

Abused but not Abandoned

Hello my name is Christine Fender and I was born on October 26 ,1988. When I was seven weeks old, I suffered a stroke. My father abused me because he wanted a son instead of a daughter. As a result, I am missing 80% of the left side of my brain. The doctor said that I wouldn't be able to walk or talk and that I wouldn't live past 5 years old. I learned to walk at 1 1/2 years old and learned to talk at 3 years old. Although, my father abused me,

God didn't abandon me.

In 2007,I graduated from Greeneville High School in Tennessee with a regular diploma. I am learning to play the guitar. Without God, I wouldn't be where I am in my life today.

I've learned to trust God. At church, I work with the youth. Also, I work in the church nursery. When I was 9 years old, I made the most important decision of my life, receiving Christ as my Savior. I would like to tell you how you can receive Jesus Christ as your Savior. There are five things that you need to believe so that you can know that you are going to Heaven.

1. The Bible says in Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Sin in this verse means to miss the mark. We've all sinned. We've all done things wrong.

2. Romans 6:23 says "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Wages in this verse means payment. Death in this verse is talking about an eternal separation from God in a place called Hell. Because we've sinned, we have a price to pay. In order for us to pay for our sin ourselves, we have to go to Hell to do it.

3. Ephesians 2:8-9 says "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Grace in this verse means undeserved, unmerited favor. It in this verse is talking about eternal life. Eternal life is a gift from God. People don't work for a gift, but they receive a gift. Our good works cannot save us.

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Isaiah 64:6 says that "all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." When we are at our very best, God still sees our goodness as filthy rags. Heaven is a perfect place. In order for us to get to Heaven ourselves, we have to be as perfect as God and none of us are.

4. Romans 5:8 says "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Commendeth in this verse means demonstrated. Yet sinners in this verse means while we were yet in our sin. The good news is that Jesus Christ has already paid the debt so that we can go to Heaven. Jesus Christ came down from Heaven, was born in a manger, lived thirty-three years of a perfect, sinless life and died on the cross to make the payment for our sin. After Jesus Christ died, he was buried. That wasn't all, Jesus Christ rose again on the third day and is in Heaven right now.

5. John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Perish in this verse means go to Hell. All we can do to get to Heaven is believe that Jesus Christ is the only way to get to Heaven.

John 3:36 says "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Believe in this verse means to put your trust in. Putting your trust in Jesus Christ alone is the only way to get to Heaven.

If you would like to receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, then pray a prayer like this:

"Dear God in Heaven, I know that I'm a sinner. Because I've sinned, I deserve your punishment which is to spend eternity in the place called Hell. I know that there's nothing that I can do of myself to earn eternal life. I believe that your Son Jesus Christ died to pay for my sin and right now, I am trusting Him alone to be my Savior, my only hope to get to Heaven. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me the gift of eternal life. In Jesus name I pray, Amen."

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