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SESSION 1.

**Jesus [Son of God]**



## Jesus [Son of God]

**This is God's world, and we have seen that Jesus comes into the world with all the authority of God himself.**

In this study we have seen:

1. Jesus' authority as a teacher  
**MARK 1:21-22**
2. Jesus' authority over evil spirits  
**MARK 1:23-28**
3. Jesus' authority over sickness  
**MARK 2:1-12**
4. Jesus' authority to forgive sins  
(this shows him to be equal with God)  
**MARK 2:1-12**
5. Jesus' authority over nature  
**MARK 4:35-41**
6. Jesus' authority over life and death  
**MARK 5:35-42**

But most importantly, as far as we are concerned today, we have seen:

7. Jesus' authority over people  
**MARK 1:16-20**

### CONCLUSION

- Jesus has great authority as the Son of God.
- Jesus claims to be divine, that is, God.
- Jesus calls for us to follow him.

*We each need to come to a decision about Jesus – is he a **liar**, a **lunatic** or **the Lord**?*

There are three basic concepts which you must believe to be a Christian. We have seen the first of these:



SON OF GOD



AT HOME:

### Read Mark chapters 1-5

Note anything you do not understand, or would like to discuss. There will be a time for discussing these things at the beginning of the next session.



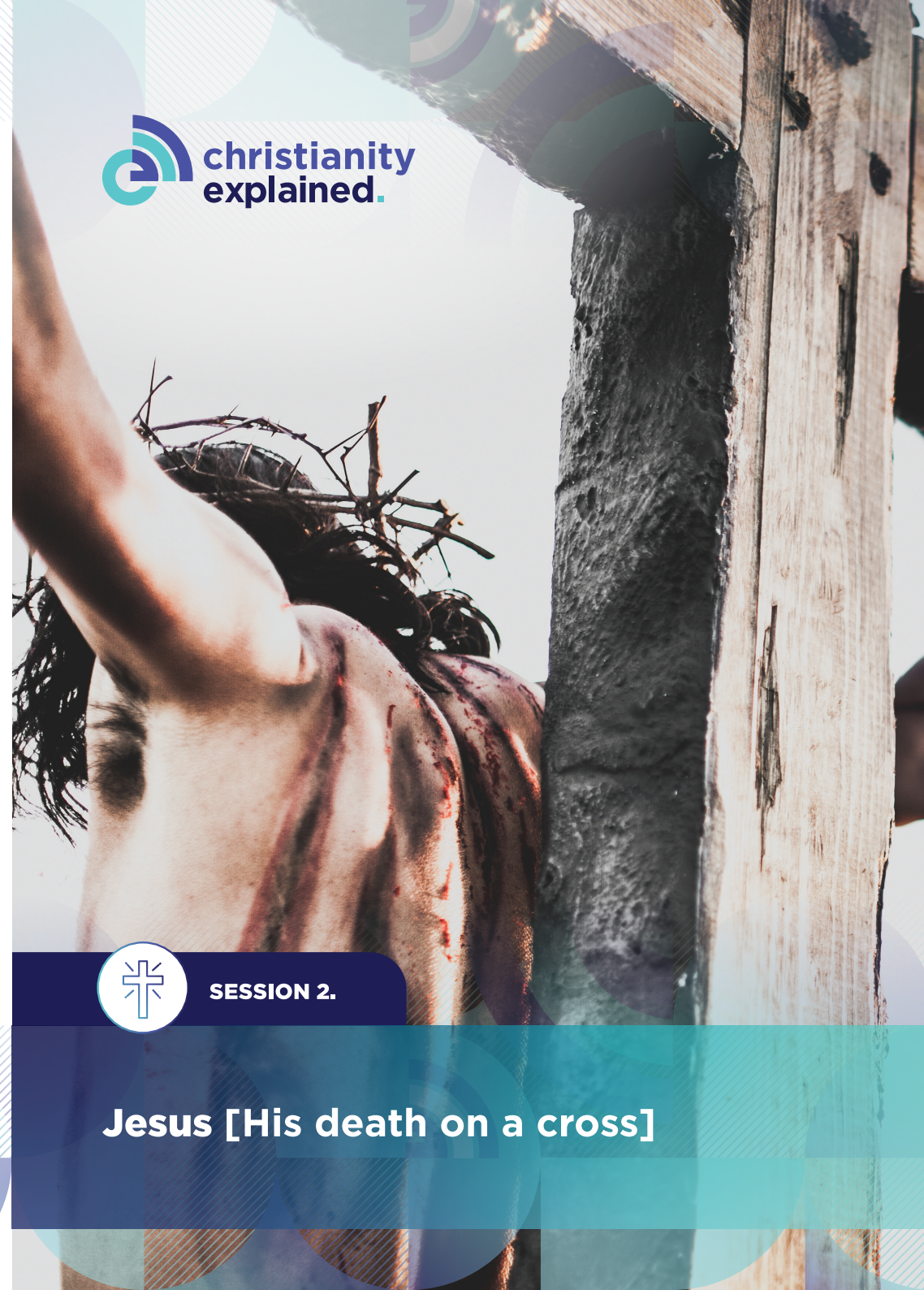


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SESSION 2.

**Jesus [His death on a cross]**



## Jesus [His death on a cross]

In this study we have seen:

