

# 101 *for* **KIDS**



The basic message of the Bible  
in a way **kids** can understand.



**Meet Ted.** Ted's a normal kid, just like you. He likes to play, eat, go to school, and hang out with friends. Ted goes to church, and he really likes Sunday School. He's heard Bible stories about Moses, David, and Jesus. He loves these stories, and he knows they're true.

Ted has also heard what the Bible says about Jesus dying on the cross. It's a scary story, but he knows how important it is. Ted doesn't just want to go to church; he wants to become a Christian. He wants to know that Jesus died for him, and that he'll go to heaven some day.

***Answer this:** Are you like Ted?  
Do you want to know about  
how to become a Christian?*

The Bible tells us that God loves us and wants to be with us in heaven. Imagine the best dad you've ever heard about, and God is even kinder and stronger and more fun to be around. But there's a problem. Something keeps us from having this kind of friendship with God. And it will also keep us out of heaven if we don't take care of it. The Bible calls our problem **SIN**.

**Sin is doing things our own way instead of God's way.** It's being disobedient. It's being selfish. Ted has a lot of sin in his life, and so do all of us! God wants us pointed in HIS direction. But sin points us in OUR direction instead.



***Answer this:** Can you give some  
examples of sin in your life?*

The Bible says that we get paid for our sin, like a punishment for doing something really bad. Do you know what that punishment is? We get “grounded” from God – we don't get to be around Him or go to heaven.



Now that's bad news. But here's good news: God has done something to take care of our sin problem. He doesn't want to punish us. He doesn't want to ground us. He wants us to go to heaven. He wants us to become Christians. And that's why Jesus died on the cross.

The Bible says we don't have to worry about our sin if we ask Jesus into our hearts. The grown up word for this is “faith” or “believing”. And **there are two very important things the Bible says about having faith.**



The first part of faith has to do with **what you believe about Jesus**. There are lots of religions that say many different things about Jesus. But the Bible tells us the truth. It tells us exactly what we need to know about him.

**First, the Bible says that Jesus is God.** He's not just a good teacher or a nice man. He's actually God! While he was on earth he lived a perfect life and did a lot of amazing things. He's the only person in history who never sinned. And that's because he wasn't only a human being like you and me. He was a human being *and* he was God – at the same time!

**The Bible also says that Jesus died on a cross.** You probably remember this story. But do you know how important it is? Jesus didn't die because *he* did something bad. He died because *we* did something bad! It's kind of like your brother getting grounded for something you did wrong. Jesus did that for us. He died so we don't have to.

**Answer this:** Do you think it's fair that Jesus died on the cross? Do you understand what it means for you?

**The Bible also says that Jesus rose from the dead.** This is important because it shows us how strong and powerful he is. It shows us he is God. And it shows us that we'll live forever in heaven, too.

**#2**

The second part of faith has to do with **your attitude toward Jesus**. It's one thing to say, "sure, I believe all those things about Jesus". It's another thing to really mean it.

**The right attitude means you're sorry for your sins.** A person who believes in Jesus understands why he died on the cross. They say, "I know you died because of my sin. I'm really sorry!" They feel sad that Jesus had to die.



**The right attitude also means you want to go God's way now.** Remember how we described sin? It's going our way instead of God's way. When you accept Jesus into your heart you say, "God, I've changed my mind. I realize that I've been going my own way. But now I want to think about you first. I want to go your way from now on."

Now you know how to accept Jesus into your heart! You believe what the Bible says about him, and you ask him into your heart with the right attitude. When you do this, you'll be saved! You'll know that you'll be with God in heaven someday, and even now you can start living a new life as a Christian. If you want to get started, you can pray a prayer like this:

*"Jesus, I know that I'm a sinner. I know that you died for me, and I want you to be my Savior and God. Thank you for this free gift. Amen."*