

1. How Do You Accept or Receive Jesus into Your Heart?

How do you do this? Or as some say "Accept Jesus as your personal Savior"? How does it happen?

2. How Did the First Converts Accept or Receive Him?

What is written about it in the book of the Acts of the Apostles? How does it read to you? How did they accept or receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

3. We Need to Obey God to Accept Him into Our Hearts

In order to receive or accept Jesus Christ into our heart as Lord and Savior, we must obey God. For example, Peter said, "And we [i.e. the apostles] are witnesses of these things [the gospel of Jesus Christ]; and so is **the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him**" (Ac 5:32). So, in order to receive "the Holy Spirit" into our hearts we need to "obey Him", God. Now Paul said that this "Holy Spirit" we receive is "the Spirit of Christ" (Ro 8:9). And so when we receive or accept Jesus Christ, through obedience, it means that God will cause Jesus to live in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. **He** is the deposit which God puts inside of us which guarantees our inheritance as the children of God (Eph 1:13, 14).

So the Question Then Is This: In order to accept Jesus Christ (His Spirit) into our hearts, how do we "obey Him", God? What do we need to obey to receive Jesus?

Answer Key / Explanation

STOP! Before you read the answers, please fully answer the questions to the left. In this way you will learn best.

Q1/Q2: The book of Acts is the authentic and inspired record of how people were taught to receive or accept Jesus Christ into their hearts as Lord and Savior. In it we can see that somebody first preached the gospel of Jesus Christ to an individual or to a group of people. Second, those who heard it and believed it, repented and were baptized to receive or accept Jesus Christ. For example, in Acts 2:37, after the people heard Peter preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to them, some believed it and asked, with painful repentance, "What shall we do?" [to be saved, for that was the subject of Peter's preaching / see verse 40). Then Peter answered them, "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" (Ac 2:38). "So then those who had **received** his word were baptized" (Ac 2:41). What did Peter tell these believers to do for the forgiveness of their sins and to "receive the gift of the Holy Spirit", obviously into their hearts? [Remember this is the Spirit of Jesus Christ / READ Ro 8:9]. He told them to "repent... and... be baptized... and **you will receive the... Holy Spirit**", likewise, the Samaritans (SEE Ac 8:12), the Ethiopian Eunuch (SEE Ac 8:35-39), Paul, an apostle of Christ (SEE Ac 9:11-18; 22:16), Cornelius, the Italian centurion (SEE Ac 10:47, 48), Lydia, a seller of purple fabric (SEE Ac 16:14, 15), the Philippian Jailor (SEE Ac 16:30-33), etc. They all heard the gospel. They all believed it. They all repented of their sins. They all were baptized. This is how they accepted Jesus Christ into their hearts as Lord and Savior.

Q3: We sing, "Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, Into my heart, into my heart, Come into my heart, Lord Jesus". But how does one receive Jesus into his heart? Someone might say, "You have to ask Him". Now that may be how you do it, but it is not how God does it. As Peter pointed out in Acts 2:38 and 5:32, when we believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, God then wants us to "obey Him" in repentance and baptism in order to give us the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts. This is how the first converts accepted Jesus Christ into their hearts.

But Someone Will Say: "Baptism is a symbolic act to others to show [them] what God did for you. Salvation is apart [separate] from

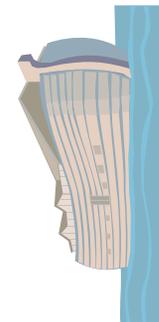
baptism and baptism is not necessary for salvation to be completed. Salvation alone is what saves a soul. Josh" I say, "Where does it say that in the Bible?" You say, "We are saved by grace" (Eph 2:8). I say, "Doesn't God's grace include baptism?" Think about it. Doesn't God favor [i.e. grace] baptism? Consider Noah. It says that Noah was saved by God's "favor", meaning grace. "But Noah found favor [grace] in the eyes of the LORD" (Ge 6:8). Likewise, "God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. Corresponding [likewise] to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:20, 21). Noah was "brought safely through the water" in the ark. "Corresponding to that [Noah's being saved through the water], baptism now saves you" (1 Pe 3:21). Here Peter compared Noah's salvation experience, of being carried safely through the water in an ark, to our salvation experience, in being carried safely through the water by a baptizer in baptism. But how can it save us? Peter said, "Baptism now saves you... through the resurrection of Jesus Christ". The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the gospel. So it saves us by and through the power of the gospel resurrection of Christ. Peter said it is "an appeal to God" to clear our "conscience". And so it is not something to do as "an act



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Post Office Will Not
Deliver Without Stamp

FreeBibleStudy.org
P.O. Box 163, Quarryville, PA 17566



Noah was saved by grace, through the ark. Peter said we are saved in the same way through baptism.



[or sign] to others to show" them. Baptism is toward God, not men. In baptism, we are supposed to be answering or appealing to God, not the world. Now what if, in hindsight, Noah said something strange about how he was saved, so strange that it would clearly contradict the written story about it in the Bible? What if Noah said, "The ark [my being carried safely through the water in it] was a symbolic act to others to show [them] what God did for me. Salvation was apart [separate] from the ark and the ark was not necessary for my salvation. Salvation alone is what saved my soul." Does this make sense? Certainly not! The ark [being carried safely through the water in it] was a necessary part of Noah's salvation experience and it cannot be removed from it by strange intellectual philosophy. Likewise, we cannot remove baptism from God's written plan of salvation for us without sounding very foolish, indeed. Just like Noah had to be carried or "brought safely through the water" to be saved, we too need to be carried or "baptized" through the water in the name of the Lord to be saved. [This is in keeping with what is written in the Bible about baptism.] Therefore baptism is necessary for salvation. This is not contrary to God's grace. Indeed, the ark is how God favored Noah. Baptism in the name of the Lord is how God now favors us.

