

# **A Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Christian**

by Dean Blackwell

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# I Can Hear

***Lesson text: Romans 10:14-17; Acts 8:26-39***

***Memory Verse: Romans 10:17***

One day, there was a man traveling home from Jerusalem where he had gone to worship God. He lived in Ethiopia, a country in Africa. He was a eunuch. He was in charge of all the treasure of Candace, the queen of Ethiopia. As he was riding in his chariot, he read God's Word. He was reading a prophesy in the book of Isaiah about Jesus. But he did not understand who Isaiah was talking about.

Have you ever read anything and not fully understood what it was talking about? Perhaps at school? There are many things that we may not understand the first time we read about them.

What do we need in order to understand these things? What we need is someone to explain it to us. We need someone to teach us. But in order for them to teach us, we must be willing to listen and hear what they are teaching.

Phillip was sent by God to teach this eunuch from Ethiopia. As he approached the chariot, he asked the man, "Do you understand what you're reading?" And the man told him, "How can I unless someone teaches me?" This man was willing to listen and hear what Phillip could teach him about that scripture. So Phillip climbed up in the chariot and began teaching him about Jesus.

After a while, the eunuch saw some water. He told the person driving the chariot to stop, and he asked Phillip "Here's water! Why can't I be baptized?" Phillip told him that he must believe with all his heart. The eunuch said "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So Phillip and the eunuch went into the water and Phillip baptized him. The eunuch was so happy, the Bible tells us that "He went on his way, rejoicing." Rejoicing means to be extremely happy about something.

In reading this story, we can see that the eunuch was waiting to be taught. He was willing to hear what God wanted him to learn and do. If he didn't want to hear what Phillip was teaching him, he never would have learned about Jesus. Is it important to hear?

Many people think that they don't need to listen to others (like adults, teachers, parents) because they don't need or want the help. The man in our lesson today was in charge of all the money of an entire country. He was very powerful! But even he understood that he needed to listen to people who knew more than he did about the Bible. We should follow his example and be ready to listen to people who know more about things than we do.

## True or False

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. We do not need to hear about God's Word.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Faith comes by hearing God's Word.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Stephen taught the man from Ethiopia.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. This man was in charge of the whole military of Ethiopia.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Ethiopia is a country in Africa.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. A person can believe in Jesus without ever hearing about Him.

## Fill in the Blanks

1. God sent a man named \_\_\_\_\_ to teach the Ethiopian eunuch.
2. The eunuch was riding in a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The eunuch had been worshipping God in the city of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Phillip taught him about \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The man went on his way \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Faith comes by hearing the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

What do the Words Mean?

1. Rejoicing \_\_\_\_\_
2. Hearing \_\_\_\_\_
3. Teach \_\_\_\_\_
4. Believe \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever needed help to learn something? If so, who did you ask for help? Why them?
2. Did the eunuch need to learn about Jesus? Why?

Solve the Riddles

1. I was a very rich and powerful woman. I allowed a man to be in charge of all my treasure. I lived in Africa. Who was I? \_\_\_\_\_
2. I was driven in a chariot on my way back from worshipping God in Jerusalem. I was in charge of all the treasure of my country. I read God's Word, but I didn't understand the part I was reading. Who was I? \_\_\_\_\_
3. I am a country in Africa. I had a queen named Candace. What country am I?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. I was a gospel preacher. I taught a man in a chariot about Jesus. After teaching him, I also baptized him. Who was I? \_\_\_\_\_
5. I was prophesied about in the Old Testament. The man in the chariot was reading about Me but did not understand it. The preacher that was sent by God taught that man about me. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_

## Remember Your Verse

Fill in each blank with one letter to make the words of your memory verse.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 10:17) (NKJV)

# **I Can Believe**

***Lesson text: John 3:16; Acts 16:23-34***

***Memory Verse: John 3:16***

During our last lesson, we studied about a man from Ethiopia who wanted to hear. And after hearing about Jesus, he believed. If you remember, Phillip told him that he had to believe with all his heart if he wanted to become a Christian. The eunuch told Phillip, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Believing is a very important thing.

