

## **How can I know that God really loves me and cares about my life?**

God doesn't just talk about love. He proves it by action. The Bible says, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) The word, "commendeth" means "demonstrates." God demonstrates His love toward us by the death of Jesus Christ. Think about this: God loves you so much that He gave His Son to come to earth to become a human being like you so that He could suffer and die for your sins on the cross. The death of Jesus Christ is the ultimate expression of God's love for us. Whatever arguments men may have against God, they cannot argue with His love.

You can be sure that God loves you because He suffered in your place so that you would not have to die and be separated from Him forever in hell. You can know that God cares about you because He not only gave His Son Jesus to die for your sins, but He offers you eternal life with Him in heaven. You can be absolutely certain that God loves you because the requirement to receive this life is the simplest requirement on earth. "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 3:16) Simple belief or faith in Jesus Christ is the requirement for salvation. God gives eternal life to all who believe (trust, depend on) His Son as their Savior.

All of the religions of the world teach that we must do something to go to heaven such as joining a particular church, giving to the poor, receiving the sacraments, being baptized in water, etc. All religions teach this except for Biblical Christianity. God could have required many different things for mankind to do to go to heaven, but according to Jesus Christ, all that is required is simple faith. When I trust in Jesus Christ to forgive my sins and to take me to heaven; when I believe His promise that I will have eternal life if I simply believe in Him for it, that is all that God requires.

It is as simple as receiving a gift. The Bible says, "For the wages (the payment) of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23) Eternal life with God is a gift to be received. If someone offers me a gift, I will never receive it unless I believe the word of the giver. Someone might offer me a "free gift, no strings attached," but if I do not trust that person or their word, I will never take it. I would be afraid they would want something from me. God wants to give us something. He wants to forgive our sins and to save our souls from hell. He wants to give us eternal life with Him and a changed life here on earth. Will you trust Him as your Savior today? Jesus Christ will save you, forgive you, and give you the gift of eternal life if you will trust Him to do it.