

Christian Life & Truth

Living a Christian life means that you are enabled to live in communion with God. By faith in Jesus you can find fellowship with the Heavenly Father. Jesus says: **"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."** (John 14:6). God wants **"wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."** (1 Timothy 2:4).

God showed His love through Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. The only Son of God died on behalf of us. That is, Jesus took upon Himself the punishment of our sin by dying for us, so that we may be redeemed and have eternal life. Jesus Christ's salvation is available for everyone who accepts Him as Lord and Saviour: **"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."** (John 3:16)

Our sin separates us from God. We cannot make it up with God by our own strength, for all of us are sinners. That's why God gave the perfect sacrifice for our sins through Jesus Christ and His precious blood: **"This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished - he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus."** (Romans 3:22-26)

As God has sacrificed His only Son also on behalf of you, He calls upon you to withdraw from your sins and to commit your life to Jesus. God wants to live in communion with you, and He has a perfect plan for your life. Only by faith in Christ and through fellowship with God you can become the person He wishes you to be.

Jesus says: **"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him."** (Revelation 3:20) Jesus promises to enter your life, if you open the door of your heart to Him. If you want to hand your life over to Christ at this very moment, you may say the following prayer:

"I need You, Jesus. I confess that I have sinned against you. Thank You for dying on the Cross and taking upon Yourself the penalty on my behalf. I open the door of my heart and receive You as my Saviour and Lord right now. Thank You for hearing my prayer and taking me to be Yours. Thank You that I now belong to You and You to me. Teach me to live like that. Amen."

If you said this prayer with all your heart, you can be sure that Christ has entered your life and that all your sins are forgiven. You have also become God's child, just as He promised to everyone who accept Jesus by faith: **"As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name."** (John 1:12)

In case you are interested in matters of the Christian faith and want to learn more, feel free to read God's Word, the Bible, starting with the Gospel of John. In addition, you are most welcome to join a Christian congregation that you wish to go to, and find out what it means to live a Christian life in the love and truth of Jesus. Through the English-language network of Oulu's Christian ministries (<http://nfac.wordpress.com>) you'll find more information about congregations that serve, especially, in English or other languages.

(Prepared for the Truth event in Oulu, 2008 and 2009. Based on Campus Crusade for Christ International's material "The Four Spiritual Laws", and the Finnish tract used at the Truth Event. Compiled by Bastian Fährnich) <http://www.yksitotuus.fi/english> .