## Session 4

## How can I have

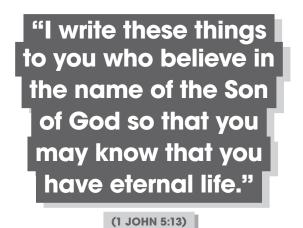
# faith

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NLT)

A Christian is a Christ-ian: someone who follows and puts their faith in Jesus Christ.

How that happens varies enormously. For some there is a definite moment; for others it is a more gradual process.

- When you receive Christ, you become a child of God. (John 1:12)
- God wants you to be sure of your faith.



Faith is not a blind leap, but a step based on evidence.

#### **1. THE WORD OF GOD**

We must not only trust our feelings, which can be changeable and may even be deceptive at times, but instead rely on God's promises.

- "... faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." (Romans 10:17)
- "I will come in." (Revelation 3:20)
- "I am with you always." (Matthew 28:20)
- "I give them eternal life." (John 10:28)

#### 2. THE WORK OF JESUS

You come exactly as you are. It's not about what you do or what you can achieve; it's about what has been done for you by Jesus on the cross.

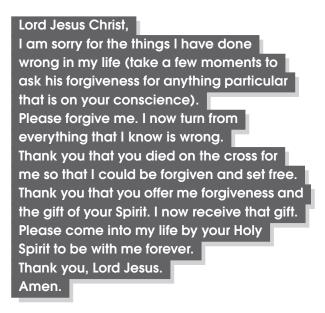
- Free gift of God (Romans 6:23).
- It's free but not cheap: it cost Jesus His life.
- We receive it through repentance (turning away from sin) and faith (trust).

### **3. THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

When someone becomes a Christian, God comes to live inside them by His Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9).

- He transforms us from within.
  - Our characters (Galatians 5:22-23)
  - Our relationships
- He brings a deep personal conviction that we are God's children. – Faith to knowledge (Romans 8:15–16)

Here is a very simple prayer that you can pray to open the door of your heart to Jesus Christ and invite Him to come into your life by His Spirit:



#### SESSION 4 HOW CAN I HAVE FAITH?


### **RECOMMENDED READING**

*The Reason for God* Tim Keller

*Is Faith Irrational?* Nicky Gumbel

One Step Beyond: One Man's Journey From Near Death to New Life Gram Seed