



# How can I find God today?

Gerard Chrispin

**DayOne**

## How can I find God today?

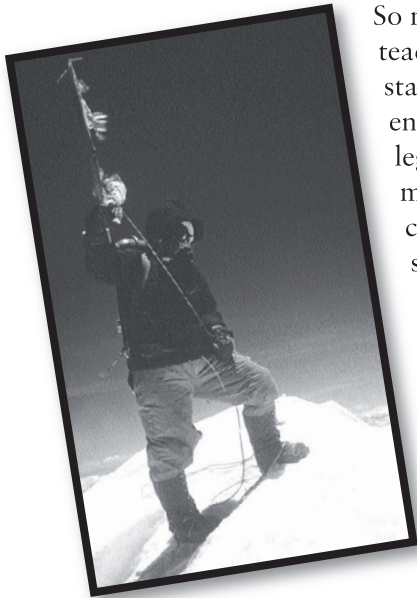
Man is naturally inquisitive. To find answers to questions, some have risked their lives or even perished in pioneering space missions, climbing mountains or exploring the oceans' depths.

Man's inbuilt desire to know God is more compelling still. But is God there to be found? If so, how can I find Him?

This booklet offers honest enquirers some avenues to explore.

It deals with problems people face

seeking God today. It addresses issues that hinder their search in today's world that is so hostile to Christianity.



So many 21st-century inputs are against the Bible's teaching. Our current thinking, philosophies, moral standards, educational ideas, media influence, entertainments, lifestyles and even government legislation belittle or ridicule it. Atheism, materialism, humanism and other religions constantly challenge it. Yet nothing else can make sense in our hurting world. Little wonder that society is crumbling and in a mess.

But be encouraged! Jesus promised, *'Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.'*  
That is still so today!

## Find God in the **confusion** of the multi-faith maze



Freedom of worship is a basic human right. No one's faith should be a cause of discrimination. But confusion reigns in today's multi-faith maze. People feel lost and ask, *'How can I ever know the truth?'* Like Pontius Pilate, some ask, *'What is truth?'*



The unique life and authority of Jesus Christ mark Him out as different. He claimed to be the eternal Son of God and the Light of the world. He said, *'If the Son shall set you free, you shall be free indeed.'* His life-changing message of love, mercy, grace, forgiveness and life—revealed in the Bible—beams out like a brilliant searchlight in a dark night sky.



Consider some comparisons between religion and biblical Christianity:

- Religious leaders are dead or dying. Jesus alone rose from the dead and is alive today—and He had accurately predicted His resurrection.
- Religion reveals lost people trying to get to God. Christianity is God clothed in sinless humanity dying and rising again to seek lost people.
- Most religions teach us to do something to try to save ourselves. Jesus Christ came to save sinners who, He taught, can never save themselves.
- Religion cannot say ‘*I know* that I am now safe for ever’. But to those who trust Jesus, He gives *eternal* life. And Jesus taught that we can know that we possess that new life right *now*.



- Religions contradict one another as they try to find God. One leader of a world religion said near the end of his life, ‘*I am still searching for truth*.’ Jesus said, ‘*I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*.’ When you come to Him, you know that’s true.

## Find God in His amazing **creation**

Atheists like Richard Dawkins ask us to accept creation without a creator, design without a designer and laws without a law-maker. Yet Dawkins suspects that *'most people have a residue of feeling that Darwinian evolution isn't quite big enough to explain everything about life'*.

The evidence of creation and design is seen throughout nature. Think of things as different from one another as the human eye or blood system, the timing of the tides, the predictability of eclipses or the migratory habits of birds. The Bible says that God brought order from nothing and light from darkness.

