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## Who can I speak to?

Please let us know if you decide to follow Christ. We will be pleased to send you a helpful book and something to assist you with daily Bible reading.

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## How can I contact you?

You can either write to us, telephone or e-mail us via our website:

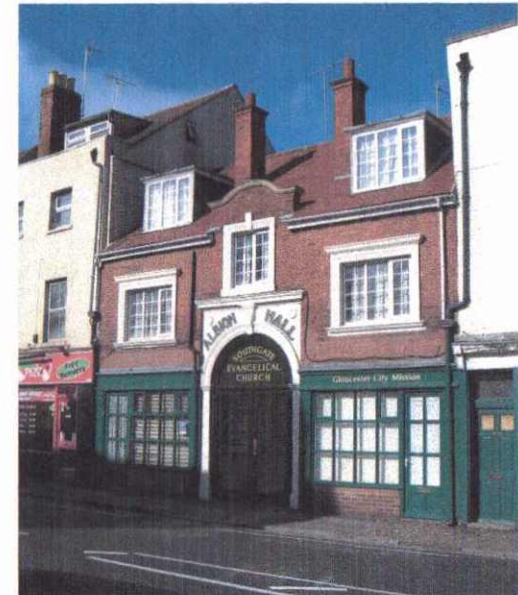
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## Southgate Evangelical Church



Starting out  
as a  
Christian

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## Starting out as a Christian

Something will have sparked off your interest in becoming a Christian otherwise I doubt if you would be reading this. Quite frequently it is the impact of what has happened to a friend or a nagging question that must be answered.

It is good to be clear about what will **not** make you a Christian:

- Going to church
- Doing good to others
- Being baptised or confirmed
- Believing the right things

All of these are important but will never enable you to become a Christian.

Christianity is about establishing a relationship rather than following a set of rules. It is about knowing, loving and serving the God who made us.

Crucial to becoming a Christian is welcoming Jesus Christ into our life, not as an occasional guest but as a director of operations. This decision is the most important one we will ever make.



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## Establishing a Relationship

God himself tells us about how this relationship may be established and what is required of us.

1. Promise – God loves you and has a plan for your life (John 3:16)
2. Problem – All have sinned (fallen short) and are spiritually dead and separated from God (Romans 3:23)
3. Hope – Christ died in your place to restore your relationship with God (Romans 5:8)
4. Response – You must confess Christ as your Saviour and Lord (Romans 10: 9-13, John 1:12)
5. Prayer – Pray – ‘Father, I realise I have sinned and I am truly sorry. I believe you sent your Son to die in my place. I also believe He rose from the dead and now lives. Forgive me for my sin and take charge of my life. I welcome your Holy Spirit as he enters my life and personality. Thank you Lord. Amen’.

It will be surprising if you do not feel different as the new life, which the Holy Spirit brings, starts to develop. A new beginning is something to be excited about!

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## Feelings

Remember your feelings, good or bad, do not alter the fact that Christ has promised permanently to be with us. Jesus is now in your life, whether your feelings are strong or not. He is with you and wants you to grow. Grow strong developing a relationship.

- Spend time reading the Bible on your own and with others. Read a Gospel followed by the book of Acts as a starting point.
- Start conversing with God in prayer. Keep a record of answered prayer.
- Be prepared to share with others the good news of the relationship you have found with Jesus Christ. Simply telling your story is a good way to start.
- Spend time with other Christians who will help you.
- Worshipping together on Sundays and belonging to a small group is something that establishes firm foundations.