We all do things wrong in life and we need to be forgiven of those wrong things. We need to be saved from the sins (bad things) that we do. For that we need Jesus.

Two preachers, named Paul and Silas, were out on the streets of the city of Philippi preaching about Jesus. There were many people who listened and heard, but there were others who were upset. They didn't believe in Jesus so they caused Paul and Silas to be arrested. During those days they didn't just throw a person in jail. It was customary to beat and whip the people who were arrested, even if they hadn't done anything wrong. Paul and Silas were then put in the middle of the prison, and they had their hands and feet in stocks.

The jailer was told not to let the prisoners to escape. Back in those days if a prisoner escaped, the jailer was put to death for failing to prevent the prisoners from escaping. So the jailer took this responsibility very seriously. In the middle of the night, Paul and Silas were singing songs and praying to God. They sang so loud that the other prisoners all heard them. Suddenly there was an earthquake! The earthquake was so strong that it opened up the doors of every jail cell, and every prisoner was released from the stocks. This was no ordinary earthquake. God caused it to happen.

The jailer was asleep and woke up when he heard the earthquake. He saw the prison doors were open, and thought that the prisoners had escaped. So, knowing that he would be put to death by those in charge, he pulled out his sword and was going to kill himself. But before he could do it, he heard a voice from inside saying "Don't hurt yourself! We're all still here!" It was Paul!

The jailer was trembling as he went in. He had heard about Paul and Silas preaching that one must obey the one true God. He said to them, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul told him that he must believe. The jailer cleaned Paul and Silas' injuries from their beatings and he, along with his entire family believed what Paul taught them and they were baptized. He brought Paul and Silas into his house and rejoiced that he had become a Christian.

## True or False

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Paul and Phillip were arrested and beaten at Philippi
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. There was a thunderstorm that caused the prison doors to open.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The Philippians jailer thought the prisoners had escaped.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The two preachers were singing and praying loudly in prison.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Believing is not important.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Paul and Silas were put in prison for preaching about Jesus.

## Fill in the Blanks

1. This story takes place in a city called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Before being thrown in jail, Paul and Silas were \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ was told not to let them escape.
4. There was a lot of people in this town who didn't believe in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. There was a great \_\_\_\_\_ which made the doors of the prison open.
6. The jailer and his whole \_\_\_\_\_ believed and were baptized.

What do the Words Mean?

1. Pray \_\_\_\_\_
2. Earthquake \_\_\_\_\_
3. Arrested \_\_\_\_\_
4. Prison \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

1. Paul and Silas were arrested, beaten, and thrown in jail when they didn't do anything wrong. Yet they did not complain. They sang praises to God and prayed. Why?
2. Why did the Philippians jailer think it was so important to be saved?

## Solve the Riddles

1. We were preachers who got arrested and thrown in jail. We sang and prayed at midnight. Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_
2. I sent an earthquake that opened the prison doors and unchained all the prisoners. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
3. The two preachers were teaching people about me. There were people in Philippi that did not believe in me and they had my preachers arrested. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
4. I was in charge of making sure Paul and Silas did not escape. I almost killed myself when I thought they'd gotten away. But they let me know they were all still there. Who am I?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. We were also told about Jesus. We believed along with the jailer and were baptized. We had Paul and Silas come to our house where we fed them and rejoiced that we had become Christians. Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_

## Remember Your Verse

Rearrange the words in the box to make your memory verse for today.

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



# **I Can Repent**

***Lesson text: Luke 13:3; Mark 1:15; Acts 9:1-22; 22:16***

***Memory Verse: Mark 1:15***

There once was a young man named Saul. He hated Christians. In fact, he hated them so much he tracked them down and had them thrown into jail. Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was stoned to death. Saul was there overseeing the whole thing.

