



Seven Questions *for Deaf People*

**Am I a true Christian
or not?
How can I check?**

PETER MASTERS

Seven Questions

For Deaf People

Peter Masters

From 'Seven Certain Signs of True Conversion'
by Dr Peter Masters

Rewritten for deaf people by Andy Owen.

SEVEN QUESTIONS

© Peter Masters 1976

SWORD & TROWEL

Metropolitan Tabernacle

Elephant & Castle

London SE1 6SD

Seven Questions for Deaf People

Special edition 2012

Cover design and page illustrations by Andrew Owen

Unless otherwise stated, Scripture quotations are taken from the HOLY BIBLE: EASY-TO-READ VERSION © 2012 by World Bible Translation Center, Inc. and used by permission.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Contents

	Introduction	7
	<i>How do I know if I am a true Christian?</i>	
1	Question One	14
	<i>Do you feel convicted?</i>	
2	Question Two	20
	<i>Do you understand the Bible?</i>	
3	Question Three	24
	<i>Do you have a new family?</i>	
4	Question Four	27
	<i>Do you pray?</i>	
5	Question Five	31
	<i>Do you have a new heart?</i>	
6	Question Six	35
	<i>Do you have assurance?</i>	
7	Question Seven	39
	<i>Does the devil attack you?</i>	

1

Introduction

How do I know if I am a true
Christian or not?



How can I check if I am a true
Christian or not?

I want proof. Can I have proof?



The Bible can answer all these questions.

The Bible says you can know you are a true Christian.

The Bible says you can know you belong to God.

The Bible says you can check yourself.

The Bible tells you how to check yourself.

1 John chapter 2 verse 3

If we obey what God has told us to do,
then we are sure that we know him.

Please also read:

Romans chapter 8 and **Acts chapter 2**

In the verses you can read about some checks – questions you can ask yourself, to check if you are a true Christian or not. You must check to see if you have been **converted**.

Repent: Means I feel so much sorry for my sin,
I want to change and stop my sin.

Conversion: Means God changes my soul.



Repent

Conversion

The same sign
for both words.

God forgives my sin and gives
me a new life, and I become a
true Christian.

**What is
conversion?**

Conversion means a big change in your life:
God forgives your sins, and gives you new life.

Means you become a true Christian.

How can my sin
be forgiven?
How can I get
a new life?

The answer:

Two different ways.
One way is wrong
and one way is right.

The Wrong Way

Go to church. The pastor says, “Who wants to become a Christian? Come to the front of the church, and say you believe in Jesus.” You go to the front of the church, and say, “I believe in Jesus.” The pastor says, “Now you are a Christian.”

This way is wrong.

You think, “I want to become a Christian.” That is all. It is a quick decision. It is not enough.



The Right Way

God helps you understand that you have sin. You feel guilty. You know God is right. You think about your sin, and you feel bad. You believe Jesus Christ died on the cross. If you rely on Jesus Christ, this means God the Father punished Jesus for your sin. You ask God to forgive your sin and change your life, and you promise to serve Him.

This way is right.



The right way means you **repent**.

You **repent** — means you feel bad for your sin, and ask God to forgive you and change you. You know the Lord Jesus took your sin and died on the cross. You know God the Father punished the Lord Jesus for your sin.

You **repent** – You ask God to forgive your sin.



Forgive

When God forgives your sin, you are **converted**. Means your life is changed, and you become a true Christian.

Conversion is very deep and wonderful. Conversion is not a quick decision, or a few words.

Maybe you are not sure if you are a true Christian or not. You can ask yourself some questions to check.

7 Questions

There are 7 questions in this book.

You can check yourself – are you a true Christian or not?

If you answer “Yes” to all the 7 questions, means you have repented, and you have been converted.

You are a true Christian.

If you answer “No” to all or some of the 7 questions, ask God to help you understand more.

You must continue asking Him for help until you are sure you have been converted.

Where are the questions from?

The seven questions are from the Bible:

Acts chapter 2 verses 37-38, 41-47:

37 When the people heard this, they felt very, very sorry. They asked Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

38 Peter said to them, “Change your hearts and lives and be baptised, each one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Then God will forgive your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

41 Then those who accepted what Peter said were baptised. On that day about 3000 people were added to the group of believers.

42 The believers spent their time listening to the teaching of the apostles. They shared everything with each other. They ate together and prayed together.

43 Many wonders and miraculous signs were happening through the apostles, and everyone felt great respect for God.

44 All the believers stayed together and shared everything.

45 They sold their land and the things they owned. Then they divided the money and gave it to those who needed it.

46 The believers shared a common purpose, and every day they spent much of their time together in the Temple area. They also ate together in their homes. They were happy to share their food and ate with joyful hearts.

