# How do I become a Christian?

Christians are followers of Jesus Christ. The Apostles’ formula was simply stated in Acts 2 in Peter’s address to a large assembly of Jews. Peter made it clear to them that they had crucified the Messiah and they were greatly distressed. The Jews asked Peter what they should do. Peter replied:

Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38)

We must recognize that we are sinners and repent of our sins just as the Jews did that day.

In the first chapter of Mark, Jesus tells all who will listen to repent and believe. The word repent in this passage comes from the Greek *metanoéō* which means to change the mind, to relent, to turn from. Theologically, it involves regret or sorrow, accompanied by a true change of heart toward God. Billy Graham once said that true repentance is being sorry enough to stop sinning. It is never too late to call out to God and to repent and believe. Now is the appointed time to seek God.

In seeking baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, we are publicly affirming that we believe in Him, trust in Him, and desire to receive Him. We must do this in true sincerity, for God knows every person’s heart. If we do all of this to please others or to put on a show, God will know.

If you are not ready to take these steps, I encourage you to call out to God and ask Him to reveal the truth to you and to help you believe. Turn to His Scriptures, praying to God as you read. The Gospel of John is an excellent place to start.

The Christian life is just that, it is not a Christian moment. It is meant to be lived in fellowship with other Christians until your days on this earth are completed. Seek out mature Christians who can help you on your journey. Good churches publicly and regularly uphold the Bible as the inspired, inerrant Word of God. If you do not hear these words in the church you are attending, you need to find another church. It may be a storefront or it may be a large stone building. That doesn’t matter. What matters is that the people in that church seek to live their lives according to what the Bible teaches and are desirous of worshipping, praising, and serving God with their entire being.