

Getting Right and Staying Right with God



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Introduction

Many people know how to come to God, but very few know how to remain close to Him. Salvation is the beginning of a relationship, not the end of it. God desires that His children continually grow in holiness, obedience, and intimacy with Him. God not only wants us to come to him—he wants us to walk faithfully with Him every day.

Being right with God means being in a restored relationship through Jesus Christ. Staying right with God means continually walking in faith, repentance, obedience, and dependence on the Holy Spirit.

The Christian life is not about perfection—it is about continual surrender.

1. How Do We Get Right with God?

a. Recognize your need for God.

- No one is righteous on their own.

(Romans 3:23) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

- Without Christ, everyone is spiritually separated from God.

Question

- Why is admitting our need for God often difficult?
 - What happens when we pretend everything is ok spiritually?
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b. Repent of your sins.

- Repentance means changing your mind, heart, and direction.
- True repentance is more than feeling guilty—it is turning toward God.

(Acts 3:19) Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.

- Repentance produces transformation.
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c. Believe in Jesus Christ.

- Only Jesus restores our relationship with God.

(John 14:6) I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

- Salvation is received by grace through faith.
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d. Confess your sins.

- God already knows our failures.
- Confession restores fellowship.

(1 John 1:9) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

- God forgives completely.

2. What Causes Us to Drift Away from God?

- Even believers can become spiritually cold.

Common causes:

- Unconfessed sin
- Pride
- Spiritual laziness
- Neglecting prayer
- Neglecting God's Word
- Wrong relationships
- Bitterness and unforgiveness
- Love for the world

(Isaiah 59:2) Your iniquities have separated you from your God.

- Sin doesn't stop God from loving us.
- Sin damages fellowship with Him.

3. How Do We Stay Right with God?

a. Stay connected to Jesus daily.

(John 15:4–5) Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

- Jesus compared believers to branches connected to the vine.
- Without Him we become spiritually dry.

Question:

What habits help us stay connected to Christ?

b. Read God's Word consistently.

- God's Word cleanses and guides us.

(Psalm 119:11) I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

- The Bible keeps our minds renewed.
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c. Pray continually.

- Prayer keeps communication open with God.
- Prayer is more than asking.

Prayer includes:

- Worship
 - Thanksgiving
 - Repentance
 - Listening
 - Intercession
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d. Walk in the Holy Spirit.

(Galatians 5:16) Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

- Victory comes by surrendering to the Spirit.
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e. Remove spiritual weights.

- Not everything is sinful.
- Some things simply slow us down.

(Hebrews 12:1–2) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of

faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Lay aside every weight.

Ask yourself:

- Does this help me grow?
 - Does this honor Christ?
 - Does this strengthen my faith?
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f. Stay accountable.

- Christianity was never meant to be lived alone.

Healthy believers need:

- Church
- Fellowship
- Encouragement
- Correction

(Hebrews 10:24–25) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

g. Keep a repentant heart.

- Even mature believers make mistakes.
- The difference is they return quickly.

Psalm 51

- David teaches us that restoration begins with honesty before God.
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4. Signs You Are Staying Right with God

You begin to notice:

- Greater peace
- Conviction of sin
- Desire to obey God
- Hunger for Scripture
- Love for others
- Growing humility
- Consistent prayer
- Increasing spiritual fruit

These are evidence that Christ is working in your life.

5. Warning Signs That You Are Drifting

- Prayer becomes optional.
- Worship becomes routine.
- Sin no longer bothers you.
- You stop reading Scripture.
- You isolate yourself.
- Bitterness grows.
- Conviction disappears.
- Worldly desires become stronger than spiritual desires.

Drifting rarely happens suddenly.

It usually happens gradually.

6. Daily Practices for Staying Right with God

Every day:

1. Pray.
2. Read Scripture.

3. Repent quickly.
4. Obey immediately.
5. Forgive others.
6. Stay thankful.
7. Serve someone.
8. Stay connected to other believers.
9. Listen to the Holy Spirit.
10. Keep Jesus first.

Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to be "right with God"?
 2. What areas of your life need repentance?
 3. What habits help you stay close to God?
 4. What distractions have weakened your walk?
 5. How can you encourage someone else to remain faithful?
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Key Takeaways

- We are made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ.
 - Repentance restores broken fellowship.
 - Daily spiritual disciplines strengthen our relationship with God.
 - The Holy Spirit empowers us to live in obedience.
 - Staying right with God requires continual dependence on His grace.
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Closing Challenge

Getting right with God is the beginning of a lifelong journey. Every day we must choose to pursue Christ, confess our sins, obey His Word, and depend on the Holy Spirit. God is not

looking for flawless people—He is looking for faithful people whose hearts remain surrendered to Him.

Challenge for the Week: Set aside at least 15–20 minutes each day for prayer and Bible reading. Ask God to reveal any area that needs repentance and take one practical step of obedience each day. As you consistently seek Him, you'll discover that staying right with God is sustained not by your own strength, but by His grace working in you.