



## What is a Christian?

*Road Narrows sign: as Christians, God does not expect us to take the wide path most traveled.*

1. "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:29)
2. "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourself." (Philippians 2:3)
3. "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful. I know that full well." (Psalm 139:14)

### The Apostle's Creed

**Opening prayer:** *Start a Circle prayer and ask each student to take turns adding to the prayer and then you can close.*

- Share and record Joys and Concerns in Notebook.
- Have students complete and turn in Homework Log.
- Review their Scripture Memory Verse options from above.

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### What is a Christian?

A follower of Christ. <sup>blank</sup> One who has a personal relationship with Christ.

### A Christian practices humility.

Jesus was the example of practicing humility.

**Read Philippians 2:5-11.** Jesus calls us all to follow Him and His practice of humility. Matthew 11:29 "Learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls"

### But what is humility?

It is not about denying ones own worth, but more importantly it is about recognizing the worth of others. This means in our actions and words we recognize that others are equally worthy. "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourself." Philippians 2:3

### How can I be a Christian?

It is more than just believing in God and Jesus. Even the devil believes God and Jesus exist. To be a Christian you need to accept Christ as your Savior. Knowing in your heart that He died for you on the cross.

## **So, if I become a Christian, what does that mean for my life?**

You....

...are saved from your sin. Sin can enslave us, control us, dominate us and dictate our actions. Jesus frees you from that slavery that keeps you from being who God created you to be.

...have an intimate relationship with God who is the only true source of lasting peace, joy, love, and hope. (Matthew 6:9)

...have the care of a loving Father – that is, a God who understands and supplies what we need (Matthew 6:32).

...have the privilege of forgiveness. Every day we can ask for forgiveness of sins that interfere with our Father-child relationship and have things made right again (1 John 1:9)

...have eternal life with God. The inheritance of heaven.

...have the power of the Holy Spirit at work in you transforming (changing) you into God’s likeness; guiding you.

...belong to God’s family. Brothers and sisters in Christ. Becoming a Christian doesn’t guarantee you won’t have hard times, but God will be with you during the hard times.

## **What kind of Christian should I be? (Large Group)**

*Set up real vs. fake stations, items might include:*

*Real Coke vs. diet Coke*

*Real chocolate chip morsels vs. chocolate flavored morsels*

*Artificial sweetener vs. Sugar*

*Ask students to decide what is real and what is fake.*

**Ask:** *How can you tell what is real and what is fake?*

*How can Christians be fake?*

*How can you tell if someone’s beliefs are fake?*

*Have students put on blindfolds. Ask them to drink some cola that is cold and some that is warm.*

**Ask:** *Which cola do you like better? Why?*

## **Read Revelation 3:15-16**

**Ask:** *Why would God prefer someone who is turned off to Him rather than someone who is lukewarm to Him? (cold people know they are far away from God and when they come to Him it will be with their whole heart. Lukewarm people think they are doing enough and they are okay with God. They don’t see the need to be on fire for God)*

**Ask:** *What does a Lukewarm Christian look like? What kind of Christian are you?*

**\*\*Tip:** *If you have students who say they can’t tell real from fake, you might say, “There are some Christians who put on a “good show.” They look like perfect Christians on the outside (going to church and Sunday School) but really they are not following God’s ways. (gossiping, cursing, getting into fights etc.)”*

## **Read 2 Peter 1: 5-12 What did Peter list as 7 characteristics of Christian faith?**

*Goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, Godliness, mutual affection and love.*

## **Read Col. 3:12-15 What are the 10 Christian virtues in Colossians?**

*Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, love, peace and thankfulness.*

Leaders discuss with students the Softball video they were to watch for their homework the week before.

Follow up questions (these were questions the family was to do as homework)

- *How is this a picture of what a Christian is?*
- *How are their actions & decisions an example of Jesus Christ in our world today? (God wants us to live our Christian beliefs. Show that we are Christians through our actions.)*
- *What are some reasons you might choose not to live out your Christian faith? (I might lose my friends. It is more fun to do the “wrong” thing. God can’t see me anyway. Everyone else is doing it.)*

*(from No-Miss Lessons for Preteens, Group Publishing pg. 92-95)*

**Closing prayer**

# Homework

Pick one of the following Scriptures to memorize for next week's lesson, write it on a note card and put it somewhere you can see it and reflect on it daily:

1. *"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."* (Philippians 4:8)
2. *"Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."* (John 15:4)
3. *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."* (Romans 12:2)

## Journaling:

1. Read The Apostles' Creed from page 5 of your Student Lesson Guide and John 11:25-27. *What parts of it are easy for you to believe? What parts of the Creed are you still struggling with?*
2. Answer these questions in your journal: *Have I given credit to myself for things that have been good in my week instead of giving the credit to God? Have I admitted this week that I was wrong or said I was sorry to someone I hurt this week?*
3. Read the Beatitudes in your Bible in Matthew 5:3-12, then look over page 67 of your book. These are eight Christian spiritual qualities. *Which two do you think you do well with? Which two do you have trouble with?*

## The Journey continues next week: Lesson 8 — *What does God expect of me?*

*In preparation for next week, read over "How we are to look and act differently" on page 71.*

## Family Homework:

Since Christians are examples of Christ's love in the world, have your family pick something you can do for others. Some examples might be: visit a nursing home, mow a neighbors' lawn, make a meal for a family, take food to a local food shelter or donate clothing items to The Shepherd's Place free store.

- **Students:** After doing this with your family, answer these questions in your journal:
  - *How did this action benefit someone else?*
  - *How did this action benefit you and your family?*

# Homework Log

Fill out and turn into your instructors each week



Confirmation Homework Log for: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Name)

Lesson # \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name one thing you learned from this past week's Lesson:
2. How will you make changes in your life since you learned this?
3. What is one question you still have from last week's lesson?

Each day, write if you did any of the following and explain:

- homework
- attended a Reynoldsburg UMC student activity this week. . . Which one?
- provided community service. . . What did you do?

Sunday:

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

Circle which worship service you attended (or will attend) this week:

**Saturday:** 6:00 pm **Sunday:** 8:00am 9:15am