
HOW TO EXPLAIN MEETING GOD

This letter was written in response to a student's question: "How do I start a relationship with God?"

It's good to hear from you. First of all, it's great that you are interested in learning about God and how to start a relationship with Him! The quickest and easiest answer is, "Ask for it!"

The Bible tells us that God loves everybody, and wants "everyone to be saved and to understand the truth." (*If you want to read this for yourself, look it up in 1 Timothy 2:4*) So, it's really awesome that you want to understand it. And there are only 2 things that you need to understand:

#1 -- People don't automatically have a relationship with God. You probably know this already since you asked how to start one. That's really good! The Bible says that "all people have sinned; and all fall short of God's glorious standard." (*Romans 3:23*) This just means is that nobody is perfect. God is perfect, but we aren't. So we are separated from God, and we deserve to pay a penalty for our sin. That means we have a problem.

#2 – Luckily for us, God found a way to solve the problem. Jesus Christ was God's answer. Jesus lived a perfect life, so he never needed to be punished. Jesus chose to take our place and take our punishment for us. When Jesus takes our punishment, he also takes away all the bad things we've ever done. Then God knows that it has been paid for. The Bible says that "we are made right in God's sight when we trust Jesus to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done."(*Romans 3:22*) This doesn't mean that now we're perfect, but it does mean that if we mess up, that it's okay because Jesus has already paid for it.

Isn't that cool!? All we need to do is to trust Jesus to take away our sins! Doing this is what the Bible calls "having faith." If you want to do this, **all you need to do is to ask God for it.** (*Romans 10:9-11*) You can pray to him and say:

"God, I know that I am not a perfect person, and I know that I should be punished. But God, I also believe that Jesus will take that punishment for me. I want to ask Jesus to do that, because I want to have a friendship with you God."

When we do this, the Bible says that our life totally changes. We might not see it right away, but it is different because of our new friendship with God. It's like Jesus was waiting outside the house, and when we pray to God we open up the door, and he comes inside and then we can hang out together and be friends. (*Revelation 3:20*) And the Bible tells us that he gives us the Holy Spirit to stay with us forever; he actually comes to live inside us! He comes and helps us understand God better, and he helps us remember what God says in the Bible. (*John 14:16, 26*)

If you decide to pray to God and ask to start a relationship with him, I would love to hear about it! And if you have any more questions... I'll always try my best to answer them for you.

Sincerely,

The Oasis Staff

