

# CHRISTIANITY

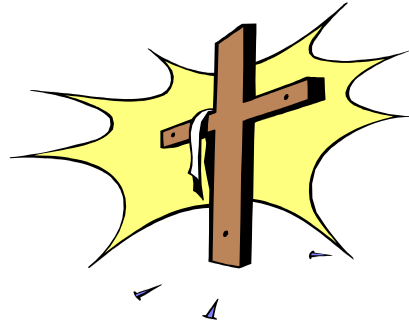
## We believe in God



This universe is not here by accident; it was created by someone who is beyond it and so much greater than us. We believe that God is not an impersonal force, but created each one of us out of love. He wants us to know him as our good Father in heaven. He has given us life and personality so that we can begin to know him, to respond to his love, to live our lives in trust and obedience to him, and eventually to become like him.

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## We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God



Although we cannot begin to imagine what God is like, Jesus shows us God. He claimed that whoever looked at him saw God his Father. Jesus makes the invisible God visible. He said that if we obey him, we obey God his Father; if we worship him, we worship God his Father; if we trust him, we trust God his Father; if we pray to him, we pray to God his Father.

But Jesus also shows us what it is to be truly human.

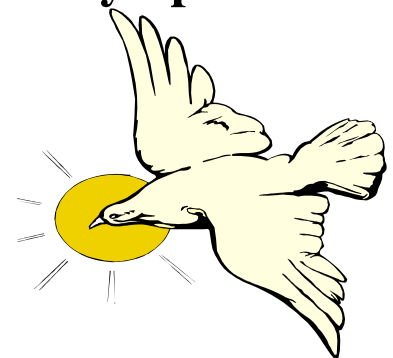
He lived 2000 years ago, in what is now Israel and Palestine. He lived a life that was directed by love for God his Father, and love for men and women. He gave his life for us, allowing them to nail him to a cross, in order that we could receive forgiveness and friendship with God.

Three days after he was crucified, God brought him back from the dead. He appeared to his followers, and they knew that he had overcome evil and death.

Jesus promises his followers that they, too, will have a new life and the experience of travelling the same kind of path: often one of suffering, but ultimately one of life in God. He invites us to come to him, to receive forgiveness and the new and eternal life that he offers to all who receive him.

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## We believe in the Holy Spirit of God

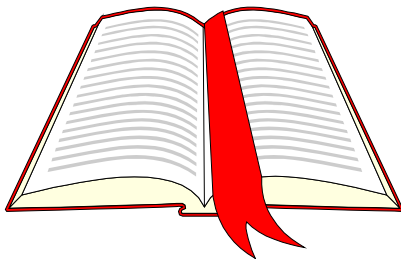


The Holy Spirit is the invisible presence of God with us. He takes us to God and brings God to us.

The Holy Spirit does not naturally live in us. But God longs to give us his Spirit. All we need to do is ask.

So what does the Holy Spirit do?

- He makes us aware of our need for God, his forgiveness, guidance, peace and strength.
- He brings the bible, God's word, alive as we read it.
- He gives us a longing to pray and helps us to pray; he gives us a hunger to find out more about Jesus and God.
- He will change us: making us like Jesus - more loving, peaceful, joyful, patient and less judgemental.
- He gives us the life-changing hope of eternal life.



## Some bible passages to read

[Psalm 23](#)

[Matthew 5:1-12](#)

[Mark 2:1-12](#)

[John 8:1-11](#)

[Mark 10:17-31](#)

[Mark 12:28-33](#)

[Luke 19:1-10](#)

[Luke 23:26-49](#)

[Luke 24:36-53](#)

[John 3:16-21](#)



## Some prayers you can pray

### The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name;  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily  
bread;  
Forgive us our sins as we  
forgive those who sin  
against us;  
Lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil;  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

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## You can learn more about Christianity

- By coming to church
- By joining an *Introducing Jesus* or *Alpha* course
- By reading the bible and prayer
- By talking to a Christian friend or minister.

## A prayer of surrender:

Good Father in heaven,

Thank you that you created this world and you created me to live in an eternal relationship with you.

I am sorry that up to now I have only turned to you when I thought I needed help, and most of the time I have ignored you, lived my own way and not put my trust in you.

Please forgive me.

Thank you that your Son, Jesus, died on the cross for me, so that I can be forgiven and set free.

Thank you that you offer me forgiveness and the gift of your Holy Spirit. I now ask for that gift.

Please come into my life by your Holy Spirit to be with me forever; and with your help I will turn from what I know to be wrong and live the rest of my life seeking to obey you and trust you. Amen

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## Links

[rejesus web site](#)

[Two ways to live](#)

[Who's Jesus?](#)