

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

JUST FOR YOU!

The fact that you're reading this page either means you desire to know more about how you can have a personal relationship with God, or you turned here by accident (or even curiosity). Either way, I'm glad you did. Whatever your reason, this message is especially for you!

Before you can enter into a right relationship with God, there are a few things you first need to know about yourself and about Him. These are straight from God's Word—in *both* the Old and New Testament:

1. You cannot possibly live a good enough life to earn your way into heaven. In fact, in Ecclesiastes 7:20 and Romans 3:23 we learn we are all sinners and fall miserably short of meeting God's requirements of perfect holiness.
2. Because God is holy and just, He cannot accept us in our sinful condition. Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 6:23 tell us the result of sin is death and separation from God. Just like death separates us from our loved ones, spiritual death separates us from the presence of God. It keeps us from being able to have a right relationship with Him. As you can see, this creates a huge problem.
3. The good news is that God did something about this problem. Because of His great love and mercy (see John 3:16 in the New Testament), He provided a way for us to have a relationship with Him and offers this eternal life to us as a gift (Romans 6:23). Because sin had to be punished, God sacrificed His own Son to pay the penalty of our sins in our place (Isaiah 53:3; 1 John 5:11–13). It is a gift we can not earn and did not deserve (Ephesians 2:8–9).

4. Just knowing about this gift is not enough. We must receive this gift (Psalm 130; John 1:12). Just like a gift is not ours until we accept it, we must choose to accept God's gift of eternal life in Jesus.

In John 14:6 we learn that there is only *one* way to have our sins forgiven so we can enter into a relationship with God and live with Him in heaven. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to God except through Him. What God pointed to in the Old Testament through the sacrificial system, He brought to fulfillment in the New Testament through Jesus. We receive God's gift of eternal life by placing our faith and trust in what He has provided. When we do this, we become children of God and enter into a relationship with God forever.

ARE YOU READY TO DO THIS?

Simply pray to God and tell Him what you desire. This requires no special formula or words. God offers you the gift of salvation and is waiting for you to accept it.

Tell God you are sorry for your sins and for not living up to His standard of perfect holiness. Ask Him to forgive you for your wrong actions, attitudes, and thoughts (selfishness, anger, pride, jealousy, etc.) Claim Jesus' sacrifice for you as your means of forgiveness. Ask God to forgive you and tell Him you want to enter into a relationship with Him and become His forever. (Psalm 51:1–4, 7, 10 offers a great model prayer.)

Thank Him for what He has done and promises to do. In 1 John 1:9 we are told that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from unrighteousness. Psalm 32:1–2 states: "Blessed is the person whose sins are forgiven and whose unrighteousness is no longer counted against him!"

If you have done this, you've now begun your new life with God. He accepts you as blameless and holy—your guilt is gone! Just like a newborn baby needs to grow, you need to grow too. You do this by reading your Bible, praying, and seeking to live the kind of life that pleases God. God is there for you. He will help you grow in your relationship with Him.

Congratulations! You've just begun an exciting journey!