All space exploration is based on applying accepted laws of mathematics and physics. All accept and rely on those laws—atheist or not. But who framed



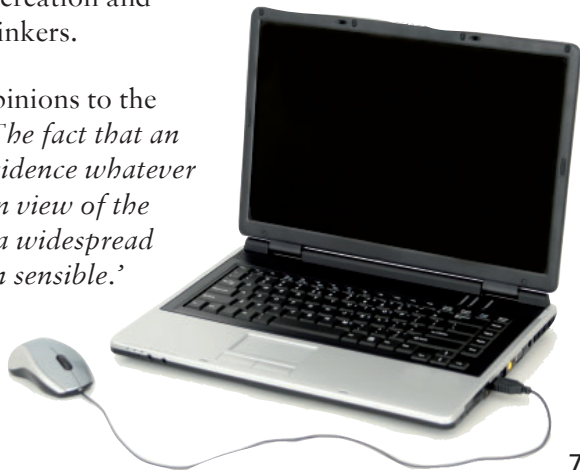
the law of gravity without which our world could not function?

Christians say that any honest enquirer can readily see that God created and designed the universe and made the laws that apply in it and to it.

Did your computer, wristwatch or car engine just 'happen'? Of course not! Who would deny the existence of manufacturers such as Dell, Seiko or Ford? Similarly, God's much more complex works of creation and design cannot be denied by honest thinkers.

But some worry about widely held opinions to the contrary. I quote Bertrand Russell: *'The fact that an opinion has been widely held is no evidence whatever that it is not utterly absurd; indeed, in view of the silliness of the majority of mankind, a widespread belief is more likely to be foolish than sensible.'*

The Bible says that the heavens declare both God's glory and his righteousness.





## Find God among the world's frightening **chaos**

Can you remember when you last saw a TV newscast which carried nothing but good news? Wherever you look today, the world seems to be crumbling and chaotic—despite the advances in science and technology.

War, terrorism, violence, crime, illness, famine, immorality, cruelty, drunkenness, greed, bigotry, bullying, abuse—the list could go on and on.



Some people conveniently blame God for the chaos. But most of it results from our disobeying God's command to keep His righteous standards and to love and help other people. Some blamed God for the carnage of 11 September 2001. But terrorists caused that, not God.

History shows that when we ignore and disobey God we find it very easy to treat others wrongly.



Failure to love God results in selfishness and hatred for others. It is turning the command of Jesus on its head. He said that we should love God and love our fellow human beings, and implied that loving other people flows out of loving and obeying God. If we do not love and follow God, we are incapable of loving our fellow human beings as we should.

Yet God still offers forgiveness and blessing to those who will turn from wrongdoing to Him. Man's huge arrogance and contempt for God causes him to reject that offer and to shun a new start. Sin's hurtful chaos is preferred to God's restoring peace.

But in this chaotic world some do find, trust in and know God—and that can include you!





## Find God in man's **consciousness** of God

Irrespective of race, shade of skin, religion or ethnic origin, people are basically the same the world over.

The Bible indicates that we are all God-conscious. We see God at work in nature. We sense our smallness and unworthiness. Just look up at a clear night sky, or down from a mountain summit.

In exactly the same way that babies need and cry for milk, so man cries for God. We were made for Him and need Him. Among recently discovered 'primitive' tribes we find human beings who naturally seek to worship, approach or appease a 'supreme Being'. The Bible says that that Being is God.

Some counter this with the question, *'Well, if that is so, where*



*did God come from?*’ That very question indicates that we know deep down that creation all had to start somewhere with someone who was eternally existent. That is who God is—the eternal One who made everything else.

Why do so many people in danger pray to God? Who put that desire there? A Welsh miner who escaped from an underground tragedy told me that he found very few atheists there below ground! Even ungodly men prayed. The same was true about World War II survivors from torpedoed ships found floating on life rafts in the seemingly endless sea.

Often, those asserting that there is no God blame Him for catastrophes or tragedies! Think again about 11 September 2001. Why blame a non-existent God?

Why, when something goes suddenly or unexpectedly wrong, do some who deny God’s existence immediately use His name as blasphemy?

Man is aware of God because he was created by God to know and answer to Him.



## Find God in **comparing** two lifestyles

Look at people around you. How many seriously consult God about how they should live and act? Mostly we live to please ourselves, don't we? But what are we *really* living for?

Money? Status? Sex? Happiness? Love? Popularity? Entertainment? Ambition? Possessions? Qualifications? Happy family? Success at work or in sport? Are not these life's main goals? Some of those goals may be worthy, of course. 'Success' in life is often seen as achieving those goals.

