

Prescriptions for the Heart

God's Plan for You

The decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior is the most important decision you can make because it will change your life forever. God will accept you as you are. All you need to do is accept His son Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and He will prepare a place for you in heaven.

The following scriptures explain how and why you should accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. If you have more questions about God's plan for you, ask your doctor to refer you to a local pastor in your community. Your doctor not only cares about your physical health but your spiritual health too.

This information is provided as a free service of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations and your doctor.

Why Jesus?

The Bible teaches "for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God."¹ Because of this sin we are separated from God. God, who is all good, cannot be in the presence of sin or sinful people, so He prepared a plan that would allow us to have our sins forgiven.

God's plan is explained more fully in the book of Romans, which says, "the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."² The price for our sin is eternal separation from God. Yet, God loves us so much that He sent His son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place. The Bible also explains why God did this for us: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."³

But the death of God's son, Jesus Christ, was only part of His plan. The fact that Jesus arose from the dead provides the proof that Jesus is the living Son of God who is able to forgive our sins. All that is required of us to receive this forgiveness is to acknowledge our sins and accept Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior.

We cannot save ourselves with just by being a good person. It is not anything that we do but the grace of God that saves us. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."⁴ We receive that grace when we, through faith, accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

The Bible tells us that Jesus wants us to trust Him and invite Him into our hearts, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in."⁵ Jesus wants you to invite Him into your heart today.

¹ The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984. (Romans 6:23). Zondervan: Grand Rapids

² The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984 (Romans 15:5). Zondervan: Grand Rapids

³ The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984 (John 3:17). Zondervan: Grand Rapids

⁴ The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984 (Ephesians 2:8). Zondervan: Grand Rapids

⁵ The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984 (Revelation 3:20). Zondervan: Grand Rapids

What must I do to receive this gift of eternal life?

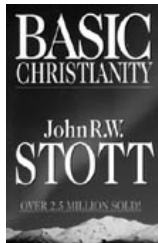
Do you question if you are worthy? God's word teaches that all are worthy to receive God's grace and forgiveness. "For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile - the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."⁶

What must one do to receive this gift? Simply, choose to believe that Jesus is Lord and ask to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. "That 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."⁷

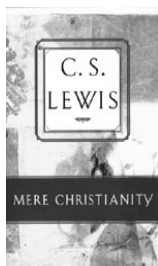
If you want to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior today here is a simple prayer that can help guide you. "I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of the living God, and I accept Him as my personal Lord and Savior." If you have just prayed this prayer and believe in your heart that Jesus has the power to forgive sin, your sins are forgiven. Share this good news with your doctor so that he/she can share your joy and help you to find a church home where you can grow in your faith and enjoy the fellowship of other Christian believers.

Resources that can provide additional insight on God's plan for you.

The following resources have been reviewed by the Christian Medical Association and have been found to contain sound Biblical advice that can assist someone who has questions about God's plan for their life. These books can be found at your local Christian bookstore or you can order them directly from the Christian Medical Association at **888-231-2637**.



Basic Christianity: by John Stott. Who on earth is Jesus Christ? "If He is not who He said He was, and if He did not do what He said He had come to do, the whole superstructure of Christianity crumbles in ruins to the ground," says author John Stott. Examine the historical facts on which Christianity stands and discover what Jesus Christ can mean to you. Paperback, 142 pages.



Mere Christianity: by C. S. Lewis. This one volume edition, which is a revision and expansion of three highly popular works by Mr. Lewis, explains that the purpose is not to convert to any single denomination, but to prove that in the center of each "there is something, or a Someone, who against all divergencies of belief, all differences of temperament, all memories of mutual persecution, speaks with the same voice. Paperback, 175 pages.



⁶ The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984 (Romans 10:13). Zondervan: Grand Rapids

⁷ The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1984 (Romans 10:9). Zondervan: Grand Rapids