

Why Do We Believe?

Why do we believe? I asked this question of my eight-year-old son, who replied, “So I can get to heaven!” I also asked this question of youth camp children. They said, “So we can get to heaven!” Believing gives us focus and hope of reaching of our home in heaven one day.

We are influenced by and tend to follow what our parents and friends do in certain things. When Christmastime comes we have special traditions—things that our families may have done, already for many years. We bake special treats, make Christmas decorations, eat holiday meals, sing Christmas songs, and open presents.

It’s easy to follow the fashions and happenings of others. It is fine to do what others are doing when it’s a good thing. When we do things that are not good, it can be a roadblock to faith and make it hard to believe. Believing is personal. We can’t believe for our parents, and they can’t believe for us. We need to believe for ourselves.

God is happy and pleased when we trust and believe in Him. The Bible says, “Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and he rewards those who diligently seek him” (Heb. 11:6).

God is disappointed when we’re disobedient and stop trusting and believing in Him. He becomes angry when we are evil and tempt Him. “The Lord heard this, and was very angry: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel; Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation” (Ps. 78:21,22).

When we believe God and trust in His promises, we wish to listen to His Word and believe our sins forgiven by and through faith. God helps us to believe. When we believe, we will make it to heaven.

Brian Johnson

Things to visit about:

1. What are some blessings in your life that have come because you are a believer? Can you name some of them?
2. Have you ever had to tell a neighbor, friend, or family member that you didn’t want to do something because you are a believer? Was it hard, or easy, to do this? Tell about this.
3. Sing song of Zion 461. Verse three tells about a journey. Where does this journey take us to one day when we believe our sins forgiven?