



UTGC MISSION STATEMENT

“The University of Toronto Gospel Choir is committed to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ through musical ministry.”

UTGC STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Scriptures We believe that “All scripture is given by the inspiration of God” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We understand this to mean that holy men of God “were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:21) to write the very words of scripture. We believe this to mean that the whole of scripture as it appeared in the original manuscripts is without error.

The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9-10) We believe in the literal resurrection of the crucified body of the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 4:24-25) that He ascended into heaven (Acts 1:10-11) and is presently in heaven acting on behalf of believers as their High Priest and Advocate (Hebrews 4:14-15)

Atonement for Sins We believe that Christ died as a final perfect sacrifice for our sins and that because He shed His blood we have salvation. Salvation is a free gift from God by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ alone and his death for us (Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9)

Bodily Return of our Lord Jesus Christ We believe in the personal bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 1:9-11) to set up His Kingdom (Titus 2:13)

GOSPEL MESSAGE – STEPS TO A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

STEP 1

Know that God **LOVES** You and offers a wonderful **PLAN** for your life

God's Love

"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

God's Plan

[Christ speaking] "I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly" [that it might be full and meaningful] (John 10:10).



*Since God planned for us to be at peace with Him and live an abundant life why are most people not enjoying this experience?
Because...*

STEP 2

Man is **SINFUL** and **SEPARATED** from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life. God did not make us like robots to mindlessly love and obey Him. Instead He gave us a will and freedom of choice. But like Adam, we often choose to disobey God and go our own selfish ways (Genesis 2 & 3). This self-will, characterized by an attitude of active rebellion or passive indifference, is an evidence of what the Bible calls sin.

Man Is Sinful

"All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Man was created to have fellowship with God; but, because of his stubborn self-will, he chose to go his own independent way, and fellowship with God was broken.

Man Is Separated

"The wages of sin is death" [spiritual separation from God] (Romans 6:23).

How do we bridge this gulf?

STEP 3

Jesus Christ is God's **ONLY** provision for man's sin and separation from God and we must make the choice. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.

He Died in Our Place

"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

He Rose From the Dead

"Christ died for our sins...He was buried...He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures...He appeared to Peter, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred..." (1 Corinthians 15:3-6).

He Is the Only Way to God

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me'" (John 14:6).

You have the choice to receive this free gift



STEP 4

We must individually **RECEIVE** Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

We Must Receive Christ

"As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12)

We Receive Christ Through Faith

"By grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

When We Receive Christ, We Experience a New Birth

(Read John 3:1-8)

We Receive Christ by Personal Invitation

[Christ speaking] "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him" (Revelation 3:20).

Receiving Christ involves turning to God from self (repentance) and trusting Christ to come into our lives to forgive our sins and to make us what He wants us to be. Just to agree **intellectually** that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for our sins is not enough. Nor is it enough to have an **emotional** experience. We receive Jesus Christ by **faith**, as an act of the **will**.

You can receive Christ right now by faith through prayer

God knows your heart and is not so concerned with your words as He is with the attitude of your heart. The following is a suggested prayer:

"Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be."

Does this prayer express the desire of your heart?

If it does, we invite you to pray this prayer right now, and Christ will come into your life, as He promised.



WHAT'S NEXT? CHURCH REFERRAL SERVICE

As a new Christian, you can call 100 Huntley St. at 1-800- and a call representative will provide you with a list of churches in your area. Fellowship with Christians will help ensure that you continue to grow as a new child in Christ.

IF YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS SUCH AS...

“Did Jesus really rise from the dead?” “How can you trust what the Bible says today, it was written almost 2000 years ago?” “If God is good, why is there evil and suffering” “Is Jesus God?” “Do all religions lead to God?” “What will happen to those who never hear about Jesus?” “What about all the wars that have been caused in the name of Christianity?” “Is there any real right and wrong?” Visit a church in your neighbourhood and ask to speak to the minister after the service or check out the following websites:

<http://www.powertochange.com/questions/qnaindex.html>

<http://christiananswers.net/canhome.html>

<http://christiananswers.net/jesus/home.html>

<http://theway.billygraham.org>

<http://www.josh.org>

<http://www.thegreatforum.com>

<http://www.equip.org>