What does it mean to be a Christian?

In A Nutshell

It means that...

I BELIEVE

Jesus Christ is my only God and Saviour. I receive the *gift* of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. I am a *new creation*, with the gift of new life in Christ. I confess that all this is revealed in the Bible, which is *God's Word*.

I LIVE

a new life in Christ. Worshipping God in church. Fellowship with God's family, the church. Personal growth in Christ.

I will be BAPTIZED.

It is how God commands us to make disciples. It is where God acts to wash away our sins. It is God's assurance that our sins are forgiven. It is a picture of the holy life.



that Jesus Christ is my only God and Saviour, for He alone died on the cross and rose from the dead for me. This good news promises and proclaims that, through *faith in Christ*:

I receive the gift of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

What does this mean?

The Word of God says: "For the wages of sin is death, but the *gift* of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23). This is a gift I can never earn or deserve. For even though God created me, I have failed to trust in Him. This means that I am a sinner. Every day I think, act and speak as a sinner before God, forever separated from Him. But in a *wonderful exchange*, God *took* my sin and condemnation upon Himself, and exchanged it for the *gift* of forgiveness and eternal life in Jesus Christ. Such is God's love for me!

I am a new creation, with the gift of new life in Christ.

What does this mean?

This means that God has made me a completely new person in Christ – I am now a *child of God!* In this new life as God's child, all worship is to God alone, through Christ alone.

I confess that all this is revealed in the Bible, which is God's Word.

What does this mean?

This means that God speaks to me through His *Word*. It is how God reveals

Himself, His will for my salvation and life, and gives me the very faith which I now confess.

Would you like to pray this prayer of faith?

Thank you Father in heaven, for giving your Son Jesus, to die on the cross for me, and to rise again from the dead.

Because of this good news, I repent of my sins, and I confess faith in Jesus as my only Saviour and Lord. Thank you Lord for forgiving my sins, and for giving me eternal life in you.

By your Holy Spirit and Word, help me live in newness of life.

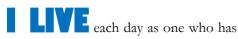
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

With this prayer you have confessed faith in Christ. Welcome to your new life in Christ!

Bible references:

John 3:16, 5:24, 20:30-31; Romans 1:16-20, 3:23-24; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:8-10; 1 John 3:1a

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast **Ephesians 2:8-9**



new life in Christ. Because God forgives me, therefore I live each day to love God and love others as Christ's disciple (that is, a follower/learner). This involves:

Worshipping God in church. Through the *Divine Service* (that is, the assembly of the church for worship), God serves us with His Word, and through a holy Meal of bread and wine. In response, we serve Him in praise, prayer, offering and commitment to love God and love our neighbours.

Thank you for joining our Service today! We invite you to join us every Sunday.

Fellowship with God's family, the church.

We experience and enjoy this fellowship in the Divine Service. Through various other forms of gatherings, such as *small groups*, we minister to one another in Christian love, and help each other mature in Christ, study His Word, and serve God with our time, talents and treasure.

We invite you to visit our Care Groups (Adults or Youth). Our Bulletin has more details.

Personal growth in Christ. Through the Divine Service, we also receive a *pattern for daily Christian life*: regular confession of sins and of faith; daily reading and meditation on God's Word; daily prayer; daily serving God and neighbour at home, in the church, and in the world. As we grow in Christ, we will be blessed to be a blessing! Would you like to receive some materials to guide you along? Speak to our Staff or Pastors. Bible references:

Matthew 26:26-28; Acts 2:42-47; Ephesians 4:11-13; Colossians 1:28; Hebrews 10:19-25.

l will be BAPTIZED

Baptism is how **God gives** us forgiveness and new life in a way that we can see, hear, do and celebrate.

It is how He *commands* us to make disciples.

It is where God *acts* to wash away our sins, give us the Holy Spirit, faith, and make us His children and members of His church.

It is God's *assurance* that our sins are forgiven, that we have new and eternal life, and that we are made members of His family.

It is a *picture* of the holy life: the daily drowning of sins in repentance, and rising in Christ's forgiveness.

You are welcome to join our Membership Class to learn the foundations of our faith. Look out for an announcement in our Bulletin, or speak to our Staff or Pastors.

Bible references:

Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:16-17; Acts 2:38-39; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:26-29.



Yishun Christian Church (Lutheran) 10 Yishun Avenue 5 Singapore 768991 Tel: 6755-8855 Fax: 6754-2773

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/YCCLutheran