

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The story of Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ who was man and God, came to England with the Romans and has been here ever since. It is part of our national story and has transformed people's lives down through the centuries. To be a Christian is tough and requires courage - there is a challenge from other religions like Islam and from atheism - but God's love is more powerful and the name of Jesus is the greatest name in the universe.

To be a Christian:

- A) to know you are loved and forgiven by God Almighty, Father, Son & Holy Spirit.
- B) to follow Jesus, his teachings and become a child of God through baptism.
- C) to repent (say sorry), to grow into maturity and take your place in the world
- D) to be assured of a place in heaven

At baptism adults make promises for themselves and when they bring their children for baptism they and their children's Godparents make promises on their behalf.

This includes a commitment to raise them in the Christian faith to teach and learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments and the Creed. These three things are part of the story of God and our story which reaches back thousands of years and begins with a man and a woman in a garden and is found in the Bible. The story includes mistakes and selfishness, greed, disease, war and evil deeds (sin) which affect the world and us even today.

The Bible has everything in it to show us how to live life to the full and what is necessary for us to be saved from death and hell.

As a recap the four main things to remember for the rest of your life are:

- 1) That Jesus loves you and always will do, he died for you on the cross and rose again.
- 2) The Lord's Prayer gives us a way to pray
- 3) The Ten Commandments give us a way to live (Jesus summarized them in 'Love the Lord your God and love your neighbour as yourself')
- 4) The Creed shows us what the Church of which we are part of believes

You'll find all this in your Bible and the Prayer Book.

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through me."

Choose Life I did!