

RESTART

A brief guide for following Jesus

If you're reading this, it's because you have a desire to start following Jesus - or to recommit yourself to following Him.

We believe that's because the Holy Spirit is speaking to you and so our prayer is that you would wholeheartedly respond to Him.

This little booklet is to help you *start* or *restart* that process of response.

1.

GOD

God exists, and has always existed - without beginning or end. He is so powerful that He **created** everything, light, matter, space & time, simply because He wanted it to be so.

We were created by this God, **loved** by Him and intended for relationship & community with Him. He has a **purpose** for your life: knowing Him more intimately every day and representing Him here on earth so that His will is done everywhere.

¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

(Colossians 1: 16-17)

Gen. 1:1-2 ; Rev. 1:8 ; Eph. 2:10 ; Ps. 139:13

2.

YOU

Rather than submit to our creator-God and His plans for us, we choose to turn our backs on Him and live our own way. The Bible calls this kind of rebellion ‘**sin**’ and it fractures our relationship with God.

Without Jesus in your life, you are spiritually dead, cut off from God who is our **source** of life.

Your sin needs to be remedied so that you can be reconciled to God.

⁶Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

(Isaiah 59:2)

Rom. 3:23, 6:23 ; Eph. 2: 1-5 ; Is. 53:6 ; Acts 17:28

“

The **Gospel** is the good news that Jesus has made a way for us to be reconciled to the Father so we can enter into & live eternally in the Kingdom He's ushered in.”

”

3.

JESUS

Jesus, who is **eternally** and **fully** God, came to earth as a man in order to represent mankind and so that we can know what God is like.

Jesus chose to die on a cross, in order to make an infinite sacrifice of **atonement** for our sin: He took our deserved punishment on Himself and made it possible for us to have a spotless record before God.

Jesus then comes to live in us by the Holy Spirit when we put our trust in Him, who makes us new and reconnects us in intimacy with God.

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

(2 Corinthians 5:21)

Col. 2:9 ; Heb. 1: 3-4 ; Gal. 2:20 ; Titus 2: 13-14, 3: 4-7

4.

RESPONSE: FAITH

In order to benefit from what Jesus has done for you on the cross, you must exercise faith and **believe**:

Jesus is the only true God and sole way to eternal life.

You are in need of forgiveness that only Jesus can offer.

Forgiveness cannot be earned but is given as a gift of grace by God and received through faith.

⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

(Romans 10:9)

Jn. 14:6 ; Eph. 2: 8-9 ; Rom. 10: 9-13 ; Jn. 3:36

4.

RESPONSE: REPENTANCE

Repentance is the act of turning **away** from an old life of sin and **towards** Jesus instead. This happens as an initial act of the will when we receive Jesus and is then a daily habit of choosing to live for Him.

If you have previously put your faith in Jesus but then wandered away from Him, you don't need to be 'saved' again - but you do need to repent again!

¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,
²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,
and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,

(Acts 3: 19-20)

4.

RESPONSE: PRAYER

Prayer is speaking to & hearing from God, and is a practice we cultivate on a daily basis. If you want to receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, you can pray something like this:

Jesus, I know that I'm sinful and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for me, and that You rose back to life. Please forgive me and come into my life as my Lord, helping me to trust & obey You. Holy Spirit, please empower me. I receive You now as my Lord, by faith. Amen.

If you want to recommit your life to following Jesus:

Jesus, please forgive me for how I've wandered from You. Give me a new & willing heart to live for You again. Thank You for being my Lord & my Saviour. Amen.

5.

NEXT STEPS

It is vitally important that your response to Jesus goes beyond just **intention**, but includes **action**:

- 1. Tell someone about this decision.*
- 2. Pray & read the Bible on a daily basis.*
- 3. Join a local church*

If you would like to join with us at Linkway Church, send us an email at **amen@linkwaychurch.org.za**

²²But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

(James 1:22)

5.

NEXT STEPS: LINKWAY

At Linkway Church, there are a few things we recommend you do in order to grow as a Christian:

Worship together on Sunday mornings

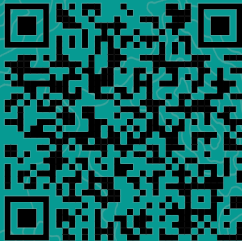
Join a weekly **Link Group**

Complete our 8-week **Discovery** course

Sign up for a **Baptism Q&A** if you haven't been baptized yet

*Please email us at
amen@linkwaychurch.org.za
for any information*

Contact me:



linkwaychurch.org.za/start

36 Link Way, Edgemean, Cape Town
+27 21 559 3768
amen@linkwaychurch.org.za

