

Billy Graham has been an instrument used by God in changing millions of hearts, souls, and lives with his inspiring message of God's love.

His character has endeared every president since Eisenhower to befriend him. He has been used mightily as a confidant, and counselor, as well as a spiritual advisor to leaders around the world.

Billy Graham was raised in a white frame house in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was born on November 7, 1918, on property that had been the sight of a log cabin his grandfather had built. Billy Graham entered this world just before the end of World War One. His father owned a dairy farm, where Billy would spend his first memorable years.

Through many different house guests and friends of the family, God provided countless opportunities for Billy to become familiar with God's Word, the Bible. But the experience that changed Billy's life came when he was sixteen years old. After much soul searching, and a constant lack of contentment and peace, he went to an evangelistic meeting in his home town.

For weeks stories of the nightly meetings were being exclaimed, but Billy was determined not to attend. "What was slowly dawning on me during those weeks was a miserable realization that I did not know Jesus Christ for myself. I could not depend on my parents' faith. Christian influence in the home could have a lasting impact on a child's life, but faith could not be passed on as an inheritance, like the family silver. It had to be exercised by each individual. I could not depend on my church membership either. Saying "I believe,"

in the Apostles Creed every Sunday, or taking the bread or wine of Communion, could so easily become nothing but rote and ritual, without power in themselves to make me any different. Nor could I depend on my own resolution to do better."

Finally, one evening Billy decided to attend the meeting. When the evangelist, Dr. Ham, finished preaching, he ended with a quote from the Bible: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) Then his song leader led in the song that the Billy Graham Crusades have finished with for all of these years, "Just As I Am." Billy Graham went forward, with hundreds of others. He was told God's simple plan for his salvation and he received it that evening.¹

How about you? Would you consider yourself a good person? Do you think you are good enough to go to Heaven when you die? Do you ever think about the issue of life and death? Whether we like it or not, we are all part of the ultimate statistic: Ten out of ten die. Let's look at the Law (the Ten Commandments) and see if we have broken any of them in any way (*with a tender conscience, let's ask ourselves if we have obeyed the following*):

You shall have no other gods before Me (*have we loved God above all else?*).

You shall not make yourself a graven image (*make a god to suit ourselves, with our hands or our mind*).

You shall not take God's name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

Honor your father and mother.

You shall not murder (*hatred is considered as murder*).

You shall not commit adultery (*lust is adultery of the heart; includes sex before marriage*).

You shall not steal (*the value is irrelevant*).

You shall not lie (*including answering these questions*).

You shall not covet.

The Bible says that God will punish all murders, thieves, liars, adulterers, etc. He will even judge our words and thoughts. On Judgement Day, will you be found to be guilty or innocent of breaking His law? We have all broken God's Holy Law. The best of us have lied, stolen, lusted, hated, failed to love God above all else, and failed to love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus came to die to pay our fine. Now, because of what Jesus did for us in satisfying the Law, God can forgive us and grant us the gift of everlasting life!²

Would you like to give your life to God in the same way Billy Graham did over 70 years ago? You need to understand and submit to God's salvation plan for your life. Please read through the following steps outlined from the Bible.

1. God loves you very much!

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Admit you're a sinner

and need a savior. We need Jesus for eternal life in heaven but

also a fruitful life here on earth.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- 3. Turn from** (Repentance) the sin of unbelief and the sins in your life. Totally surrendering your life to God.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

- 4. Believe** (Faith) in or turning towards Jesus Christ who gave Himself once and for all as a sacrifice for your sin. Believing in His death, burial and resurrection. Receiving the Lord Jesus Christ into your life.

Romans 10:9

That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.

- 5. Pray** committing all that you are and hope to be to God.

Romans 10:13

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

If God has spoken to you through this pamphlet or other things in your life and you are ready to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you can pray a prayer like this one:

Dear God,

I know I'm a sinner and don't deserve your grace. I realize and believe that you sent your Son to come down to the earth and die a horrible death on the cross. I believe He rose again. I am willing to turn from my sins (name them) and completely live for you. Please come into my life and save me. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus's name, Amen!

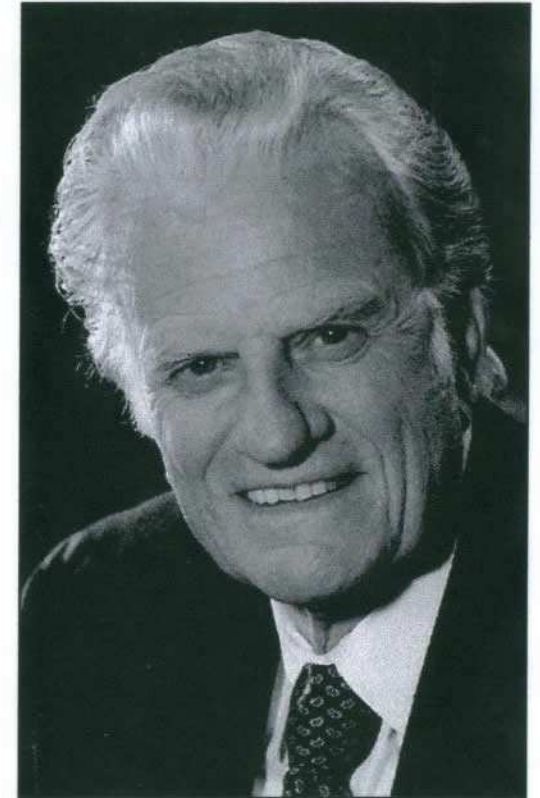
"Just As I Am"

Just as I am, with-out one plea, but that thou blood was shed for me, And that Thou bid'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come! Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot. To thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come! I come! Just as I am, thou tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings within and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come! I come! Just as I am, thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve, Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come! I come! Just as I am, Thy love unknown hath broken every barrier down. Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come! I come! —Charlotte Elliott

1. Graham, Billy. *Just As I Am*. Harper Collins Publishers, 10 East 53, New York, New York 10022

2. Cameron, Kirk. *Left Behind II*. Living Waters Publication, P.O. Box 1172, Bellflower, CA 90706

Just As I Am!



Billy Graham