

Getting saved

God always was, still is, and always will be everyone's loving heavenly Father. For most Christians, "getting saved" is a process of becoming aware of this and accepting the Lordship of Christ in one's life and changing one's attitudes and behavior to conform to the teachings of Christ. In order to "get saved" one does not necessarily need to know or acknowledge Jesus by name. Jesus did say in the parable of the separation of the sheep and the goats that many would be entering the Kingdom who apparently did not realize that they were serving Christ when they showed compassion and kindness towards their fellow human beings whom Jesus regarded as His brothers and sisters. "Getting saved" is a process, not a single event. A sudden and defining "conversion" experience is a significant part of that process for some, but not most. "Entering the Kingdom," I believe, would best be interpreted allegorically as "entering into a relationship with Christ," whether one knows Him by name or not, and presently experiencing the warmth of God's love and acceptance, and receiving intangible rewards in Heaven after death. Those rewards are not things like fancy mansions. I personally believe that the greatest reward we will receive in Heaven will be hearing those wonderful words, "well done, my good and faithful servant."