

..WHY BELIEVE IN JESUS ?..

1. Because of WHO HE IS.

The clearest picture we get of God is from looking at Jesus, his Son. Like God, Jesus is a loving, just person who is able to heal and save.

A child is born to us!
A Son is given to us!
And he will be our ruler.
He will be called, Wonderful Counsellor,
Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of
Peace.

Isaiah 9:6.



JESUS CHRIST IS GOD'S SON

The angel said to her, Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God . . . Mary said to the angel, I am a virgin. How, then, can this be? The angel answered, The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God. *Luke 1:30-35.*

Jesus committed no sin, and no one ever heard a lie come from his lips. *1 Peter 2:22.*

Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God. *Colossians 1:15.*

Jesus said: Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. *John 14:9.*

2. Because YOU HAVE NEEDS.



Problems

You may be bored or lonely or have no money or be ill. God and Jesus, on request, will take an interest in your problems and help you get a solution.

Jesus said: I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father's glory will be shown through the Son . . . ask and you will receive, so that your happiness may be complete. *John 14:13 and 16:24* also see *Timothy 2:1-4.*

Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7.*

Then you will know that I am the Lord; no one who waits for my help will be disappointed. *Isaiah 49:23.*

3. Because YOU ARE A SINNER.

God is just and must punish sin. The punishment is separation from God forever — the loss of everything worthwhile after we die. So great was God's love for us that Jesus, his Son, who always wanted to please his Father, came to save us from the punishment our sins deserve.

JESUS DID THIS BY TAKING THE PUNISHMENT HIMSELF. That is why he cried from the cross, My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? He was cut off from his Father by our sins, suffering instead of us. Just before he died, Jesus said in a loud voice, It is finished, into your hands I commit my spirit, as he was reunited with God. It was a cry of victory: I've done it! The punishment for man's sin is paid! The way to God is open.



Because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by the punishment he suffered, made whole by the blows he received. All of us were like sheep that were lost, each of us going his own way. But the Lord made the punishment fall on him, the punishment all of us deserved. *Isaiah 53:5-6*.
For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. *John 3:16*.

TWO DAYS LATER GOD RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD. HIS RESURRECTION PROVES FOUR THINGS TO US:-

Jesus is really God's Son.

His death is sufficient in God's eyes to pay for everyone's sins.

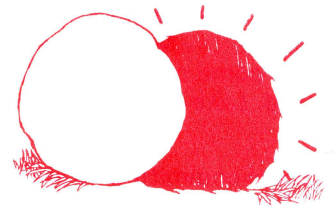
Jesus is alive now to help us to stop being selfish and to get straight with God and with other people. He will fill us with his love, joy and power.

We can conquer death if we turn to Jesus because God will someday raise us up in a resurrection body like his body and we will be with him forever.

Jesus was shown with great power to be the Son of God by being raised from death. *Romans 1:4*.

Christ himself carried our sins in his body to the cross, so that we might die to sin (selfishness) and live for righteousness (love for God and for other people).
1 Peter 2:24.

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. *John 11:25-26*.



What DO I DO?

God wants us to stop doing wrong things and only do good things. He also wants us to trust Jesus for forgiveness and help when needed.

I preached . . . that they should turn from their sins to God and believe in our Lord Jesus. *Acts 22: 21-22*.

What God commands is that we believe in his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as Christ commanded us. *1 John 3:23*.

We may find it hard giving up some wrong things or we may be laughed at. But it is worth it.

Jesus said: If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget self (give up selfishness), carry his cross, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his own life will lose it; but whoever loses (spends) his life for my sake will find it. *Matthew 16: 24-25*.

Do you want to turn to him? Then you could pray like this. It is not the actual words but your attitude to Jesus that counts.

Lord Jesus, I AM SORRY FOR MY SINS AND WANT TO TURN FROM EVERYTHING I KNOW IS WRONG. I accept that you died to pay for my sins. I TRUST YOU TO COME INTO MY LIFE AS SAVIOUR to take away my sins and make me right with God and WILL TRY TO OBEY YOU AS LORD to control and direct my life and help me to be the kind of person you want me to be. Thank you for your love and forgiveness.

What next? Read the Bible a little bit at a time to help you trust and obey Jesus more.