One day Saul was on his way to a city named Damascus so that he could search and capture more Christians. As we learned in our last lesson, when someone was arrested, they were usually beaten and whipped before going to jail. Saul knew this. He wanted Christians beaten. While on his journey a bright light came from nowhere and blinded Saul! He to the ground and heard a voice ask, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" To persecute is to constantly torture someone who has done nothing to deserve it.

Saul was a very religious man and he knew that the voice was not the voice of a common ordinary man. So he asked, "Who are you, Lord?" And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" It was at that point and time that Saul immediately realized that he had been wrong. But he didn't know what to do. So, he asked Jesus what He wanted him to do? Jesus told him to go into the city, and someone would tell him what to do.

Saul was still blind from the bright light so the people who had come with him to hurt Christians led him into the city. He stayed with a man named Judas and prayed for three days!

Finally, Jesus sent a man named Ananias to preach to Saul and tell him what he must do. It was at that particular time that Saul received his sight and could see again! He arose, was baptized, had something to eat and began preaching that Jesus Christ is the Son of God!

So we learn that Saul repented. To repent means to change directions and do better. Saul changed from hurting Christians to helping them! From that day forward he preached about Jesus! Saul also came to be known as Paul.

## **True or False**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Saul always believed in Jesus.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Saul was riding to Damascus to arrest Christians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Saul was riding alone.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Jesus spoke to Saul through a very bright light.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Phillip went to Saul and told him what to do.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Saul was told to be baptized.

## Fill in the Blanks

1. Saul was on his way to \_\_\_\_\_ to arrest Christians.
2. Jesus said I am Jesus, the one you are \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ came and told Saul to be baptized.
4. Saul was praying for \_\_\_\_\_ days.
5. Saul's name was changed to \_\_\_\_\_.

What do the Words Mean?

1. Persecute \_\_\_\_\_
2. Repent \_\_\_\_\_
3. Preaching \_\_\_\_\_
4. Martyr \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

1. Saul realized that he was doing things wrong. He changed his ways and repented. Why is it so hard for someone to stop doing the wrong things and start doing the right things?
2. Saul thought he was doing what God wanted him to do by persecuting Christians. Should we follow what we THINK God wants from us, or should we follow the Bible so we can KNOW what God wants from us? Can you think of things that some people THINK are pleasing to God, but are not?

## Solve the Riddles

1. I was on a journey into Damascus when I was blinded and could not see for three days. I spent those three days praying before someone told me to be baptized. Who am I?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. I was told to go preach to a man who had been hurting Christians. I went and told him about Jesus and to be baptized. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
3. I lived in Damascus. I allowed a man who was stricken blind to stay in my house. Another man came to my house and helped the blind man to see. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
4. I spoke to Saul through a bright light. I told him he was persecuting me. I also sent Ananias to preach to him about me. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
5. We were being persecuted by Saul. In fact, he was planning on coming to Damascus just so he could arrest more of us. Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_

## Remember Your Verse

Unscramble the following letters to make the words of your memory verse.  
prente nad leevibe ni the posgle (kram 1:15) (NKJV)

# I Can Confess

***Lesson text: John 9:1-38, Romans 10:9***

***Memory Verse: Romans 10:9***

Up to now, we have discussed the importance of hearing what God has to say, believing what He has to say and repenting of our sins. In this lesson we will study something that the bible teaches us to do. That is, confess. To confess is to tell someone something that is personal about you. It might be something that you've done or something that you believe. For example, people who commit crimes sometimes confess (or tell) that they did it.

