

## Joining the Truth Teller's Family

First you choose to agree and say you agree with God:

1) that you have done things that are wrong (sinned) in God's sight and that God has a right to demand a penalty be paid for those sins

2) that because God the Father loved you so much that he gave his only son, Jesus, to die for the sins you have committed, you won't ever have to die for those sins yourself.

This is what Romans 10:9 means when it says *confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus*.

Then you believe that God raised him from the dead—just like he's going to raise you when he sends Jesus back for all his children -- and made him ruler over everything, including you.

Verse 10 explains how this works. *For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

The Jews used the word heart as the center or the inmost being. In other words, when the real true inside you believes the truth that Jesus has paid with his life for your sins, you are seen by God as without guilt. Saying out loud to someone that you agree with the standards God has set is just a recognition that you choose to consent with God to keep those standards.

Read the list below and determine which of the truths you choose to believe:

- ✓ *God really loves me and wants me to be part of his family.* John 3:16 in the Bible says, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life."
- ✓ *Jesus paid the price for all my sins (bad choices and wrong actions, thoughts and feelings) so I wouldn't have to.* Isaiah 53:6 tells us that all of us have strayed away from God's ways and turned to our own ways; but the Father has laid all that wrong on Jesus. That means he allowed Jesus to be punished for all of our sins.
- ✓ *Jesus will never send me away.* John 6:37 says, "The one who comes to me I will by no means turn away."
- ✓ *God will give me a new heart and make me able to change.* In Ezekiel 36:27 God promises, "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them."

If the real you believed all 4 of those statements, then all you have to do to become a part of God's family is to pray the following prayer, or similar words of your own:

"God, I know I'm a sinner and can't do anything to save myself. I really believe you want me to be part of your family, and so you sent Jesus to save me. I accept what he did for me. I am truly sorry for my sins, and with your help, I want to turn away from the wrong thinking, feeling and acting I've been doing. Jesus, please forgive me and come into my heart right now. I will trust you to be in charge of how I think and feel

and act from now on. Help me to live for you every day. Thank you for loving me and forgiving my sins. Thank you that with your help I can be who you made me to be. Thank you that I'll never die, but will get to live with you in heaven forever. In Jesus mighty name, I pray.  
Amen ``

If you really meant it when you prayed that prayer then you have been born again!

## **WELCOME TO THE FAMILY**

I told you it wouldn't be a long journey! I want you to know you don't need to be afraid about what you're feeling or not feeling right now. We aren't saved by our feelings. We're saved because we put our faith in who God is, who he says we are (which is his child since you've prayed the prayer!), and what he has promised us as his children.

But anytime you make a major decision—and this is the most major decision you'll ever make—you're probably going to wonder if what you did was real. I know I did for a while. That's why I think it's important for you to write down your signature and date after you pray this life-saving prayer to God. Then if at any time you have any doubts that God is on your side, you can come back to this page and read this prayer and remember when you prayed it to God. You can also go to our web site at [treeofrest.org](http://treeofrest.org) Click Personal Ministries and read God Is For Me.

Now, I'd like to ask you to do something for me. Would you take the time to e-mail me at [teen@treeofrest.org](mailto:teen@treeofrest.org) or write me at Tree of Rest, Inc., 323 W. Harden Street, Graham, NC 27253. I'd really like to rejoice with you!