

How to Have a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ

If you do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, the following outline will show how you can have that type of relationship and the benefits from it as the centerpiece of your marriage.

1) **Our sin has separated us from God.**

God loves you and has a special plan for your life and marriage. But there is a problem in all of our lives called sin.

We all have sinned and are therefore separated from a holy and righteous God. Therefore we cannot know and experience God's love and plan for our life (including His plans for your marriage) through our own efforts.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)

“It’s your sins that have cut you off from God...” (Isaiah 59:2a - NLT)

“For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumbles at just one point, is guilty of breaking all of it.” (James 2:10)

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

Jesus Christ is God's only provision for our sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.

2) **Jesus Died in Your Place.**

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:6)

“God made him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

3) **Jesus is The Only Way (A Bridge) To God.**

*“Jesus answered, ‘I am **the** way and **the** truth and **the** life; **no one** comes to the Father except through me.’”* (John 14:6)

4) **Even Our “Good Works” Won’t Save Us.**

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourself, it is the gift of God, **not by works** so that no one can boast.”* (Ephesians 2:8-9)

5) We must confess our sins to God, turn away (repent) from them, and individually receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.

Then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12)

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.” (Revelation 3:20)

6) The Bible promises eternal life to all who personally receive Christ as Savior and commit to living your life under his Lordship.

You can then start a new life (being “born again” spiritually) and *know* that you are going to Heaven.

*“God has given us eternal life, and this life is in the Son. He who has the Son has life; and he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may **know** that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:11-13)*

Encourage your mentees to make this decision to follow Christ today.

“I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Corinthians 6:2b)

7) If you would like to receive Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, pray the following prayer (or something similar) with the person desiring to follow Jesus:

Dear God,

I realize that I have sinned against You and that I can’t save myself by my own works. I acknowledge that Jesus Christ died on the cross to take the judgment that I deserve and then rose from the dead in fulfillment of the scriptures. I want Jesus to be my Savior.

I now turn from my sin, invite Him into my life to take control of it, and to be my Lord and Savior. Help me to live for You each day, as I put my trust in Jesus now.

Amen