

Coming to God



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Introduction

No human being can come to God except through the Cross of Christ. The Christian faith is based on the fact that God's Son Jesus came from heaven to earth to die on the Cross to pay for mankind's sins that separated them from God who is perfect and holy.

Jesus' death on the cross, his resurrection from the dead, and his ascension back to heaven proved that he was not merely a human religious leader, but God himself, as he claimed to be.

Scripture Versions Used

New Living Translation (NLT)

The Amplified Bible (TAB)

New International Version (NIV)

New King James (NKJ)

The Message (TM)

Come to God Who Loves You

Humans are God's created children and the focus of His eternal love. When our sins separated us from God, He sacrificed His only begotten Son Jesus to pay for our sins. Jesus shed his blood on the cross to wash away our sins, so we can come to God.

Ephesians 1:4 (TM)

Long before God laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love.

John 3:16 (NLT)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:8 (NLT)

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Romans 3: 25b (NLT)

We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us.

John 14:6 (NKJ)

Jesus said: I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Come to God with Childlike Faith

Come to God with childlike faith in your heart -- simply believe that God exists and humbly ask Him to forgive your sins.

Those who will not believe in God until they can comprehend Him with their brain, and those who refuse to admit that they have sinned -- will never come to know God.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Matthew 18:3 (NLT)

Jesus said: I assure you, unless you turn from your sins and become as little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven.

I John 1:8,10 (NLT)

If we say that we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

I John 1:9 (NLT)

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.

Come to God First

In the morning, before you open your eyes and ears to the busy demands of your day, turn your thoughts gently inward to your heart. Be still and sense God's sweet presence. Let Him open your spiritual understanding, and discern what He is speaking to you.

Isaiah 50:4b (NLT)

Morning by morning he wakens me and opens my understanding to his will.

Psalm 27:8 (NLT)

My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me." And my heart responds, "LORD, I am coming."

Psalm 37:7 (NLT)

Be still in the presence of the LORD and wait patiently for him to act.

Psalm 5:3 (TAB)

In the morning you hear my voice, O Lord; in the morning I prepare a prayer, a sacrifice for You, and watch and wait for You to speak to my heart.

Psalm 27:4 (NLT)

The one thing I ask of the LORD--the thing I seek most--is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, delighting in the LORD's perfections and meditating in his Temple.

Come to God Who Understands

No one can understand us like Jesus does. He came to earth in human flesh to relate to our sufferings and temptations. The sinless Son of God took our sins and guilt upon himself and died a cruel death in our place. He understands our weaknesses and helps us when we come to him with our needs.

Hebrews 5: 8, 9a (NLT)

Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest.

Isaiah 53:3a, 5 (TM)

He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand. It was our sins that did that to him, that ripped and tore and crushed him! He took the punishment, and that made us whole. Through his bruises we get healed.

Hebrews 4:15 (NLT)

This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin.

Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)

So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it.

Come to God Thankfully

Our thanksgiving glorifies and blesses God, because it expresses our trust in His unfailing love. Our complaining insults Him, because it reveals our distrust and ungratefulness.

Psalm 50:23a (TAB)

He who brings an offering of praise and thanksgiving honors and glorifies Me.

Psalm 13:5, 6 (NIV)

I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, for he has been good to me.

Psalm 100:4 (NLT)

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name.

I Thessalonians 5:16,18 (NLT)

Always be joyful. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

Psalm 118:24 (NLT)

This is the day the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 95:2, 3 (NIV)

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

Come to God in Loving Surrender

Jesus laid down his life to free us from the death-grip of our sins and to save us from eternal death in hell. Our highest privilege as human beings is to give him our lives in loving surrender to do his will on earth, until he takes us home to heaven.

Psalm 25:1, 2a (TAB)

Unto You, O Lord, do I bring my life. O my God, I trust, lean on, rely on and am confident in You.

Romans 12:1b (NLT)

Give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask?

Matthew 22:37, 38 (NIV)

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.

Galatians 2:20b (NLT)

I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Philippians 1:21 (NKJ)

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Come to God for Divine Strength

Come to God when you are weary, and receive His strength in exchange for your weakness. Receive God's strength by faith and be empowered by His Spirit within.

Matthew 11:28 (NIV)

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Isaiah 40:29 (TAB)

God gives power to the faint and weary, and to him who has no might He increases strength--causing it to multiply and making it abound.

