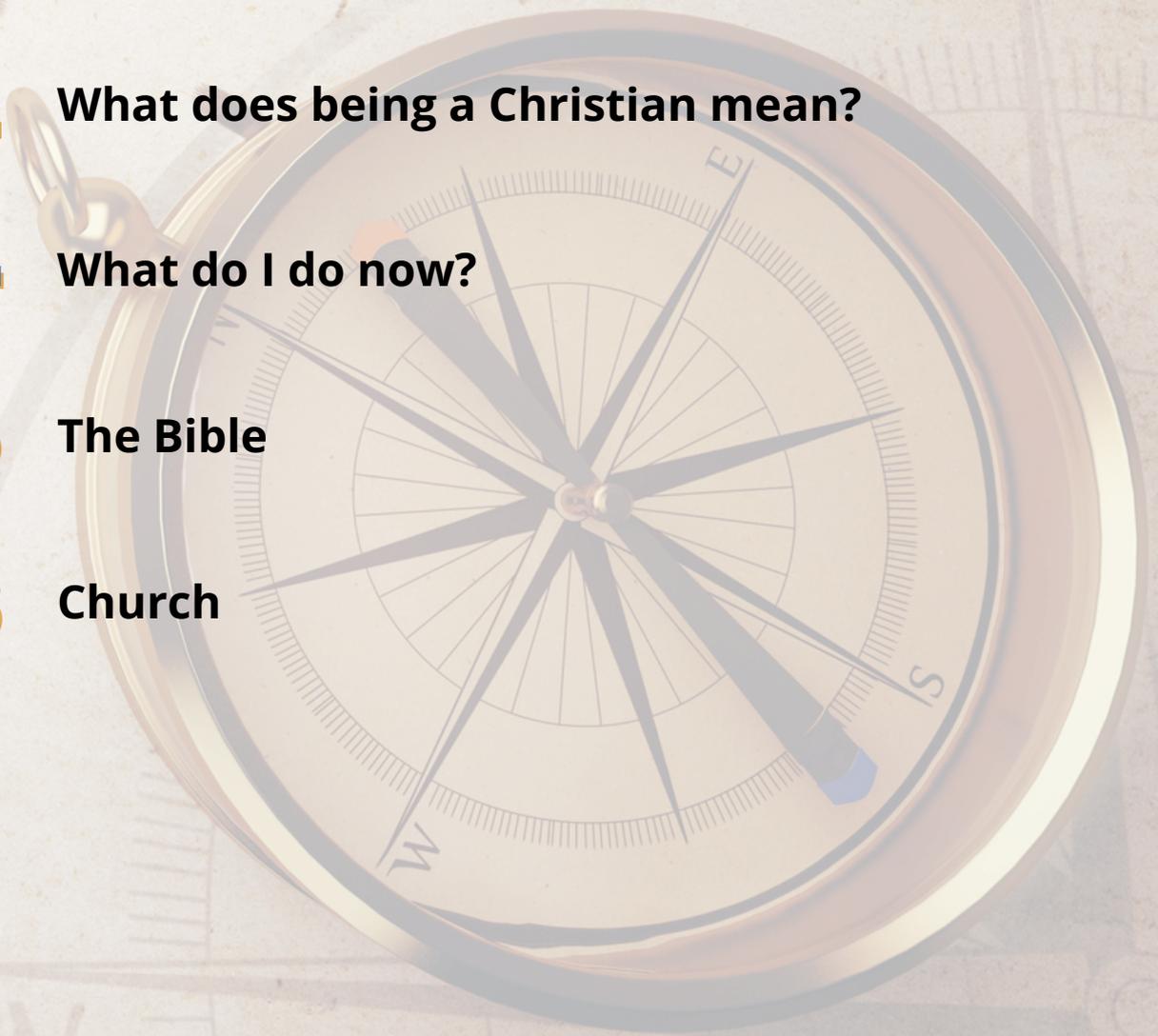
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What does being a Christian mean?

The Bible tells us that God created mankind. He created us perfect and in His image but He also gave us a free will. With that free will man chose to sin, he chose to disobey God. The Bible tells us this right at the start when God made the first ever man, Adam. Since then everyone has sinned and disobeyed God.

The Bible tells us:

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...”