1. **Jesus' death on the cross MARK 15:33-39**
2. **The meaning of the cross**

a) **The darkness MARK 15:33**

Indicates that, in the death of Jesus, God performed a special, supernatural act.

b) **The cry MARK 15:34-37**

Jesus called out: *"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"*

To some extent, God had forsaken or abandoned his Son when he was on the cross.

Remember the book, which we imagined was a record of every time we have lived our way instead of God's way. Jesus, who always lived his Father's way, 'bore our sins in his body on the cross', and our sins formed a barrier between him and his Father. Jesus dealt with our sins and their guilt and punishment, and his resurrection showed that God was satisfied with the sin-bearing that Jesus had completed on the cross.

c) **The curtain MARK 15:38**

The curtain was torn exactly when Jesus died, indicating that the barrier between us and God has been removed. People can come back into relationship with God only through Jesus' death.

d) **The ransom MARK 10:45**

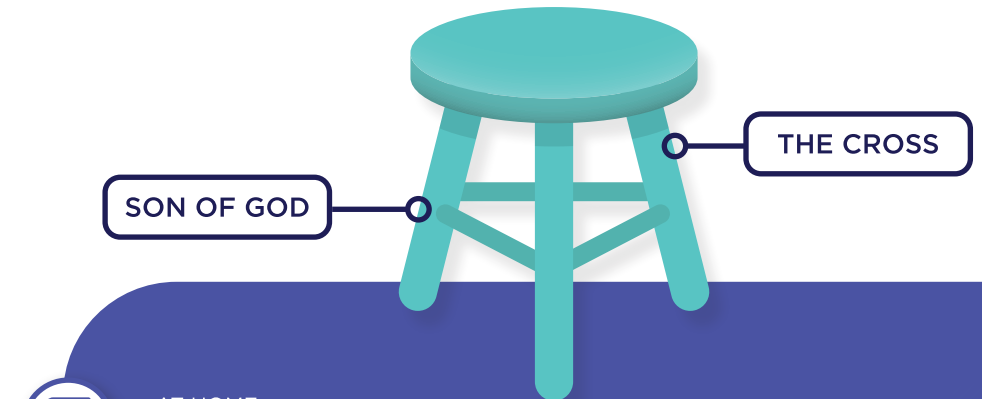
This is the price that Jesus paid in order to allow us to have a relationship with God. The price was the giving of his life.

### CONCLUSION

Jesus' death is sufficient for the sins of anyone, but God's forgiveness is not automatically given to everybody. Each of us must individually accept by faith the gift that Jesus gave us on the cross.

There are three basic concepts which you must believe to be a Christian.

