

# GENUINE: WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

## “CHRISTIAN” STEREOTYPES



**GRACE**  
FELLOWSHIP

JOHN 1:12-13

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**A GENUINE CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO HAS BEEN GENUINELY CHANGED BY THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.**

Q: What are some common “Christian” stereotypes?

- a. Prayed the Prayer Pat – “I prayed “The Sinner’s Prayer” when I was a kid but I didn’t really live like a Christian ...but once saved, always saved, right?”
- b. Christened Chris – “I was christened as an infant according to my family heritage. So, I’m a Christian, right?”
- c. Moral Max – “I’m honest, respectable, a good neighbor, give to charity, etc. Obviously, I’m a Christian, right?”
- d. Liturgical Larry – “I participate in church services. So, I’m a Christian, right?”
- e. #Murica Mike – “I was born in the USA. Therefore, I’m a Christian, right?”

Q: What does Jesus say?

A: “You must be born again!” – John 3:7

### *What is a genuine Christian?*

John 1:12-13

*But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,<sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

- We all have a need that only Jesus can fulfill. What is that need? Forgiveness of our sins and a right relationship with God.

- Adoption into the family of God is free to all who would receive Jesus as Savior – 1:12a *But to all who did receive him,*
  
- Becoming a genuine Christian is entirely dependent upon placing your full faith and trust in Jesus alone – 1:12b *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,*
  
- Becoming a genuine Christian is not dependent upon...
  - a. Ethnic or racial heritage – 1:13a *who were born, not of blood*
  
  - b. Human effort – 1:13b *nor of the will of the flesh*
  
  - c. Human invention – 1:13c *nor of the will of man, but of God.*
  
- Conclusion: Becoming a genuine Christian is entirely dependent upon placing your full faith and trust in Jesus alone – 1:12 *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,*

Q: How do I respond?

- Connect Card: Place it in the buckets by the doors or at the Next Steps Center.
- Website: [goGRACEfellowship.org](http://goGRACEfellowship.org).
- App.
- Speak with a staff member.