



When and Why
Should I
Become
a Christian?

When and why should I become a Christian?

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Introduction: Who this lesson is for

- You, if you are not a Christian
- Parents of young children
 - They will grow up, you know
- Everyone
 - Can you – right now – tell someone how to be saved?
 - **2 Timothy 2:24-26**
 - **1 Peter 3:15**

Why *not* become a Christian?

- It is a good thing, so what is the harm in rushing?
 - You must count the cost, **Luke 14:28-33**
 - Baptism is free, but being Jesus' disciple will cost you everything
 - Jesus asks us to NOT be His disciples until we are ready
 - It is worse to be unprepared and then go astray (**2 Peter 2:20-22**)
 - John turned people away from being baptized if they had the wrong motives (**Luke 3:1-14**)
 - Paul baptized some again (**Acts 19:1-5**)
 - Don't do it just to make your parents happy
 - Yes, obey them!
 - But you are responsible for your own soul as an adult (**Romans 14:12**)

Why become a Christian?

- **John 5:24-29** – When we die, Jesus' followers will have eternal life in heaven
- **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** – Those that are “in Christ” (vs. 14, 16) will go to heaven
- So, who is in Christ?
- **Romans 6:3-6** – Baptism puts us “into Christ”
- There are blessings in this life, also –
Matthew 19:29

When should you become a Christian?

- When you can believe (**1 Corinthians 15:1-6**)
 - Belief leads to eternal life, **John 3:16**
- When you have sin to repent of
 - We *all* sin... **Romans 3:23**
 - But young children have no sin, **Matthew 18:3**
 - At what age are you accountable? There is not a set number.
- When you have counted the cost (**Luke 14:25-33**)
 - You will have to give up ANYTHING that stands between you and following Christ, **Mark 8:34-38**
 - And being willing to stand up strong and firm when asked about your faith.
 - Because there will be trials, **1 Peter 4:12-19**

Conclusion

- Are you safe if you grow up and *never* become a Christian? No.
- Are you safe if you get baptized *just to do it*? No.
- This will be urgent *one day*. For now, it may not be at your age.
- For now, pay attention, grow, and be a good person.
 - **John 13:34-35** (ESV), “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”