But how many of us really do succeed? And how long does our 'success' last? What happens to that 'success' when crisis, old age, bereavement, illness, marital unfaithfulness or a friend's betrayal, or hard times intervene? Does gaining an Oscar, winning the World Cup at rugby or soccer, or triumphing at the Rose Bowl in American football really make a long-term difference? Can these things help as life ebbs away?



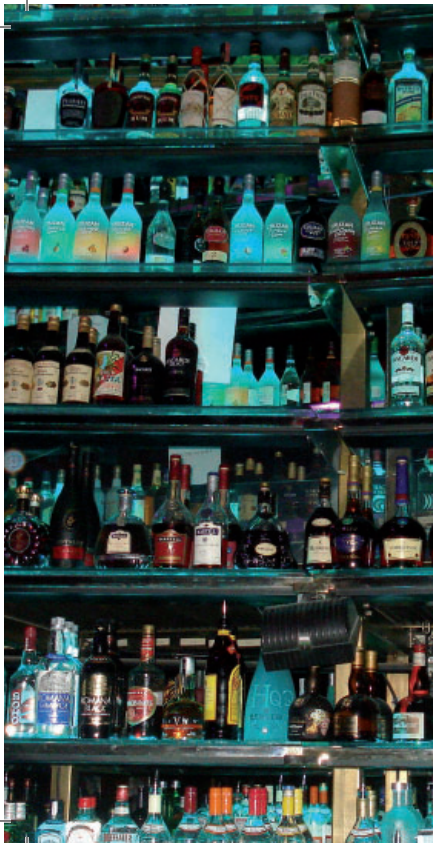
And what happens to my goals when death draws its icy curtain across my short and uncertain earthly life? Everything is lost then, unless—

Unless what? Unless my personal trust is in the Lord Jesus Christ. Not only will Jesus forgive my sins if I turn from them and trust in Him, but He will also give me eternal life. He promises me a home in heaven. Unlike this world, Christ offers me something everlasting and which gets better and better.



Living for Christ today can be hard for Christ's followers. But God promises His presence, peace, joy, strength, help and comfort. Compare that with the polluted pleasures of a passing and unsatisfying world. No wonder a note of triumph distinguishes the funeral services of committed Christians from other funerals. By contrast, philosopher Thomas Hobbes said that his death was '*A great leap in the dark*'.

As you compare life offered by Christ with what you see around, is there not a voice inside saying to you, '*There must be more to life than this?*'



## Find God in the **cry** of the heart

Is it any wonder,  
therefore, that young  
and old alike can  
find life empty?

It is not surprising  
that many cry  
out for meaning  
in life. Despite a  
mushroom growth in all  
forms of entertainment and  
leisure activities, boredom  
and frustration abound. Binge  
drinking, drug excesses and cheap  
sex have done nothing to satisfy the deep-down  
heartfelt needs of people of all ages today. Nor  
have more worthy pastimes and hobbies.



Someone once said that we have a *‘God-shaped void within’*. That is why the best the world offers cannot fill that emptiness—only God Himself can. Sixteen centuries ago Augustine prayed, *‘O God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in You.’*

Our 21st-century heart-cry is still the same today. All we seek to do and be to try to give ourselves meaning can never provide us with the peace and rest we seek. A diesel train is designed to run on no fuel other than diesel. It needs diesel to work properly. Similarly, God designed us to ‘run’ solely on knowing Him. We cannot function properly without Him.



Jesus said, *‘Come to Me ... and I will give you rest’* and *‘My peace I give to you.’* One song says that *‘None but Christ can satisfy’*—and it is right!

Listen to the cry of your own heart. Remember the Bible promise on page 3—that if you sincerely seek God you *will* find Him. He cannot break His promise.





## Find God in life's **crises**

Life's roller coaster certainly has its ups and downs. It is also unpredictable—who knows what a day, hour or minute may bring?

Naturally, we all fear bad news and what follows. We shrink from bereavement, chronic ill-health, loss of job, failure, depression or the unfaithfulness of a loved one.

Some reject God because they think it 'unfair' to suffer an 'undeserved' crisis. But they miss the point. As Bill Gates said, *'Life is not fair—get used to it.'* More important still, God can use 'unfair' situations as an amplifier or megaphone to make us listen to Him.



