

Let's begin our journey from the right place.

We need to understand what a Christian isn't before we can understand what a real Christian is.

What is a Christian?

"I was brought up in a Christian home"

That doesn't make you a Christian.

"I believe in doing good and helping other people."

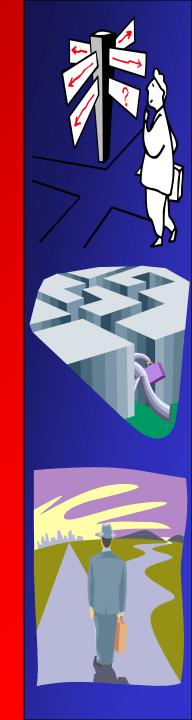
Good, but that doesn't make you a Christian.



"I believe in the God of the Bible."

Many people do, but that doesn't make you a Christian either.

Let's begin at the beginning



In the beginning

Everything was 'very good' - it wasn't like it is today. Something tragic has happened.

Man had a free choice - he wasn't like a robot programmed only to obey. He was created to be loved by God and to love God.

The tragedy is summed up in the words: 'all have sinned.' (Romans 3.23) We have all inherited the rebellion of our first parents.



What sin is

Sin is crossing a line

God says, "Don't," but we do. God says, "Do," but we don't.

Sin is missing the mark

If the pass mark is 50, it really doesn't matter whether you only get 49 or 9, the result is the same.

50

49



Am I a sinner?

I sin when I do what I want, not what is right.

The Bible says, "We have all turned to our own way." (Isaiah 53.6)

I sin when I do not love God with all my heart.

The Bible says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. (Matthew 22.37-38)

My way it's mine I can do first my it's my life I⁹m DOSS all mine up to me I Want me first I'll do it my way for me

What sin does

Sin spoils

Like an ugly blot on a clean page.

It spoils what we are, everything we do and those we influence.

Sin spreads

Like weeds in a garden. Like untreated wounds. Like terrible diseases.

Sin separates

Like a cloud blotting out the sun. God seems far away now, and we will be separated from him forever.



Why Christ came

To fulfil God's promises

God said a Saviour would come. The Old Testament promises and prophecies point to one Divine Saviour who had to come.

To display God's love

God said He loved us, now He has proved how much.

To live the life we should have lived

God cannot accept us as we are. Someone must live a righteous life for us.

To die the death we deserve to die

'My God, my God, why have your forsaken me?' The only answer is that He was suffering the punishment for our sins.

Where do I start? Something to admit

Do you see yourself as God sees you?

Something to believe

Will you trust your own goodness, or place yourself in the care of Jesus Christ as the Saviour?

Something to consider

Do you understand that you are setting out to follow Christ as your Lord as well as your Saviour?

Something to do

We are called to come to Christ, believe in Christ, receive Christ, turn to Christ...



Where do I go from here?

Believing in Jesus Christ is the beginning of a new life. The next step is given in the Bible. Look at Acts chapter 2 verses 41 and 42

"Then those who received the word were baptised, and they were added to the church ... and they devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching, and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers."

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.



Father, I have sinned against you...

Now you understand why Jesus died, will you choose to change direction and trust and follow Him?

For further help in discussing these things, or to find a local church near you contact: thechristiananswer@gmail. com