We have now seen two of these:



AT HOME:

**Read Mark chapters 6-10**

Note anything you do not understand, or would like to discuss. There will be a time for discussing these things at the beginning of the next session.



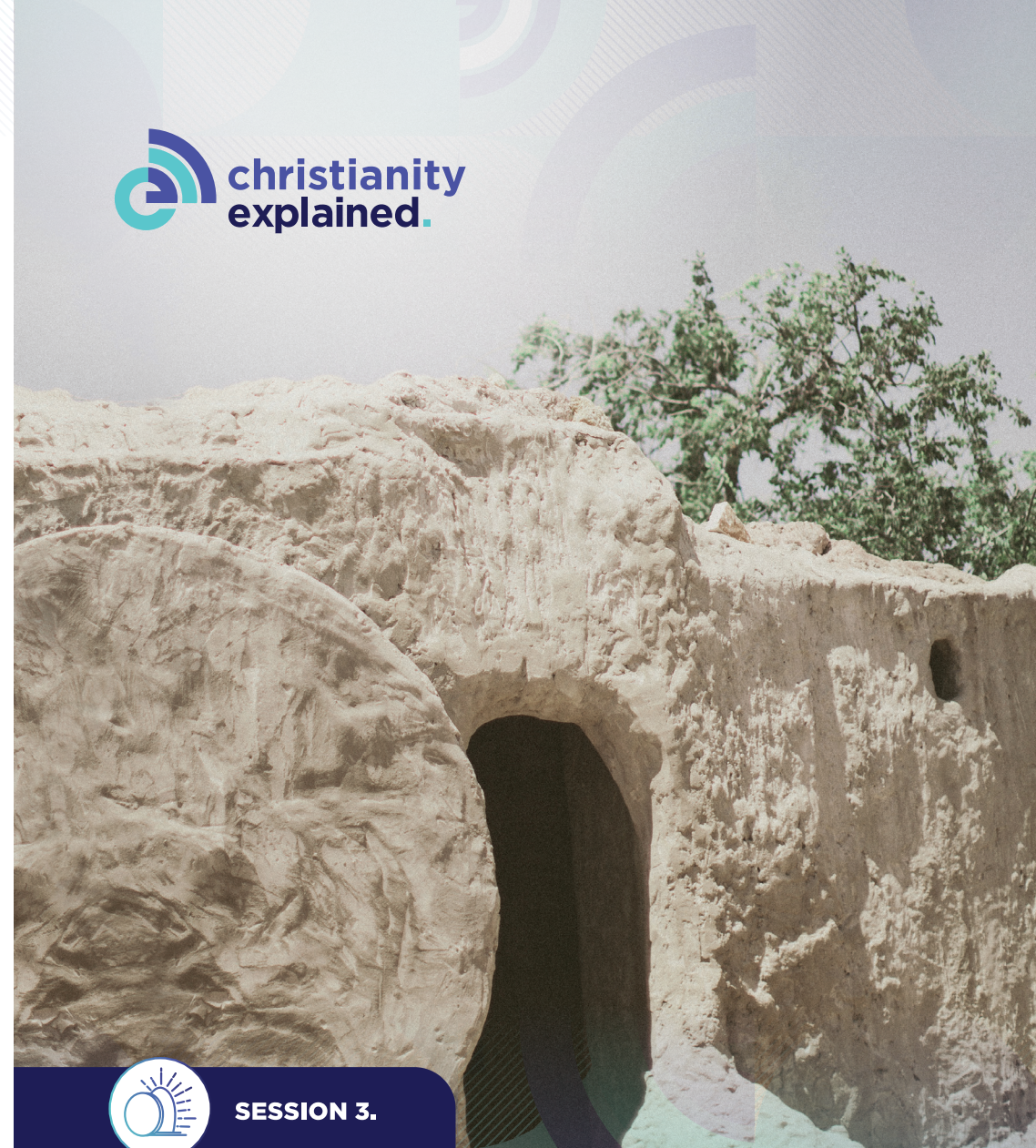


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SESSION 3.