Such times expose our weakness, vulnerability and inadequacy. They invade our comfort zone. I ask myself, *‘Why is this happening to me?’* I sense a chilling fear of the future.

Yet crises are inevitable in life and often are insoluble—despite help sometimes from people who have suffered similarly.

But if you trust the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, God gives His support, comfort and strength in the worst of conditions and situations. One persecuted Christian, anticipating death, once wrote joyfully from prison, *‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me’* and *‘I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content.’*

Many Christians today face persecution, opposition or ridicule from a hostile world. Yet they can know Christ’s daily help and blessing through reading the Bible, praying and seeking fellowship with other Christians.

One song says that Jesus is *‘The Christ of every crisis’*.



## Find God through our guilty conscience

Where did our guilty conscience come from?

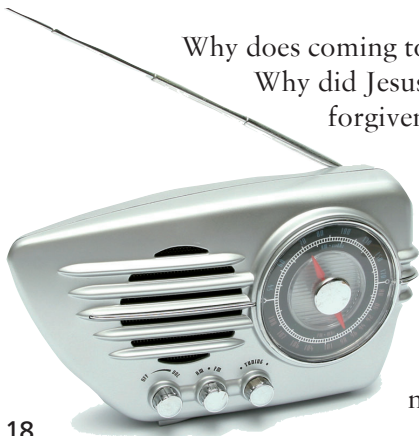
*'Men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil,'* says the Bible. Guilty sinners hate the searching light of God's holiness. Like insects suddenly exposed to sunlight, we shrink back from it under the dark and filthy stone of our own sinfulness. Our sins make us moral cowards.

Why does coming to Christ start by admitting failure and guilt?

Why did Jesus teach that inner conviction of our sin precedes forgiveness and escape from judgement?

God, who fashioned the radio receiver of our conscience, speaks to us through it by the Bible. His message is that we need His pardon and cleansing.

Conscience overcomes intellectual excuses for not believing in God. One friend of mine, who



was formerly an atheist and consistently rejected the Ten Commandments, felt compelled to turn to Christ because his conscience nagged and troubled him for having broken those commandments.

Look closely at this potted version of God's Ten Commandments. Don't you feel guilty too? If so, God is speaking to you through your conscience just as he did to my former atheist friend. He is telling you that you need His forgiveness and cleansing for your sin.



But a guilty conscience alone brings no forgiveness. You must confess your sins to God. You must turn from them and receive Jesus Christ into your life. Then, by God's grace and mercy, your conscience will give you peace.

## Find God in the Bible's unique **claims**

More than 40 very different authors, spread widely geographically, wrote the Bible over a period of 1600 years. God directed and blended their distinctive inputs into His inspired, infallible and complete revelation. A single theme and a lack of contradiction show it to be a miraculous work. Each of the 66 books (39 Old Testament and 27 New Testament) bears God's clear stamp of authority and authorship.

Applying the law of probability to just a few of the Bible's many fulfilled prophecies, the statistician Gallup said that he proved God mathematically. He calculated the odds against a small number of prophecies working out exactly as the Bible predicted. The calculated odds against even those few prophecies working out exactly form a figure with so many zeros in it that it is simply too staggering to take in.



The Bible's running unity also confirms its divine authorship. Throughout, it shows how sinful man can be accepted by God, through Jesus Christ alone.

Certain accurate facts, generally unknowable at the time when the Bible was written, reveal its divine authorship. Archaeological discoveries often underline its historical accuracy.

The Bible's deep insights into human nature indicate the mind of the Master psychologist, who knows exactly how we 'tick'.

God speaks to all honest, humble, seeking Bible readers. Why not read carefully part of John's Gospel each day?

Pray that God will speak to you.  
You will find God in His Word.