One day Jesus was walking and saw a man who had been blind since his birth. His disciples asked Him "why is this man blind? Is it because he sinned, or because his parents sinned?" During those days many people thought that if something bad happened to you, it was because you or your parents did something bad. But Jesus explained to them that it was not the man or his parents had done something bad that he was born blind. But so that God could be glorified (praised). Jesus then spit on the ground and rubbed some clay together and put it on the man's eyes. Jesus then told the blind man to go to the Pool of Siloam and wash. The man did what Jesus told him to do and he was able to see for the first time in his life! People saw him and said "Aren't you the beggar who was blind? How can you see now?" The man told them about Jesus and what Jesus had done for him. Word got around to the Pharisees, a group of people who didn't believe that Jesus was from God, so they questioned the man. But the man continued to tell them the same thing that Jesus had done for him. Finally, the Pharisees became irritated at the man and went to talk to his parents. They did not want to get in trouble, so they said "Yes, he was born blind, he can see now, but we don't know how his sight was given to him. Go ask him again."

The Pharisees hated Jesus. They were the major leaders in that country and were very jealous of Jesus and what He was able to do. They did everything that they possibly could to convince other people to hate Jesus as well. When they called the man back in to question him once more, they told him that Jesus was not from God. They told him to praise God for his sight, but not Jesus. Because, they said, Jesus is a sinner. The man said, "I don't know if he's a sinner or not, but I do know that I was blind and he caused me see!" The Pharisees said, "We know that God spoke to Moses, but we don't know where Jesus is from." The once blind man said, "If he were not from God, he could do nothing." When the man said that the Pharisees ordered him to leave.

Jesus found him again and asked him, "Do you believe on the Son of God?" The man said "Who is He, so I can worship Him?" Jesus said "I am He." So the once-blind man fell down and worshipped Jesus.

This man was not afraid to confess Jesus, even when people got mad at him for it!

Are you willing to confess Jesus to others?

### True or False

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus healed a deaf man.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The disciples thought that he was blind because he or his parents had sinned.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Jesus put clay on the man's eyes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The once-blind man told people what Jesus had done.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The Pharisees believed in Jesus.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The man worshipped Jesus.

### Fill in the Blanks

- 1. Jesus saw a man who had been blind from \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Jesus told him to go wash in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. The disciples were told that the man was blind so that God could be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ were a group of religious leaders who hated Jesus.
- 5. Jesus said He was the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6. The man's \_\_\_\_\_ told the Pharisees to go ask the blind man again.

### What do the Words Mean?

- 1. Blind \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Sin \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Disciple \_\_\_\_\_

### Discussion Questions

- 1. This man was persecuted for telling about Jesus, but he kept telling everyone what Jesus had done anyway. Why would he confess Jesus if he knew people would be upset with him over it?
- 2. As we read our bible we can see that even the man's parents were afraid to tell others how he received his eyesight. Should you stand up and tell the truth about Jesus even during difficult times?

### Solve the Riddles

- 1. I was a beggar. Jesus came to me, spit on the ground, stirred it making clay then placed the clay on my eyes and told me to go wash in the Pool of Siloam. Who am I?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. We followed Jesus. We were with him when he saw the blind man. We thought that the man was born blind because either he or his parents had sinned. Who are we?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. We hated Jesus! We were jealous of Him and wanted everyone else to also hate him! We ordered a man to leave our presence because he did not agree with us when we said that Jesus was not from God. Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_

4. We were afraid to tell the Pharisees that Jesus had given our son his eyesight. We told them that he was blind from birth and that he could see now, but that we didn't know how it happened. Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_

5. I spit on the ground, made clay and put it on the blind man's eyes. Then I told him to go wash in the Pool of Siloam. Later on, I found him and told him I was the Son of God. Who am I?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **Remember Your Verse**

Write the verse (Romans 10:9) below.

# **I Can Be Baptized**

***Lesson text: Acts 2:22-24, 36-41; Acts 8:35-39; I Peter 3:21***

***Memory Verse: I Peter 3:21***

We have been talking about things we can do. These things are sometimes referred to as the “Steps to Salvation.” We learned that we can hear the Word of God (like the eunuch). We can believe the Word of God (like the Philippian jailer) We can repent of our sins (like Saul, who later became Paul), and we can confess Jesus to others (like the man who was healed of his blindness). Those are all good things, but there is more we must do!