Hurry! Limited Time Offer. No Obligation.

Name _____
 Street/Box _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Zip/Postal Code _____

- I am willing to accept or receive Jesus into my heart (in repentance & baptism).
 Send me your free study on "The Basics" so I can learn more.
 Other _____

Yes! I would Like Your Free Study

Complete Postcard, Remove, Stamp, & Mail Today!

The Bible encourages us to **receive** [accept] **Jesus Christ** to become the children of God. For example, in the gospel of Jesus Christ it says, "**As many as received Him** [Jesus Christ], **to them He gave the right to become the children of God**" (John 1:12). And so we see that when we receive or accept Jesus Christ into our heart as Lord and Savior ("**in your heart**" Ro 10:9), we are given the right to become the children of God. And when we become a child of God, by receiving Jesus Christ, we receive eternal salvation. We receive the forgiveness of our sins. We receive the hope of eternal life, heaven. We receive God's GRACE, that is His favor. We will not receive His WRATH for our sins (Jesus received God's wrath for our sins on His cross). We will not receive His eternal condemnation, hell. If we truly repent of our sins (SEE Lk 24:47), we will be saved. We cannot continue in sin and still be a child of God. We must separate ourselves from our sins.

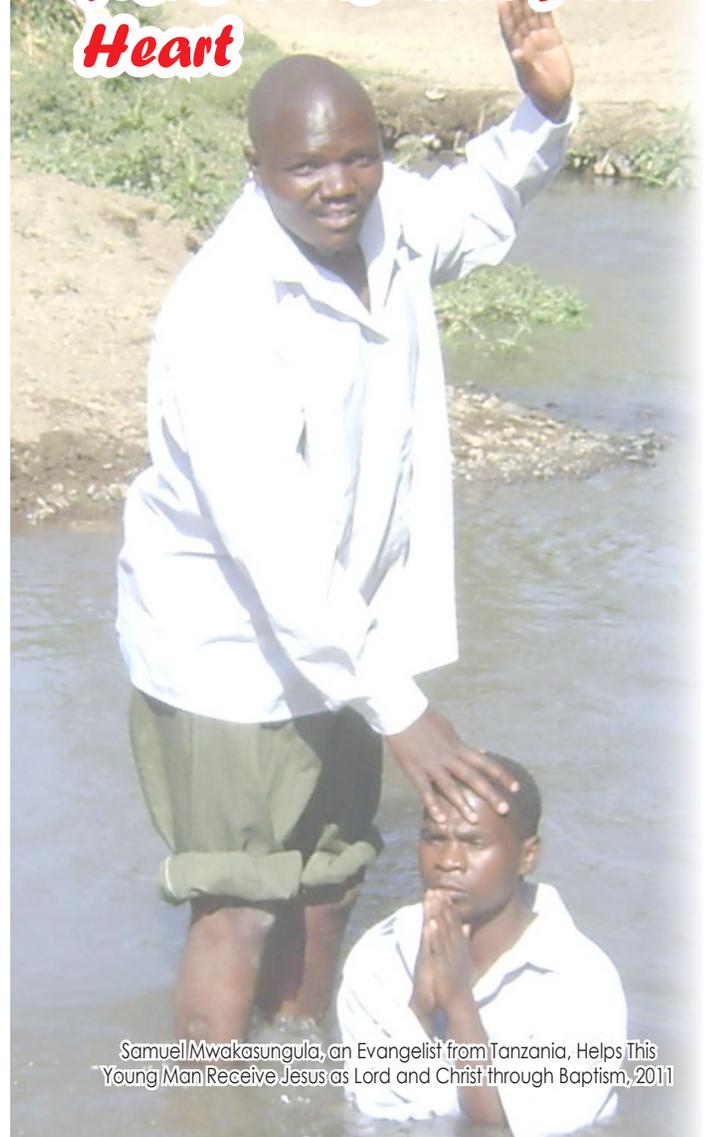
But obviously, not everyone receives or accepts Jesus into their heart as Lord and Christ. Instead they reject Him. Therefore, they are not given the right to become the children of God. They will not inherit the kingdom of heaven. Instead they will suffer eternally in the fire of hell. They will receive God's condemnation, eternally!

Now, do you want to become a child of God? Do you want to receive the forgiveness of your sins? Do you want to be saved instead of lost? Do you want to receive eternal life instead of eternal death? Do you want to receive God's salvation instead of His condemnation? Do you want to receive God's grace instead of His wrath? Do you want to go to heaven instead of hell? It has everything to do with the true meaning of receiving or accepting Jesus Christ into your heart as your Lord and Savior. A popular song on this subject says, "Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

Into my heart, into my heart, Come into my heart, Lord Jesus." But how does one receive the Lord Jesus into his heart? How do you do this? How does it happen? Do you know how to receive or accept Jesus Christ into your heart? When you complete this self-test worksheet, you will know how to properly "accept Jesus Christ into your heart". I encourage you to receive or accept Him as soon as you believe that He is Lord and Christ. Rick David, an Evangelist & Author of FreeBibleStudy.org



Receive Jesus Christ into Your Heart



Samuel Mwakasungula, an Evangelist from Tanzania, Helps This Young Man Receive Jesus as Lord and Christ through Baptism, 2011

**By Rick David, an Evangelist, Author of
FreeBibleStudy.org Register Today!**