Advocate Almighty Alpha Amen Angel of the Lord Anointed Apostle Aut  
Blessed Branch Brazen serpent Bread of life Bridegroom Bright morning

## Child Find God in the Lord Jesus Christ

Everlasting Father Everlasting High Da

Guide The atheist Richard Dawkins wrote, *'If people think God is interesting,*

King *the onus is on them to show that there is anything there to talk about.*

Might *Otherwise they should just shut up about it.'* He would do well to consider

pitiat seriously the life and character of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Adam Jesus Christ is unique. Socrates taught for 40 years, Plato for 50, Aristotle

of Rig for 40 and Jesus for only 3. Yet whose influence pervades now? Jesus was no

Anoir artist, poet or musician. Yet He has inspired great paintings, literature, and

groor music. *Call as witnesses* Raphael, Michelangelo, da Vinci, Dante, Milton,

spring Donne, Haydn, Handel, Beethoven, Bach and Mendelssohn.

God Kings submitted to Him, drunkards sobered, self-seekers cared for others,

Priest politicians risked careers, slave traders became reformers, the privileged

Life L laboured for others, liars told the truth and mean men gave generously.

Son F Call as witnesses Alfred the Great, Billy Bray, Dr Barnardo, William

Refug Wilberforce, John Newton, Florence Nightingale and George Müller.

Son c

ful W

22 Father Beloved Bishop Blessed Branch Brazen serpent Bread of li

Cornerstone Chief Shepherd Child Christ Commander Consolation of Is



Author Babe Beginning of creation Begotten of the Father Beloved Bish  
ning star Captain of salvation Carpenter Chief Cornerstone Chief Shephe  
Day star  
; Firstfr

/ One of Jesus caused no newspaper headlines or chat shows, yet consider this list:  
world Li Myriads of books written about Him! Worldwide acclaim! Unrivalled  
'assover teaching! Healings! Raisings of the dead! Billions of followers! Feedings  
urrectio of thousands from scraps! Amazing miracles! Unprecedented humility!  
David S Sinlessness! Blamelessness! Righteousness! Love for sinners! Substantiated  
nderful claims to be God! Miracles when crucified! Miraculous, well-attested  
Father resurrection!

erstone Always God from eternity, Jesus became Man. His birth on earth to a  
f the sh virgin mother was natural, after His conception by the Holy Spirit was  
amarita miraculous. We will consider His death, resurrection and ascension in the  
Jehovah next few pages. Jesus is unique among the world's religious leaders!

ster Me Two of the names given to Christ on earth were '*Jesus*'—meaning '*God*  
Prince P *saves*'—and '*Immanuel*'—meaning '*God with us*'. We certainly find God in  
Saviour h Stone the Lord Jesus Christ.

of life Bridegroom Bright morning star Captain of salvation

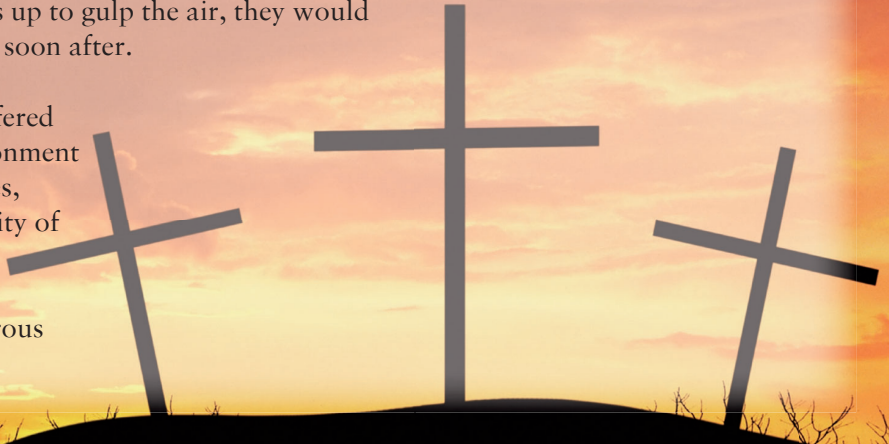
Israel Dayspring from on high Day star Deliverer Desire of nations Do

## Find God in Jesus Christ's death on the cross

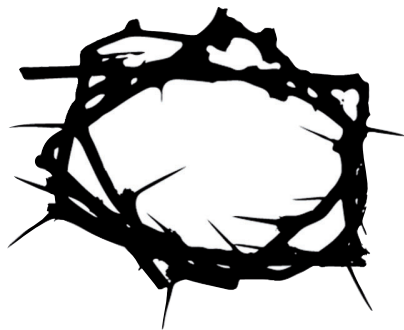
The violence in the Hollywood blockbuster *The Passion of the Christ* shocked many, as it concentrated on the cruel scourging and death of Jesus Christ. Many people died under such a scourging.