After Jesus died on the cross and was raised from the dead by God on the third day, he taught his apostles what they were supposed to do. Some of the last words he spoke to them before he went up into Heaven were “teach people from all countries and baptize them in the name of the Father (God), the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19-20). Another book tells us that He also said “He that believes and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16). These were among His final instructions to his disciples. Jesus thought it was very important.

What is baptism? Baptism is where we reenact the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. The Bible speaks of people being baptized by going into the water and coming out of the water. It is called a burial, because when we are baptized, we go completely under the water. Then we are raised up out of the water just like God the Father raised Christ from the dead. When we are baptized, we are forgiven of our sins (if we have repented of them), and when we are raised up from the water, we are ready to live a new life for Jesus. Baptism saves us!

Just a short while after Jesus went into Heaven, the Holy Spirit came upon the 12 apostles, and they began to preach to the crowd of Jews in Jerusalem. This day was called the “Day of Pentecost.” It was a special religious day for the Jews. Jews from various locations came to Jerusalem on that day to worship God. They spoke many different languages, but when these 12 apostles (who were uneducated) men began to speak, each person in the crowd heard in his/her own language! They preached to the crowd about Jesus. The people realized that the apostles were telling them the truth, and asked, “What do we need to do?”

First, we need to notice something. The people heard God’s Word (just like the eunuch). They believed God’s Word (like the jailer). Peter then told them to repent (change for the better by following Jesus, like Saul did), and then he told them to be baptized so that they could have their sins forgiven. Peter and the apostles did what Jesus had told them to do. They were teaching others to be baptized so that they could have their sins forgiven. The bible says that day about 3,000 people were baptized!

When Phillip taught the eunuch about Jesus, he taught him about baptism as well. The eunuch stopped Phillip and asked to be baptized. Phillip must have told him that baptism was important. The jailer knew that Paul and Silas were from God, and he rejoiced when he and his whole family was baptized. Saul (who later became Paul) was told by Ananias (who was sent by Jesus) to be baptized. The people on the day of Pentecost also were told to be baptized! All of the preachers in the Bible thought it was very important, and so should we!

## True or False

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The apostles preached about Jesus on the Day of the Passover.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Jews from other countries spoke different languages.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Jesus wanted the apostles to sprinkle water on people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Peter told the Jews to repent and to be baptized.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. About 3,000 people were baptized the first day.

## Fill in the Blanks

- 1. Jesus instructed the apostles to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ people.
- 2. The apostles preached on the Day of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Baptism involves going into and coming out of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ taught the eunuch about Jesus and baptism..
- 5. When we are baptized, our sins are \_\_\_\_\_.

## What do the Words Mean?

- 1. Baptize \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Forgiven \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Resurrection \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

- 1. It was one of the last instructions Jesus gave to the apostles and it was one of the first things that the apostles taught. Our memory verse also says that baptism “saves us.” Why do some people think baptism is not important?
- 2. The eunuch, the jailer, and all of the Jews on the Day of Pentecost only heard one sermon before they wanted to be baptized. How much do you have to know about Jesus and the Bible before you can be baptized?

## Solve the Riddles

- 1. I died, and was raised by God three days later. I taught my disciples to teach others and to baptize them. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. We followed Jesus. We preached on the Day of Pentecost, and everyone in the crowd heard our sermons in their own languages! Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_

3. We came to Jerusalem once a year to worship God. We lived in many different countries, and spoke many different languages. We believed what the apostles preached, and 3,000 of us were baptized that day. Who are we? \_\_\_\_\_

4. I stopped Phillip and asked him to baptize me because I wanted to follow Jesus. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_

5. I was the one who told the people on the Day of Pentecost to repent and to be baptized, just like Jesus taught me to do. I am one of the 12 apostles. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_

## Remember Your Verse

Fill in the blanks with the words in the box below

“There is also an antitype which \_\_\_\_\_ us— \_\_\_\_\_ (not the removal of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the flesh, but the \_\_\_\_\_ of a good conscience \_\_\_\_\_ God), through the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ,” (NKJV)