

## How To Become A Christian:

### Understand the bad news

- You are a sinner  
*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23*
- The penalty for sin is death  
*For the wages of sin is death Romans 6:23*

### Believe the good news

- Jesus Christ died for you  
*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*
- You can be saved by faith in the resurrected Jesus Christ.  
*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8*

### **How To Join Calvary Baptist Church**

We are glad you are here today! If you're interested in becoming a member of Calvary Baptist, here is some information to help you with your decision. At the close of each service we offer an "invitation" for you to come forward and join. There are four ways to become a part of the fellowship here at Calvary:

- 1 By making a Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord, with a willingness to follow Him in believer's baptism.
- 2 By presenting yourself as a candidate for baptism (you are already a Christian, but have not been baptized by immersion).
- 3 By transferring your membership from another Baptist church.
- 4 By personal statement that you are a Christian and have been baptized by immersion.

## **Hark! the Herald Angels Sing! but why?**



folks not believe Him, but to crucify Him for it—no, the singing wasn't for Jesus.

### **It probably wasn't for the angels themselves.**

It would give them no joy to watch for the next 33 years the incredible wonder of the Creator of the universe playing with little kids, speaking to the storm and quieting it like a child, watching Him restore sight and wholeness to the hurting and life itself to a friend who had died, and to have all that love rejected. No, the angels weren't singing for themselves.

### **I think the angels were singing for us.**

The celebration was because they knew Jesus was the true connection between people and God. They knew Jesus could quiet that empty place in each heart that God created and only He can fill. They knew Jesus came to earth to bridge the gap between God and man by His death on the cross. That's why we have Christmas and the angels sang.

### **Their song is for you if you know Jesus.**

If not, if the place in your heart is still empty and without Jesus, this year consider filling it with Him. But think carefully first. Though salvation in Jesus is a free gift, it isn't one without cost. You get it free, but Jesus died to give it to you.

### **It certainly couldn't have been for Jesus.**

Leaving the glory of heaven to inhabit a body that would get tired and hurt from a hard day working in the carpenter shop wasn't reason for joy. Then to preach the message He'd been sent to communicate not only to have the majority of

Also, if you accept Jesus' gift of salvation, know He takes it very seriously and you won't ever be the same. A new life will start in you, the very life of God.

If you want God's gift in all His fullness, chances are that He might ask for some changes your life to make room for new things He'll want to bring in.

Don't be afraid; you won't be losing out. You'll be gaining a whole way of life that will be more satisfying than you can imagine. You'll want to read the Bible; you'll want to talk to God in prayer; you'll want to go to a church and meet other members of your new family of God. You'll want to grow spiritually and become all your Creator meant for you to be.

It can be scary. You'll be under new management, but whatever you might be tightly clutching now will seem no more important to you than it does to a child who gladly sets aside a toy tricycle when he realizes his parents have a real bicycle for him.

### **The first Christmas began with a glorious song from angels, but the song isn't over.**

### **Did you know the angels want to sing for you?**

The Bible tells us that the angels today sing for joy whenever someone accepts the greatest gift of all—Jesus. If you want that gift, wherever you are, out-loud or in your heart, say something like this to Him:

*Dear Jesus,  
I want the gift You want to give me. I want to be connected with my God this Christmas. I know that I'm not. I know there are things in my life, my sin, my pride, even some of my good deeds that I thought could take me to God, but I know on my own I won't make it. I realize Jesus came to earth that first Christmas to do what I could not do—to die for me, so I can live with You. I don't understand it all, but I want to ask You anyway to come into my life, to be my Savior, to be with me now and forever. Help me to learn what I need to learn and to grow and live a life that will be pleasing to You. Amen.*

### **If you prayed that prayer, listen quietly.**

The angels are singing—you may not hear them with your ears, but a song of joy that will never end has begun in your heart.



## Opportunities For You

### Today

Morning Worship Service 10:45 AM  
Celebrating the birth of our Savior

**If you are visiting with us today,  
thank you for blessing us with your presence!**

### Starting after January 1

Our regular ministry activities will return :

#### Children ages 3—9 meet

On Wednesdays  
6 - 7:30 PM

#### Teens meet on Wednesdays

6 - 7:30 PM  
Sunday night fellowships and  
'Fantastic Fridays' will be scheduled

#### Worship Choir

Meets on Wednesdays at 7:40 PM

#### Ladies of Purpose Bible Study

Meet on Thursday mornings  
They will begin a Beth Moore Study in January  
You are invited and child care is available  
Please let us know so we can plan for you

#### XYZers (Seniors 50+)

Meet on Mondays twice monthly  
A schedule is posted each month

#### Sunday School for ALL ages

9:30 AM each Sunday

#### We have other events throughout the year

You can check our church sign each week  
And if you would like to be notified,  
Please fill out a visitor's card and we will mail you a post card  
Or you can put your email address on the card  
and we'll notify you that way.



December 25, 2011

*At Christmas—  
did you ever  
wonder  
what that  
joyous singing  
was about?*



**(ANSWER INSIDE)**