



You'd Make a Marvelous Christian!

Who, Me?

Can you picture yourself being a follower of Jesus Christ? Maybe that sounds a little ridiculous. But it's true just the same - you'd make a marvelous Christian. We want to tell you why.



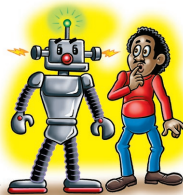
When God looks at you, He sees a lot of potential. Much like a great sculptor would look at a piece of marble. There was once a famous statue made by a renowned sculptor, made out of a cracked piece of marble which had been discarded by builders. No one could see anything in it. But the great artist could. That's the way God looks at you. He sees what He could do with you and gets all excited about it.

Even though you may not know God in a personal way, He still designed you for fellowship with Him. That is your real purpose in life – to have fun being with Jesus and for Him to have fun being with you. "Fun" is not a strong enough word to express what God really wants. He wants to be completely united with you in love, thought, attitude, and action.

Here are 3 BIG reasons you can make it:

#1 You have a free will!

You are not a robot. God would not be able to enjoy fellowshiping with something that had no will. So He gave you a free will – to accept Him, or reject Him. But, that is one of the reasons you will make a marvelous Christian.



You have the same free will to accept or reject the devil! See? You already have something going for you. Neither God nor the devil can make you choose them. So junk the devil and choose God. **That's the first step. The Bible calls this step repentance.**

#2 You are a vessel that can be filled!

Many people wish they could stop sinning. They want their children to learn about God, but have given up hope on themselves. Are you like that? Do you ever wish you could really live for God, but figure you just can't make it? That's because you try to imagine yourself living godly with all the fears, lusts, hurts, and confusion that are in your heart. You know that would be impossible, and you are right!



But, you forget that God can fill you with His Spirit. When He is living inside you, He lives the life through you. You will have different wants and desires...and a deep peace. God pictures you as living for Him, after He comes into you and fills you with the Living Water. You picture yourself trying to change on the outside with an empty inside. So, before you think you can't live it...ask Christ to pour Himself into you...and you'll have a whole different outlook.

#3 Your mind is a computer that can be reprogrammed!



Your mind is probably full of questions. You know you'd make a lousy Christian, thinking the way you think. Right again! Multitudes of people think negatively about themselves. They think they are no-good failures. Or, perhaps the mental addiction to sin makes you think you'd have too much to give up.

But your mind can be renewed by the Word of God. It can be "reprogrammed." By reading the Bible, you'll see the other side of sin and it won't look nearly so good. Jesus resisted temptation by telling the devil, "It is written..." And that's the pattern for us today. If your mind is programmed by the devil, you'll live like him. If it's programmed by God's Word, you'll live like God.

God has happy thoughts. God has positive thoughts. His thoughts bring peace and joy. And, best of all, His thoughts are not critical, condemning ones. Rather, they build you up and tell you that you can make it. They set you free. If you thought about yourself the way God thinks of you, you'd love yourself.

*You think you are an unlikely prospect for a Christian?
You wouldn't be the first one, that's for sure!*

Meet Simon, The Fisherman



He was big and mean and uneducated. He was a man's man! Once, he hauled a net full of 153 large fish to shore by himself. Considering that was two boats full of fish, it must have weighed a lot!

Simon once said to Jesus, "Lord, depart from me, for I am a sinful man." But Jesus just told him to "Follow me...I know what I'm doing."

People thought that Jesus was crazy for choosing disciples like he chose. "Why are you eating with sinners?" they criticized. But when Jesus said to that big, fish-smelling man with dirt under his fingernails, "I'll make you a fisher of men," He knew He had the ability as the artist, and Peter (Jesus changed his name) had the raw material!

Peter went on to be the spokesman for the church on the day of Pentecost and had 300 people saved at his first sermon, and 5000 saved at his second. He had one lady raised from the dead under his ministry, and people were healed as his shadow passed over them. **JESUS CAN MAKE TREMENDOUS CHANGES IN YOU, TOO!** You have no idea of all the great things He can do with you and through you.

Meet the Woman at The Well

So unlikely a choice was this woman that His own disciples, who were rascals themselves, even wondered what in the world Jesus was doing talking to a creep like her. She was not even liked by the women of her village, so she came to the well alone. She had run off with five of the other ladies' husbands! She knew what immorality was all about. A rotten choice, right? WRONG!



Jesus knew what He was doing again. He told the woman that what she needed was the Living Water that He could supply, and that if she drank it, she would never thirst again. So, this woman went and witnessed for Jesus in such a powerful way that her entire village accepted Christ!

The woman was living with a man she was not married to when Jesus told her to drink the Living Water. Jesus knew that she had been searching desperately for love and fulfillment.

Don't try to clean up your act before you come to Christ. Just drink Him in, and the rest will come naturally. He loves you right now – while you are still a sinner. And He knows that when He fills you, you won't be searching for love anymore.

Meet Saul, The Persecutor



This man was striving to get to the top of the Jewish religious/political power structure. He was all business. And his business was to crush people who resisted the authority of the Sanhedrin (the ruling group who crucified Christ). This man hated Christians. The Bible says, "He breathed out slaughter." He put men and women in prison and took children from their parents. He committed murders. He was filled with pride and hatred and a desire to wipe out Christians everywhere. He was so wicked that he is called in scripture "the chief of sinners." A very unlikely choice for a disciple, right?

As God looked down at Saul, He saw a tremendous potential. What a will that guy had! And how determined he was! God thought, "I can turn that will toward me, and won't he be something then! And he has such a tremendous capacity for spiritual things. Why, he's just full to the brim with hate! But, after I replace that with love....and his mind! It's terribly confused, but I can straighten that out with a few revelations of Myself."

And so, while some of the Christians were hoping that Saul would fall off a camel on his head, God was choosing him to be the great apostle to the Gentiles...the man who would write one third of the New Testament! (We know him as the Apostle Paul.)

And that brings us to YOU!



JESUS SPEAKS DIRECTLY TO YOU: Do you think you are so special that I can't make a great Christian out of you? Are you the only one I can't do a miracle with? Is your weakness too great for My power? Do you think the sin stains in your heart are too great for my blood to cleanse?

I am Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever. The power that changed Simon (the reed) into Peter (the rock) is extended to you now. Put all of your trust in me. I am the author and finisher of your faith. I will never leave you nor forsake you. I will be with you always. If you hear Me knocking at your heart's door, let Me in. And when you do, I promise I will come in and take up residence there!

Come to me, all you who are weak and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Drink freely of the water of life. Just FOLLOW ME...trust Me...and I will make you a fisher of men!

