

The ABC's of Being Born-Again

Shared with permission from Tim Dilena

How do you get to heaven?

- God knows the directions to His own house
- Let Him explain how to get there
- Some think it's water baptism, communion, going to church, being good....all of these are good but not what Jesus said.
- So how does Jesus tell us how we get to His home, heaven?
- He uses the word BORN AGAIN
- Born Again is Jesus' term not mine
- He says in John 3:3 - "No man can see the kingdom of heaven unless they are born again"
- In fact, Jesus says "you MUST be born again"
- That means you can't make OPTIONAL what Jesus says is A MUST

Big question: How am I born again?

It's as simple as A-B-C

- **ADMIT:** Admit I am a sinner (Romans 3:23 all have sinned)
 - I get honest with God
 - All of us have a condition called sin
 - It cannot be fixed with a PROMISE, A PROGRAM, A PRIEST OR A PASTOR
 - We need help to fix us
 - I am broken inside, and the diagnosis is "sin" and I admit I'm a sinner
 - "We are not MISTAKERS in need of CORRECTION....We are SINNERS in need of a SAVIOR. We need more than a second chance; we need a second birth" – Andy Stanley
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- **BELIEVE:** Believe that God sent His Son to fix our sinful condition
 - I can't fix myself
 - If we could fix this ourselves then God putting His Son through the suffering He went through is the ultimate case of Child abuse
 - If I could get myself to heaven by being good, then Jesus would never have to come on die on the cross for me.
 - Jesus' death was Jesus being my sin bearer
 - (2 Cor. 5:14) He died a death I should have died
 - Lived a life I could not live
 - And gave me a reward (heaven) that I did not deserve

Finally....

- **CONFESS:** Confess Jesus as Lord
- Do you think that God sent Jesus to die on a cross to get you to sit in a seat for an hour on Sunday? That His goal was to get you in church?
- God's goal is to get you to heaven.
- Coming to church on Sunday is religion
- Being born again is a relationship
- Christianity is coming to a Person not a Place and that Person is in charge. He is Lord (Rom 10:9, 10)
- "Lord" means the Boss
- I don't do what God wants for an hour on Sunday....God gets every day. That's called Lordship.

JUST AS YOU HAD A FIRST BIRTH

JESUS SAYS YOU NEED A SECOND BIRTH

Your first birth was in a hospital and that was your birthday, physically

Now it's time for you to have a second birth date, spiritually

That can happen right now

Pray this prayer with me

Born Again Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, I believe that you are the Son of God. I believe that on the cross, you took my sin, my shame, and my guilt; and you died for it. I believe that you faced hell for me, so I would not have to go; and you rose from the dead, to give me a place in heaven, a purpose on earth, and a relationship with your Father. Today, Lord Jesus, I turn from my sin to be born again. God is my Father, Jesus is my Savior, the Holy Spirit is my Helper and Heaven is now my home.... In Jesus Name, Amen!



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