



# Christian Questions

TALK RADIO WITH A PURPOSE

You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Dear Carl,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You wanted to know if there was life after death. You said that you were frightened as you worried about what would happen to your elderly parents when they passed away. You also wondered how you would cope after they were gone. You told us you had no one you could turn to, seeing that you and your brother do not get along. You said that you did not want to take your life because you thought it was a sin. Lastly, you said that although you were already insecure, another part of you was telling you to be strong. You asked for our advice.

What happens when we die? We believe that in order to go to heaven a person must be seeking the Lord and righteousness, believe that Jesus was the Messiah who died for the sins of the entire human race and be willing to sacrifice his will in order to do the will of God. If that person remains faithful to his covenant of sacrifice, he will obtain a heavenly reward upon death.

What about everyone else? The good news is that salvation is all-inclusive. There is also an earthly salvation. God has a place for everyone in either his heavenly or earthly kingdoms and Jesus' sacrifice included all of humankind, regardless of when a person lived or whether he has accepted Jesus as his Savior now or not. "This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given at its proper time. (1 Timothy 2:3-6) "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Corinthians 15:22)

The above scriptures tell us that Jesus came to provide a ransom for Adam and all his progeny, some now, who are following Jesus and sacrificing their wills, and some later in Christ's kingdom on earth. These will be awakened on earth to a period of judgment, or decision, in which they will have an opportunity to willingly follow God's laws of righteousness and perfect their characters. Although this will be a time of pruning, it will also be a time of great joy, in which everyone will understand God's plan. (See Isaiah 11:1-9.) For more on the peaceable kingdom soon to be established on earth in which all who are not of the heavenly class will come forth from their graves, read Isaiah 35:5-10, Revelation 21:1-4, Revelation 11:15, Isaiah 9:6-7, and Isaiah 65:21-25.

Is there life after death? Yes, there is a spiritual life in heaven for some now and a physical life on earth for others later.

Therefore, do not worry about what will happen to your parents





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when they die. They will have another chance for life in the future.

You told us you were going through a difficult time with no one to turn to. Although you may not have another human in your life, you do have God and His Son. Be assured you can always turn to them in prayer for comfort and strength. Prayer is one of the greatest privileges God has afforded his children. It sustains us. Prayer is the vehicle by which we may commune with our Heavenly Father. In fact, prayer is not only a privilege, but a necessity, commanded as indispensable to our Christian growth. The Apostle Paul tells us to go "boldly unto the throne of grace," there to obtain mercy and find grace to help in every time of need (Hebrews 4:16).

Jesus gave his disciples a guideline for prayer in Matthew 6:9-13. This model prayer is best known among Christians as The Lord's Prayer. It begins by humbly honoring God's name and acknowledging his greatness. It then tells us to pray for God's plan to unfold, to petition for our basic needs, to ask for forgiveness while forgiving others who have sinned against us, and, lastly, to ask for God's protection and overruling in our lives. The prayer asks God for help, guidance, forgiveness and protection from evil influences. It is also important to note that the person petitioning God is seeking the Lord's will to be done in his life and is not seeking his own heart's desire. The petitioner must be prepared to receive an answer that may be contrary to his wishes. Additionally, he must be willing to grow and accept change in his life if God wills it. In every case, God's answers to prayers are directly dependent upon the heart attitude of the petitioner and, most importantly, God's will in relation to the circumstances. Therefore, connection and communication with God grow in proportion to the petitioner's dedication to God's will.

We pray because prayer is the Christian's spiritual food and lifeline to God. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your [spiritual] requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

You told us you have no one to turn to. That is not true. You always have God and Jesus. When you seek them in prayer you will discover spiritual peace, comfort and strength.

You said that you did not want to take your own life because you thought it was a sin. The Bible views suicide as equal to murder, which is what it is—self-murder. God is the only one who is to





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decide when and how a person is allowed to die. Suicide is a sin against God. Christians are called to live their lives for God, not against God's will. The decision on when to die is not one the Christian has the right to make. That decision is reserved for God and God alone.

We must say that we are concerned that you would be even thinking about taking your own life. Although we are not psychiatrists, we may venture a guess that you are suffering from depression and would suggest that you seek a physician who deals in such matters and/or a Christian therapist. Along with prayer, talking about your problems and fears with a knowledgeable professional will help you to view your situation in a more realistic and positive light as you are guided by our Lord's direction.

We hope we have answered your questions. Be sure to sign up for Christian Questions Rewind at [www.christianquestions.com](http://www.christianquestions.com). The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio

