

Discipleship Training Manual: Lesson 1
What Just Happened to Me? – Part 1

I, Pastor Bronc Flint, first want to welcome you into the family of God! You now have a Heavenly Father, as well as brothers and sisters in the faith all around the world. You are so loved and rejoiced over, and we are happy that you are here!

Christianity is not a club, it is a family. You can join a club if you pay a membership fee, but you have to be born into a family to be a part of it. You have done just that! Whether you are completely new to this family or you are coming back from a journey away from God, you have made a wonderful commitment to Jesus Christ.

No matter your age at this present time, you are starting out as a “baby” in Christ and beginning this journey at your very birth. Just like a newborn baby needs certain nutrients to be able to learn and grow, we hope that these lessons will give you the spiritual nutrients and instruction you need to learn and grow in Christ.



What is the difference between believing in Christ and being a true Christian believer?

- Believing in the existence of God or Jesus Christ is the mental acknowledgment of a piece of information, but it requires no commitment or change on your part.
- Being a true Christian believer means that you not only believe that God exists, but you believe that His Son, Jesus Christ, died for your sins, you have accepted Him into your heart as your Lord and Savior, and you have made a commitment to follow Him for the rest of your life.

Why do we need Jesus Christ?

- The heart of the gospel is this:

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

1. We need Jesus Christ so that we will not perish or spend eternity away from God.
2. We need Jesus Christ so that we will have everlasting life.

Amplified Version

John 3:16 For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life.

John 3:17 For God did not send the Son into the world in order to judge (to reject, to condemn, to pass sentence on) the world, but that the world might find salvation and be made safe and sound through Him.

Sin and its effect on mankind:

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

Amplified Version

Romans 5:12 Therefore, as sin came into the world through one man, and death as the result of sin, so death spread to all men, [no one being able to stop it or to escape its power] because all men sinned.

- The Death Equation:
One Man (Adam) + One Sin = Spiritual Death for the Human Race Forever
- God told Adam, the first man ever created, not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- Adam decided to go against God and commit the first sin by eating the fruit.
- As a result of Adam's sin, Adam died spiritually, and spiritual death was passed down to all humankind.

The proof of spiritual death:

- The proof of spiritual death is that everyone has sinned.
- What is sin?
 - Disobeying God's commandments
 - The transgression of God's laws

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The gift of Jesus Christ:

- The wages of sin is death forever, but the gift of God is an escape through Jesus Christ if you put your trust in Him.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- What is believing in Him?
 - Making a true, life commitment to Jesus Christ
 - Believing the Gospel story

What is the Gospel story?

1. Jesus is the Son of God – The Christ (“the anointed/chosen one”)
2. Jesus was born of a virgin
3. Jesus lived a sinless life
4. Jesus became God’s sacrifice for every person’s sins
5. Jesus literally became sin, and all our sins personally
6. Jesus shed His blood and died on the cross
7. Jesus went to Hell and took what we deserved. He suffered God’s penalty for the wages of sin.
8. Jesus rose from the dead after 3 days
9. Jesus ascended back to Heaven to live with His Father
10. Jesus’ sacrifice set us free from the wages of sin and spiritual death. If we believe the Gospel story in our hearts, confess that belief with our mouths, and commit to a life of serving Him through repentance of all our sins, then we will be saved and born again.

What is repentance?

- Repentance means asking for God’s forgiveness for our sins, and then making a deliberate choice to stop sinning by God’s grace.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

What to do:

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Romans 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- Salvation Prayer:

“Dear Lord Jesus, I ask you to come into my heart and into my life. I ask You to forgive me of all my sins. I ask You to cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Cleanse me from all my sins and wash me in Your shed blood. I confess You as my Savior. I believe that God raised You from the dead. I promise to serve and follow You the rest of my life. I confess You as my Savior. I confess that I am a Christian.”

Recommendations:

- Pray
 - Talk to God

- Read the Bible
 - Hard copy, electronic copy, or smart phone copy from your phone's app store
 - King James Version (KJV) or New King James Version (NKJV)

- Go to church
 - In person
 - Online