## Jesus [His resurrection]



## Jesus [His resurrection]

In this study we have seen:

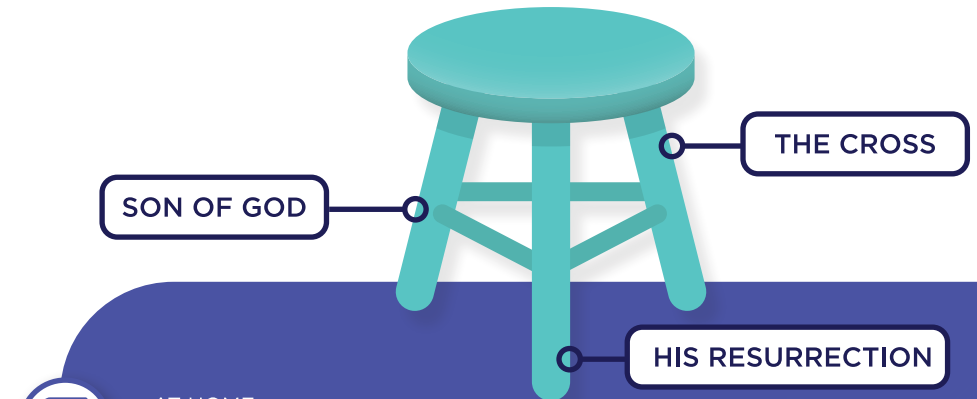
1. **The resurrection predicted** MARK 10:32-34
2. **Jesus was seen in a resurrected physical body** LUKE 24:36-43  
In the Bible there are recorded at least ten occasions when the risen Jesus appeared to his followers. He spoke to them, ate with them and was touched by them.
3. **The meaning of the resurrection** ACTS 10:39-43
  - a) **All people will be raised**  
'the living and the dead'
  - b) **All people will be judged**  
'the judge of all - the living and the dead'
  - c) **The risen Jesus will be the judge**  
'Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge'
  - d) **All people will be divided into two groups** 'everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins'  
**"If anyone is ashamed of me... the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person"** MARK 8:38
  - e) **This division is forever**  
Read 2 THESSALONIANS 1:9-10.

### CONCLUSION

Jesus' attitude to me on the day of judgment is the same as my attitude to him now, in this life.

- If I **accept** him now, he will **accept** me then.
- If I **reject** him now, he will **reject** me then.

There are three basic concepts which you must believe to be a Christian. These are:



AT HOME:

### Read Mark chapters 11-16

Note anything you do not understand, or would like to discuss. There will be a time for discussing these things at the beginning of the next session.





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SESSION 4.

## God's Gift [Not our works]



## God's Gift [Not our works]

Imagine that you have just died, and that God is judging your life. God says to you: 'Give me one good reason why I should accept you into heaven with me?' What would you reply?

### The wrong answer: What I have done

God, you should accept me because I have:

- Lived a good life
- Kept the Ten Commandments
- Given to charities
- Been a good citizen
- Been a good parent
- Prayed and read the Bible
- Been to Church
- Been baptised.

### The right answer: What Christ has done

God, you should accept me because of what **Christ** has done for me, and that alone.

Good works  Salvation

# BUT

Salvation  Good works



Read Ephesians 2:8-10

## CONCLUSION

We have seen that eternal life, forgiveness of sins and a place in God's kingdom cannot be earned or deserved by us. They have been earned for people by the Son of God, through his death and resurrection.

NOT

BUT

WHAT  
I  
HAVE DONE

WHAT  
**CHRIST**  
HAS DONE

So forgiveness and eternal life is the free gift of God to all who will receive the giver – that is, Jesus Christ.

In the next session we will discuss how we do this. This is the vital question, *What is a Christian?*



AT HOME:

Re-read these passages from Mark's gospel and underline what you think are the most significant words for you:

- A) MARK 1:15
- B) MARK 7:20-23
- C) MARK 8:34-38
- D) MARK 9:43-48
- E) MARK 10:29-31





### Prayer of Salvation

Lord Jesus, I want to know you personally.

