

Consequently, a personal relationship with God can only be established by:

- accepting what Jesus Christ did on the cross.¹²
- asking Him to forgive you for your sins.¹³
- letting Him be the Lord and God of your life.¹⁴
- with Him living inside of you,¹⁵ turning away from whatever God and the Bible call sin.¹⁶

Bible References:

¹John 5:13; ²Matt. 5:48; ³James 2:10;
⁴James 2:19; ⁵Matt. 5:21-22; ⁶Titus 3:5;
⁷Titus 3:5; ⁸Heb. 10:10-14; ⁹1 Tim. 2:5;
¹⁰1 Tim. 2:5; ¹¹Titus 3:5; ¹²1 Cor. 15:3;
¹³1 John 1:9; ¹⁴Rom. 10:9-10, Phil. 2:11;
¹⁵Rev. 3:20; ¹⁶Acts 3:19

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I'M A CATHOLIC

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I firmly believe all of the major doctrines taught in the Catholic Bible. The foremost of these doctrines is the way the Bible describes how to get to heaven.¹ Even though this is the Bible's primary teaching, I have found that **many Catholics are not 100% sure they are going to heaven.**

I myself was raised a Catholic and yet never knew for certain that I had eternal life. Though I had received the Sacraments of Water Baptism and Confirmation and had gone to Catholic grammar school and high school, **I was never absolutely positive that if I died I would spend eternity with God.**

Then, one day, someone explained to me what the Holy Bible taught about how to get to heaven. Somehow I thought that if I did certain things, I could get to heaven. But the Catholic Bible never taught that. It clearly states that **no one will get to Heaven because he:**

- does the best he can²
- goes to Mass⁷
- tries to keep the 10 Commandments³
- receives Holy Communion⁸
- believes in God⁴
- goes to Confession⁹
- never hurts anyone⁵
- prays to Mary¹⁰
- is a member of a church⁶
- or does any other form of human effort

The Catholic Bible says that none of these things will get someone into heaven. Both the Catholic and Protestant Bibles clearly teach that there is no person on earth who deserves to go to heaven.¹¹ **I have never deserved, nor will I ever deserve to go to heaven. But, I am going.** Like all human beings, I deserve to go to hell because of the sins I have committed. But because of God's wonderful provision, I am 100% positive that I will live with God forever.

How about you? Are you absolutely certain that if you died this moment you would go to heaven? Well, you can be. I believe that you have probably heard the Bible's description of how to get to heaven many times. But just like me, though you've heard it, it was probably never clearly explained to you.

Jesus Christ is the way God has provided for us to get to heaven. **Presently, you are most likely trusting in what you can do to get you to heaven and not what He has done.** After 33 years of perfect obedience to His Father in heaven, Jesus died on the cross, taking the punishment that all mankind deserved upon Himself. In reality, each of us should have died on the cross for our own sins. But because He loves us, Jesus was willing to die in our place.