

Expectations: 1) He expects the person to mature spiritually. 2) He expects the person to share their faith so that others may experience salvation. 3) He expects the person to contribute to the ministry of His Church. 4) He expects the person to live a holy life. 5) He expects the person to do good works. Becoming a Christian is a serious, long-term endeavor. Of course, there are also benefits of being a Christian: 1) God forgives our sins. 2) God provides eternal life. 3) God provides help through life's problems. 4) God offers peace of mind. 5) God opens opportunities for us to be a blessing to others. 6) God promises to never forsake us. 7)...and the list goes on. So, now that you have had time to think about it, are you a Christian? If not, would you like to become one? You may be thinking, "Yes, I'm a Christian. I grew up in a Christian family,"

harm's way, he never gave so much as a thought to his "conversion." Some see Christianity as an escape from Hell, so that they can get on with life and live as they please. They view salvation as a "fire escape." But, that is not the Biblical concept of salvation. Biblical salvation is a life encompassing endeavor. Sometimes we use the family as an analogy to express a Christian's relationship with God. Salvation is the act of being born into God's family. When a person is saved, they become a child of God. Can you imagine what would happen if, after a baby was born, its family said, "OK, we've brought you into this world; now, you're on your own." It's much the same way with salvation.

or "I belong to a Christian church," or "I'm a good person," or "I'm not a Buddhist or Muslim or Hindu; so I must be a Christian." The real question is, "Have you become a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ? Have you realized that you, like everyone else, are a sinner and bound for eternity in the Lake of Fire unless Jesus has saved you?" Unlike **being** a Christian, **becoming** a Christian is easy, because Jesus Christ did everything that was necessary for Him to offer salvation to you at no cost. "**Who [Jesus] His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.**" (I Peter 2:24) If you are trusting Christ alone, ac-

problem—that they are a sinner. "**For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.**" (Romans 3:23) And, they recognize that there is a consequence for their sinfulness. "**For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**" (Romans 6:23) They believe that Jesus will solve the problem; so they turn to Him. "**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.**" (Acts 16:31) So they believe, then go about their lives as if nothing had happened. During World War II events such as these were often referred to as "fox hole conversions." The soldier, to whom death seemed imminent, turned to Christ for salvation. Once the soldier was out of

ording to the Bible, you have become a member of God's family. Now, it is time for you to begin living the life that God wants you to live. Begin reading your Bible regularly. Find a church that teaches the Bible as the infallible Word of God and attend its services regularly. That will start you in the right direction.

BYWORD BOX 2 ELBING, KS 67041

It seems that emergency rooms are being used more and more by people instead of the doctor's office. Obviously, there are many different reasons why this may be occurring, but it has become a bit of a concern to the medical profession. Part of the problem is that the emergency room is designed **ONLY** to get a person through an immediate crisis. It is not designed to help people avoid many of life's crises. However, the doctor's office is equipped to handle a crisis **AS WELL** AS provide counsel that will help the person avoid future crises. Often, people look at Christianity as if it were a spiritual emergency room. They recognize that they have a spiritual

Emergency Room or Doctor's Office ?