I'm sorry for going my own way.

Please forgive me for all of my sin.

Thank you for dying on the cross to pay for my sin.

I agree to turn from my old ways and follow you as my Saviour and Lord.

Please come and take first place in my life.

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SESSION 5.

Repenting [What is a Christian?]





# Repenting [What is a Christian?]

**“The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!” MARK 1:15**

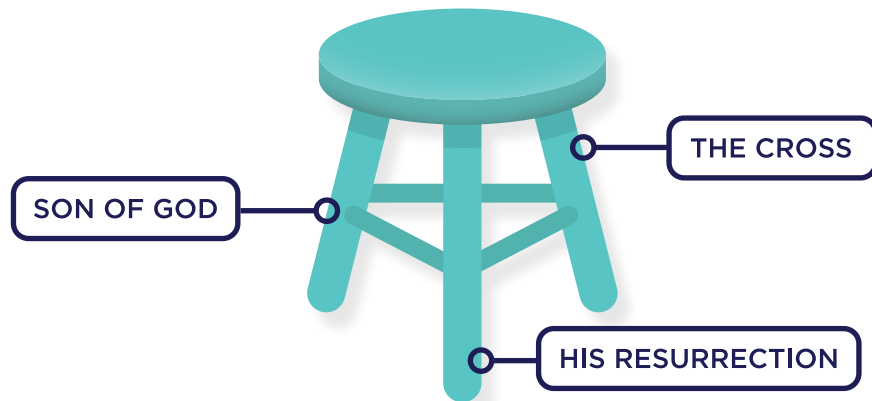
**Q: What is a Christian?**

A: *Someone who belongs to the kingdom of God.*

**Q. How can I belong to the kingdom of God?**

A: *By repenting and believing in Jesus Christ.*

We have seen that there are three basic concepts which you must believe to be a Christian. These are:



But being a Christian is more than just believing these facts.

## Repentance means:

Recognising sin in our lives and how offensive it is to God, turning away from that sinful way of life and turning towards a God-honouring way of life.

I put Jesus first ...

- ... Before my will
- ... Before my ambitions
- ... Before my popularity
- ... Before anyone or anything else

**MARK 8:34-38 AND MARK 9:43-48**



AT HOME:

What gifts does God promise to those who repent and believe?

MARK 1:8

H

S

MARK 2:10

F

MARK 10:30

E

L





### Prayer of Salvation

Lord Jesus, I want to know you personally.

I'm sorry for going my own way.

Please forgive me for all of my sin.

Thank you for dying on the cross to pay for my sin.

I agree to turn from my old ways and follow you as  
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Please come and take first place in my life.

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SESSION 6.

Believing [What is a Christian?]



## Believing [What is a Christian?]

**“The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!”** MARK 1:15

**Q: What is a Christian?**

A: *Someone who belongs to the kingdom of God.*

**Q. How can I belong to the kingdom of God?**

A: *By repenting and believing in Jesus Christ.*

Throughout each of the six sessions, we have seen that a Christian believes certain facts about Jesus Christ.

**“Anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”** MARK 10:15

So believing is more than just accepting facts about Jesus. I must personally receive him as my King and Saviour, and by so doing I receive these gifts that are promised by God:

### 1. The Holy Spirit MARK 1:8

Jesus Christ comes to live in me by his Spirit, and begins to change me from the inside out.

### 2. The forgiveness of sins MARK 2:10

I can know for certain that my sins are totally forgiven. Jesus' death is sufficient to pay for my sins.

### 3. Eternal life MARK 10:29-30

I can truly have eternal life with Jesus, because I trust in what he has done for me, and not what I can do.

#### Am I a Christian?

Test yourself. You are a Christian if you can genuinely say YES to these two statements.

I trust in Jesus' death for the forgiveness of my sins.

*(I do not trust my own good works)*

I trust in the risen Jesus to be Lord of my life.

*(I will not insist solely on my own will)*