Romans 3:23

This sin separates us from God because God is perfect. It also prevents us from being with God once we die. The Bible puts it like this:

“For the wages of sin is death...” **Romans 6:23**

God does not want us to be separated from Him for eternity. He planned for us to spend eternity with Him and to have a relationship with Him while we were still living. He made a way for this to happen by sending His son, who was also perfect, to show us how to get close to God.

Jesus came into the world as a perfect man. He lived a perfect life, teaching and helping people. Jesus is God's plan to enable us to have a relationship with Him. Jesus died a cruel and painful death nailed to a wooden cross. He did not deserve to die, but we do. God sent Jesus to die in our place in order that we could once again fellowship with God. But we all still sin.

If we confess our sins to God He will always forgive us because Jesus died for our sins.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"

1 John 1:9

We also need to accept that Jesus died on our behalf and that He is Lord. We must believe that He rose again. If we do this we are 'saved', we are 'Christians' and we will spend eternity with God.

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

Jesus died on the cross to forgive your sins because He loves you.

He loves you so much that He was willing to send His only son into this world to die on the cross for you so that you could experience eternal life with God.

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” **John 3:16***

*“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were yet sinners Christ died for us.” **Romans 5:8***

It is good to thank God for His love. You may have already thanked God for His love and asked Him to forgive your sins before, perhaps even with the person who gave you this booklet.

You can talk to God in any way you want but you may like to say this prayer and become a Christian right now:

'Father God, I know that I am a sinner. Thank you for sending Jesus to die on the cross for me. Please forgive me for all my sins. I accept your love and want to follow you now. I want you to be my Lord and Saviour. Amen.'

What do I do now?

Now that you are a Christian you will find that a lot of things in your life will change. You will want to follow God's way of doing things and not the world's way. This will not always be easy. You have made the first step in a journey that will be exciting, amazing, difficult at times, and may even seem confusing right now. Don't worry. Help is at hand.

God is always there!

God tells us in the Bible that:

“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you” **Hebrews 13:5**

You can talk to Him at any time and He promises to hear you. It is a good habit to try and talk to God every day. Many Christians find it helps to do this first thing in the morning or last thing at night otherwise it is easy to forget. Tell him your problems, your dreams, desires and concerns.

He's always Interested!

The Bible

The bible is God's word. It will guide you and teach you. You probably already have a copy of the Bible and now that you are a Christian you should try and read a portion of it every day. If you've never read your Bible before try reading the book of John. It will tell you more about Jesus.

Ask God to help you understand what you read and you will find that the Bible is the best guide for life. David, who wrote many songs in the Bible put it like this:

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

Psalm 119:105

Sometimes, you may find the Bible hard to understand. It may help to talk about things with another Christian you may know or pray about the matter. The Bible tells us that it is also good to hear people explain and teach on the Bible. This happens every week at Church and often during the week in people's homes.

This booklet tells you about some of these meetings.

Church

It is always exciting to get together with other Christians. It is great to hear what God is doing in people's lives. God designed church so that His people could come together and worship him. You can do this on your own but there is something so special when people come together in unity to praise and worship God. Church is also where Christians can grow in their knowledge of the Bible through the preaching of God's word.

Church is where God is. The Bible tells us this:

"For where two or three come together in my name there I am with them." **Matthew 18:20**

God has power and He demonstrates this in church with signs, wonders and miracles. He heals people and touches their lives in very special ways.

If you want any of this then Church is the place to be!

We'd love to see you and you would be very welcome at any time. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you soon. May God bless you.

A BOOK IS PROOF OF AN AUTHOR

A POEM IS PROOF OF A POET

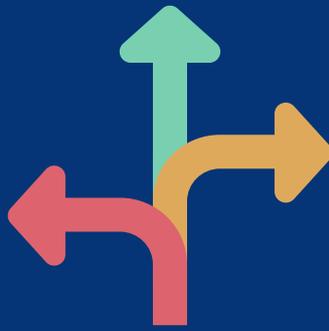
A SONG IS PROOF OF A COMPOSER

A PRODUCT IS PROOF OF A MANUFACTURER

A CREATION IS PROOF OF A CREATOR

ONLY A FOOL WOULD ACT AND THINK HE ARRIVED HERE
FIRST

We hope this booklet answered any pressing questions you may have had. We understand that there may be a million more, so please don't hesitate to contact us for more information.



New Life Christian Centre

Address 10, Hope Street, Hamilton, ML3 6AF

Email admin@newlifeministry.co.uk

Website www.newlifeministry.co.uk

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