II Corinthians 12:9b (NKJ)

My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.

Psalms 28:7 (NIV)

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.

Philippians 4:13 (TAB)

I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me--I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me.

Ephesians 3:16 (NLT)

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit.

Come to God and Ask

When we ask God for things according to His will, we can confidently expect Him to give them to us. We often go without things, simply because we fail to ask God for them or we don't believe that He heard our request.

1 John 5:14,15 (NIV)

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.

James 4:2b, 3a (TAB)

You do not have because you do not ask. Or you do ask God for them and yet fail to receive, because you ask with wrong purpose and evil, selfish motives.

Philippians 4:6 (TAB)

Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything by prayer and petition (definite requests) with thanksgiving continue to make your wants known to God.

Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)

Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope.

Come to God for Healing

Jesus was whipped before he was hung on the cross, so we could be healed. When we become sick, we need to first consult God's Word and pray, before consulting a doctor.

Psalm 107:20 (NKJ)

God sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Proverbs 4:20-22 (TAB)

Attend to my words; consent and submit to my sayings. Let them not depart from your sight; keep them in the center of your heart. For they are life to those who find them, healing and health to all their flesh.

Exodus 15:26b (NLT)

I am the LORD who heals you.

Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)

(Jesus) was wounded and crushed for our sins. He was beaten that we might have peace. He was whipped, and we were healed!

James 5:15a (NIV)

The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up.

Psalm 30:2 (NLT)

O LORD my God, I cried out to you for help, and you restored my health.

Come to God for Wisdom

When we don't know what to do, we need to ask God for wisdom. He will gladly instruct us through His Word and guide us by His Spirit. But we must obey His instructions and trust Him to guide our steps.

James 1:5, 6a (NIV)

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt.

Psalm 119:105 (NLT)

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.

Psalm 32:8 (NIV)

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

Proverbs 4:11-13 (NIV)

I will guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble. Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life.

Psalm 119:133 (NLT)

Guide my steps by your word, so I will not be overcome by any evil.

Come to God for Protection

When we feel afraid, lonely, or vulnerable, we need to call on God and take refuge in Him. God lives within every believer and promises to help, strengthen and protect us.

II Samuel 22:2b, 4 (NLT)

The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. I will call on the LORD, who is worthy of praise, for he saves me from my enemies.

Psalm 46:1 (TAB)

God is our refuge and strength (mighty and impenetrable to temptation) a very present and well-proved help in trouble.

Hebrews 13:5b (NIV)

God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Psalm 91:9-11 (NLT)

If you make the LORD your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your dwelling. For he orders his angels to protect you wherever you go.

Isaiah 41:10 (NLT)

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will help you. I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

Come to God for Eternal Life

All who want eternal life in heaven must accept God's Son Jesus as Savior into their heart before they die. Immediately, they are given eternal life, and God records their name in the Book of Life as pre-registered citizens of heaven.

1 John 5:11b (NIV)

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

John 17:3 (NLT)

This is the way to have eternal life--to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.

Luke 10:20b (NLT)

Rejoice because your names are registered as citizens of heaven.

Revelation 20:15 (NLT)

Anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.

John 11:25, 26a (NLT)

Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. They are given eternal life for believing in me and will never perish.

Coming Soon!

The Bible is God's prophetic written account of the history of this world from its creation (Genesis 1, 2) to its end (Revelation 21). All prophecies have been fulfilled accurately and completely to this point in history.

According to the Bible, we are now living in the "last days" before the tribulation, which will end with the battle of Armageddon.

(II Timothy 3:1-5, Matthew 24)

But the Lord Jesus himself has promised to return to earth to take his believers home to heaven, before the tribulation.

I Thessalonians 4:15-17 (NLT)

I can tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not rise to meet him ahead of those who are in their graves.

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the call of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God.

First, all the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and remain with him forever.

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by Patsy Oda and Norma Bonds

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About the Author

Patsy Oda met God when she was 8 years old, on the day she invited Jesus into her heart as Savior. She has been a Christian for over 60 years and is a Christian writer, teacher and speaker. In her autobiography *Heart's Desire* and in her booklets she shares how anyone can come to God and know Him personally.

About the Artist

Norma Bonds was a young adult when she came to God by receiving Jesus as her Savior. She is a gifted Christian artist, speaker, writer, and the host of the worldwide radio ministry of *A Woman's Special Touch*. She has painted the covers and pictures in Patsy Oda's booklets.