A survivor of such cruelty would die later of suffocation on the cross. He would not be able to breathe because of the weight of his failing, hanging body. The Roman guards broke the legs of the two criminals crucified with Jesus. Unable to lift themselves up to gulp the air, they would have perished soon after.

Jesus also suffered lonely abandonment by his disciples, and the hostility of the fickle and manipulated mob's murderous mood swing.



But Christ's cross was not really about His physical or mental anguish; Jesus sacrificed His righteous life in our place on the cross. He *'suffered ... the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God'*.



I am guilty of offending God and flouting His law.  
The eternal judgement I deserved was concentrated  
on Jesus when He died in my place, carrying my sins.

But Jesus rose again in triumph on the third day. By raising His Son from the dead, God the Father showed that He accepted the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for sinners. Later, Jesus ascended into heaven. He now lives forever. He will return to earth one day in great power and glory, for all to see.

His death for our sins and His resurrection mean that Jesus can now enter and change the lives of all who turn from their sins to Him for forgiveness. Through the Holy Spirit, He takes up residence in the hearts of those who trust Him.

He alone guarantees a home in heaven after death to all who will repent and come to Him in prayer.

## Find God in Christian **conversion**



A Chinese non-Christian once saw the change conversion brought to a previously dangerous, violent criminal hooked on opium. He said, *'I have never heard the gospel, but I have seen it and it is very good!'*

Genuine Christian conversion reflects outwardly the change in a person's heart. Cleansed from sin and renewed, that heart now begins to beat for God, despite battling temptation and sometimes failing. Jesus described that radical change as being *'born again'*. Anyone turning from sin to Jesus Christ is *'a new creation'*. The Bible adds, *'Old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.'* Billions have found it so! Have you seen it happen to someone you know?

Jesus once told a religious man that he could only 'see' or 'enter' the kingdom of God if he became 'born again'. That is still true. To be with Him in heaven, I must come to know Him now.

If you trust Christ you will know that you know God! And you will know Him better as you go on with Him and grow as a Christian.

## Find God when you **come to Christ**

Paul wrote in the Bible, '*I know whom I have believed.*' He knew God personally. Every sinner who comes to Christ also comes to know Him.

So how can *you* come to Christ?

Realize you need God's forgiveness, and that only Jesus Christ can save you. Thank God that Christ died on the cross to save you, a guilty sinner. Ask God to forgive you, turn you from your sins, accept you and take over as Lord in your life. Cast yourself completely on His mercy. Sincerely pray a prayer that is real to you. Remember, God looks at the heart. The prayer I prayed was something like this:

*'Lord, I really am sorry that I have sinned against You. I know I am guilty and deserve your punishment for my sins. But thank You that Jesus died on the cross in my place and took my punishment there. Thank you that He rose again and lives today. Please help me now to turn from my sins, and please forgive me, cleanse me from my sins, and come and save me. Take control of my life as my Lord.'*

God heard and answered my prayer—and He will also hear and answer yours.

## Find God in **confessing Christ** to others

When you find God through faith in Jesus Christ, you begin to change. There is a long way to go, but lying starts to give way to truth, hate to love, and selfishness to caring for others. This conversion change is communicated gradually through a new God-given life in which God's Holy Spirit, His Word (the Bible), prayer and church play an increasingly important part. We begin to 'walk in the light' with Christ.

But it is not only our actions that are important. We must aim to speak in a way that pleases God. Naturally that means asking God to give us clean, truthful, helpful and kind speech in our everyday lives. But it means even more than that.

Romans chapter 10 verses 9 and 10 says: *'If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him [Jesus] from the*





*dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.'*

You '*believe in your heart*' by receiving Christ. As you '*confess with your mouth*' by telling others that you are trusting Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, your personal assurance of knowing Christ will grow. Talking about Jesus should become a daily and godly habit—pray for wisdom to speak for Christ boldly but sensitively. It is often difficult and we need God's help.

