



How to Make Jesus Welcome in Your Heart

1. Begin by welcoming Jesus into the home of your heart

Now as they were traveling along, He entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. Luke 10:38

And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart...And the Lord was adding to their number day by day, those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-48

Ask yourself:

- If Jesus showed up with His disciples, would I welcome them into my home on a moment's notice?
- Am I intentional about inviting the body of Christ into my home?

Take action:

Make a plan for being more intentional about opening your home to others but first let's look at how welcoming our heart is toward Jesus.

2. Welcome Jesus into the living room of your heart

*So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
1 Corinthians 10:31*

Ask yourself:

- Do my hobbies, the things I read, and the things I watch on TV bring glory to God?
- Is Jesus at home in the living room of my heart?

Take action:

- Consider each hobby, each book genre, each TV program in light of the glory of God.
- If they do not bring glory to God, ask God, "What should I do about this?"
- Change, delete, address as God leads, even if it means you give up something you enjoy.

3. Welcome Jesus into the study of your heart

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5

Ask yourself:

- Is Jesus at home in the study of your heart?
- Do my thoughts, ideas, fantasies, imagination bring glory to God?
- Would Jesus be pleased to participate
- in my thought life?

Take action:

- Seriously consider your thought life. Does it bring glory to God?
- Decide in what areas you need change and make a plan to take every thought captive.
- Ask God to give you a verse or passage of Scripture you can use to redirect your thoughts.

He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.

Proverbs 28:13

Would Jesus be at home in my bedroom? My closet?

Ask yourself:

Does my bedroom harbor secret thoughts or hidden activity?

Does the closet of my heart contain secret sin I try to hide from God?

Take action:

Confess your secret sin and ask God to remove it from your heart and your mind.

Commit to a lifestyle of holiness going forward.

4. Welcome Jesus into the kitchen of your heart

Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. Philippians 3:19

Ask yourself:

- Do I indulge in too much food? The wrong kinds of food?
- Do I drink too much alcohol?
- Have I made my stomach, my desires a god?
- Would Jesus feel at home in the kitchen of my heart?

Take action:

- Repent of the sin of excess (or gluttony).
- Remove from your home that in which you indulge to excess.

- Confess and make a plan for decreasing the opportunity for sin in this area.
- Ask God to give you a spirit of moderation in all things.

5. Welcome Jesus into the office of your heart.

*Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.
Psalm 119:37*

Ask yourself:

- Does my computer activity bring glory to Jesus?
- Do the podcasts I listen to and the videos/programs I see bring honor to Him? Would they be welcome in heaven?
- Does the office of my heart make a comfortable place for Jesus?

Take action:

- If your computer activity is not uplifting and does not point you to Jesus, make the decision today to change your habits. Ask God to direct you toward what is true, right, and good.
- Consider whether or not you need an internet filter and order one if needed.

6. Would Jesus feel welcome on the front porch of my heart?

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29

Ask yourself:

- Does my conversation point people to Jesus? To truth-telling?
- Do I indulge in gossip?
- Do people make it past my “front door” or do I close my heart to others and refuse to let them in?
- Would it please Jesus to be a part of the conversations that take place on the “front porch” of my heart?

Take action:

- Admit your tendency toward gossip or idle chatter.
- Ask God to forgive you and to replace your idle talk with words that point people to Him.

7. Do I show hospitality as Jesus intended?

*Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.
1 Peter 4:9*

Today's Challenge:

- Invite someone to share refreshment or a meal in your home this week.
- Welcome someone into your heart with encouraging conversation at least once this week.

* Note: This Bible study is based on a sermon by Scooter Noland at Hope Church. You can listen to it via FB live here: [Martha, Martha, Who Are You?](#)

* "My Heart, Christ's Home" is a book by Robert Boyd Munger but was not consulted for this study. Any resemblance is unintentional. The book is available for sale on Amazon if you'd like to learn more.