



THE BEST GIFT

How foolish it would be for a person to ask a rich friend for only trivial gifts, not accepting the things of true value that he offers! But there is no fool like the one who asks God for inconsequential things without wanting the most valuable gift of all: the divine presence in his own person.

Jesus once said, *“Would any of you who are fathers give your son a stone when he asks for bread? Or would you give him a snake when he asks for a fish? As bad as you are, you know how to give good things to your children. How much more, then, will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”* (Matthew 7:9-11)

The Holy Spirit is the very presence of God in the life of a human being. You cannot even imagine a greater privilege than that. But it is not strange; it is what

the Creator proposed from the beginning. To be normal and complete you have to receive it. You cannot buy it with money, or with tears, or with religious rites, but it comes only when these four things take place:

1. Confess that you are a sinner separated from God.
2. Recognize that you cannot save yourself.
3. Know that God loves you and came down to earth in the form of His Son to die on the cross and pay for your sins.
4. Accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and as the Lord of your life.

If you have questions about how to do this or you want someone to help you, consult the person who gave you this publication or write to one of the addresses on this publication . □

AS WE ARE

“Know Thyself” are words of wisdom handed down to us from the time of the illustrious Greeks like Socrates. Even after many centuries, they are still relevant today.

The deep interest in exploring personality is seen every day in the almost fanatical obsession with horoscopes, occultism, prophecies and all kinds of analysis. There are few people who are disinterested in knowing the secrets of their personality through their calligraphy, dreams, or emotions.

However, even before the Greeks, the Holy Scriptures offered the analysis that everyone desires. This book, the Bible, speaks about the human being from God’s point of view and answers thousands of questions: why we are in the world; what the secret of happiness is; why we sometimes feel bored, depressed or useless; why we have to suffer and what is the meaning of life.

The Bible is like a mirror. When one reads it patiently and sincerely one begins to see, to know, and to understand oneself. It is not as difficult to understand the message of the Bible as it is sometimes thought. In the Book of Psalms, we read the result of the writer’s reading: *“The explanation of your teachings gives light and brings wisdom to the ignorant.”* (Psalm 119: 130).

Because of this teaching and inspiration, thousands of people read the Bible daily as

light and guidance for their lives.

However, it is never enough to know yourself. Steps must be taken to remedy the weaknesses. The apostle James wrote:

“Anyone who listens to the word [of God] but does not do what it says is like someone



who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.” (James 1: 23-25)

Serious reflection on the message of the Bible should lead us to personal communication with the true God. It is impossible to read the Bible earnestly for a long time without addressing God in authentic prayer. And when we call on God, we discover that He is near. At that moment you know yourself and the God who created you and loves you. □



How does one receive Him?

You, like thousands of people, are going to say: But, what does it mean to receive Christ?

This phrase is based on the teachings of the Bible, the Word of God. Receiving Christ is like receiving a gift. When someone offers you a gift, you receive it with a smile and you say: "Thank you so very much!". Then you open the package, you see what it contains, and you use it.

Receiving Christ is like receiving a gift from God. The Bible says in Romans chapter 6: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ."

If you receive Christ, by faith, into your heart and you tell Him, "Lord Jesus Christ, I accept you and receive you as my Savior," you are receiving, accepting, the gift of God, which is nothing less than eternal life.

Eternal life is not something that we only

receive when we die, but it is a bountiful life that can be obtained here and now, when one, heeding the Word of God, puts his faith and trust in God's love for him, and gives thanks to God for that wonderful gift that is Christ. He is the one who gives us abundant life, as he said in the Gospel according to John chapter 10: "I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly."

Right now you can say to God something like: "My God, You have been offering me forgiveness for my disobedience and sin because your Son Jesus Christ died on the cross in the place I deserved. I want to receive in my heart the gift you offer. Even though I do not understand everything perfectly, I want to love you, obey you and serve you. "

Remember dear reader, God offers you the best gift; accept it and receive it!

You can't read all the books in the world. But you can read the most important one: **the Bible!** Complete the coupon and send it to the address on the back.

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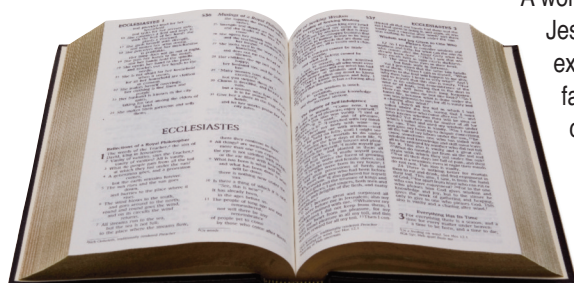
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Please, send me some literature to know more about the Bible. Thank you!

GOD SPEAKS MAN'S LANGUAGE

The human capacity to understand is the result of the miracle of communicating ideas through words. Only when we hear an unknown language do we think about what life



would be like without this mode of communication.

An exact transmission of ideas is essential if two people want to maintain a good relationship.

Although present day "face-to-face" communication is not what it used to be, even the most sophisticated social media has to use words in a known language.

God has also taken this language problem into account. When God wanted to communicate His message of love and salvation to the

world, He used a medium that all people would understand. He chose human language, demonstrating in well-defined terms that He desired only the best for man-kind.

This is the part of the Christmas story that is not often told. The Gospel according to St. John relates that the Child of Bethlehem was the Word of God: "In the beginning was the Word; the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw His glory, the glory which He received as the Father's only Son."

A word is the expression of a thought, and Jesus Christ came to this world as the expression of God's thought. But how far would the Creator go to communicate with us? The answer is the birth of Jesus. The reality of Christmas is that God communicated in our language through a person, who, although He was God, was also a man like us in every detail.

Jesus is the most important Word ever spoken, because in His Person He revealed God the Father. By His character, His teachings and His sacrifice on the cross, He has shown us what God is like.

And when someone strives to translate His thoughts into our language, the least we should do is listen to them and try to know them. In this case, we can know God Himself, since Jesus said, "*I and the Father are one*" (John 10:30). □