Remember the atheist's challenge: '*If people think God is interesting, the onus is on them to show that there is anything there to talk about. Otherwise they should just shut up about it.*'



## Find God by consulting the Bible

This booklet reflects the teaching of the Bible, God's word. The Bible verses quoted below follow the order of the headings in this booklet. (As a guide, Job 23:3 is the book of Job chapter 23, verse 3.)

Pages 2,3 **How can I find God today?**

Job 23:3; Proverbs 14:34;  
Matthew 7:7-8

Pages 4,5 **Confusion of multi-faith maze**

John 18:38; John 8:36; Mark 1:1;  
John 8:12; Luke 19:10; Hebrews 4:15;  
1 Timothy 1:15; John 10:28; John 14:6

Pages 6,7 **Creation**

Psalm 19:1-4; Psalm 50:6; Psalm 19:1

Pages 8,9 **Chaos of world**

Romans 8:22; Isaiah 53:6;

Matthew 15:19; Luke 10:27;  
2 Corinthians 5:20

Pages 10,11 **Consciousness of God**

Acts 17:26; Psalm 144:3-4;  
Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:27

Pages 12,13 **Comparing two lifestyles**

Proverbs 14:12; Romans 6:23;  
Matthew 7:13-14; 1 John 2:25

Pages 14,15 **Cry of the heart**

Ecclesiastes 1:14; 5:10; Matthew 11:28;  
John 14:27; Matthew 7:7-8

Pages 16,17 **Crises of life**

Proverbs 27:1; Psalm 119:67; Job 5:7;  
Philippians 4:13, 11; Romans 8:37

Pages 18,19 **Conscience**

John 3:19; Luke 18:13-14;  
John 16:8-10; Exodus 20:1-17;  
1 John 1:8-9

Pages 20,21 **Claims of the Bible**

2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21;

1 John 1:7-10; Jeremiah 17:9

Pages 22,23 **Christ**

Hebrews 12:3; John 1:14; Hebrews 1;

John 1; Matthew 1:21,23

Pages 24,25 **Cross**

John 19:32-33; 1 Peter 3:18;

Romans 3:23; Hebrews 9:27-28;

Romans 8:34; Acts 1:9; John 1:12;

Ephesians 3:16-17; John 14:1-6

Page 26 **Conversion**

Acts 3:26; John 3:3-7;

2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 1:8-2:1;

Philippians 2:13; Hebrews 10:24-25;

Acts 20:7; 1 John 4:13

Page 27 **Come to Christ**

2 Timothy 1:12; Acts 4:12; 1 Peter 2:24;

3:18; Isaiah 55:7; Luke 18:13;

1 Samuel 16:7; Matthew 7:7-8

Pages 28,29 **Confessing Christ**

John 3:3; 1 Corinthians 3:1; John 1:12;

Galatians 4:6; 1 John 1:7;

Colossians 4:6; Romans 10:9-10

Pages 30,31 **Consulting the Bible**

John 5:39-40; 2 Timothy 2:15



This booklet is the expanded version of the previously published 16-page booklet *'How can I find God?'*

**Other booklets available:**

How can God allow suffering?

How can I face terminal illness with peace?

How can God accept me?

How can I become a real Christian?

Scripture quotations are from The New King James Version.

British Library  
Cataloguing in  
Publication Data  
available.

ISBN 978-1-84625-140-5

**If you require further  
copies of this booklet  
please contact us for  
details**

ISBN 978-1-84625-140-5




9 781846 251405

**DayOne**



**Day One  
Publications**

Ryelands Road  
Leominster HR6 8NZ  
sales@dayone.co.uk  
www.dayone.co.uk

 01568 613 740  
FAX 01568 611 473



**Day One  
Christian  
Ministries Inc**

427 Wade Hampton Blvd  
Greenville SC 29609  
USA  
usasales@dayone.co.uk

 tollfree 888-329-6630

No part of this publication may be reproduced, or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of Day One Publications.

© Day One 2008  
All rights reserved