

2) repents of his/her life of sin to follow Him unquestioningly,

Acts 2:37 ... when they heard this, they were pierced in their heart, and said to Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said to them, **Repent**,....

3) submits to baptism in water appealing to God for their sins to be forgiven

Acts 22:16 And now why are you waiting? arise, and **be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.**

1 Peter 3:21 .. even baptism does also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, **but the appeal of a good conscience*** to God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

(*Greek = a good conscience's appeal)

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

According to the Bible, this is the only way to become a member of the Lord Jesus' church. Also He adds you to His church - not to a denomination. You will be simply a Christian - not a denominational brand of Christian.

TEST EXERCISE

In a letter to your friend explain from the Bible how to become a member of the Lord's church and that the church of the Lord Jesus Christ it is not a denomination.

Authentic Christianity

STUDY 03

WHERE IS
TRUE CHRISTIANITY ?

&

STUDY 04

SIMPLICITY IN THE
UNIVERSAL CHURCH

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"Authentic Christianity"

Study 3 WHERE IS TRUE CHRISTIANITY ?

Where Can We Find Pure Christianity ?

The media constantly reminds us that our coastal waters are polluted. No one in their right mind would dream of drinking a cup of water straight from any of our estuaries. If we want pure water we have to go to the source where it springs from the mountain.

Similarly, human depravity has progressively corrupted many good causes. To find purity, we have to remove the accumulated dross and go back to the source. This is particularly true with Christianity.

If we want pure Christianity, we must go back to the beginning, to the teaching of the Lord Jesus and His apostles.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be ready, in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound teaching; but they will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts, having itching ears; 4 And they will turn away their ears from the truth, and will be turned to fables.

The only historically authentic source of information on pure Christianity is the New Testament. We have to go back to New Testament principles.

Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write to you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write to you, and exhort you that you should **earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered** to the saints.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, *and* is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished to all good works.

IS IT CLARITY and SIMPLICITY ?

People tend to expect truth to be complex. The Christianity of the New Testament is so uncomplicated it is too simple for many to accept. The following units explain its simplicity.

TEST EXERCISE

In a letter to your friend explain where we will learn about true Christianity.

"Authentic Christianity"

Study 4 SIMPLICITY IN THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

How do we join the church?

Becoming a member of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is not like joining a club. The Lord Jesus is building his church by adding certain people to it.

Matthew 16:18 ... I (*Jesus*) will build my church; ...

Acts 2:41 Then they who gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were **added** to them (*i.e. the Lord's church*) about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:47 ... **the Lord (*Jesus*) added to the church** daily such as should be saved.

The Lord Jesus adds to His church anyone who:-

1) believes that the Lord Jesus is what He claimed to be,

Acts 8:36 ... they came to some water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; **what prevents me from being baptized?** 37 And Philip said, **If you believe with all your heart, you may.** And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**