47 The believers praised God and were respected by all the people.

In these verses you can clearly see that the people were changed. They were truly converted. You can check:

Question 1

Did they feel convicted?
(Means they felt bad for their sin)

Verse 37:

When the people heard this, they felt very, very sorry.

Answer: Yes.



Question 2

Did they understand the Bible?

Verse 42: The believers spent their time listening to the teaching of the apostles.

Answer: Yes.



Question 3

Did they have a new family?

Verse 42: They shared everything with each other.

Answer: Yes.



Question 4

Did they pray?

Verse 42: They... prayed together.

Answer: Yes.



Question 5

Did they have a new heart?

Verse 46: The believers shared a common purpose.

Answer: Yes.



Question 6

Did they have assurance?

Means they felt happy, because they had been converted.

Verse 46: They were happy...

Verse 47: The believers praised God...

Answer: Yes.



Question 7

Did the devil attack them?

Ephesians chapter 6 verse 12:

We are fighting against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness. We are fighting against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly places.

Answer: Yes. The devil attacks all Christian people.



These verses teach that you can know if you are a true Christian or not.

Please use these seven questions to check your life.

Check to see if you have been converted.

Now each question explained in more detail:

1

Question 1

Do you feel convicted



Convicted: Means you feel bad because you have sin.

Acts chapter 2 verse 37:

When the people heard this, they felt very, very sorry. They asked Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

The people felt sorry for their sin.

They felt many emotions:

1. They felt very sorry.
2. They were sad.
3. They were ashamed.
4. They felt bad.
5. They were convicted.

Convicted



Question: Do you want to be saved? If YES, you must feel bad and ashamed and sorry for your sin.

Here is a verse that will help you:

Psalm 51 verse 17

King James Bible:

A broken and a contrite heart,
O God, thou wilt not despise.

Easy Read Bible:

God, you will not turn away a person with
a humble, submissive heart.



Humble

When you ask God to forgive your sin, you must have a heart that is **broken** and **contrite** (sorry) and **humble**. Then God will answer your prayer, and He will forgive your sin.

But maybe I don't feel sad or sorry for my sin. Maybe I know my sin is there, but I feel nothing. Or maybe I feel sad for a short time, and later I feel nothing. What happens?
Am I a true Christian?

You must be honest. You must ask yourself:

“Do I feel convicted?”

Check your heart. Do you feel “broken” and “sorry?” Do you understand your sin, and feel deeply sad? You must feel convicted. If you do not feel convicted, God will not forgive you. You are not converted.

Matthew chapter 5 verse 6

King James Bible:

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Easy Read Bible:

What great blessings there are for the people that want to do right more than anything else! God will fully satisfy them.



Righteousness

Righteousness: means a clean life, sin forgiven. Do you want God to forgive your sin? You must want a clean heart and a new life. Same as a hungry person wants food, or a thirsty person wants drink. **You must feel strong want**; if you do not want, God will not forgive you.

Problem 1: Some famous people say, “I am a Christian. I could not cope with my life, so I asked Jesus to control my life, and now I am happy.”

Those people do not talk about **sin**, or feeling **convicted**. They have no change in their lives. They live the same as before. Are they true Christians? **No**—maybe many of those famous people are not true Christians.

Problem 2: Some people say, “I accept Jesus into my life. Now I am a Christian.”

Is that right? **No**—Those people do not have conviction; they do not feel sorry for their sin; they do not ask God to forgive their sin.

First you ask the Lord Jesus to forgive your sin. You must feel bad. You must feel sorry.

How much bad and sorry
should I feel?

No person can tell you how much bad and sorry you must feel. You must be honest with yourself.

You must check your heart, and ask, “Do I feel truly sorry for my sin? Do I feel truly sad? Do I feel convicted?”

When you feel convicted, your thinking changes:



What you think about sin: Change.

You feel ashamed of your sin, and you want to stop it.

Before, you liked your sin.

Now you feel convicted, you **do not** like your sin.



What you think about God: Change.

You know God is the only one who can save you and forgive your sin.

Before, you thought about yourself only. **Now** you want to serve God, the only one who rules your life.

Be careful!

Some people teach something different.
What do they teach?

What you think about sin: No Change.

They say, “You do not have to stop your sin.
You can keep your sin. Your life does not change.”

NO: That is wrong. It is false teaching.



What you think about God: No Change.

They say, “Conversion means you change your mind.
You decide to accept Jesus Christ. You do not have to obey Him. You do not have to work for Him.

You should love Him, that’s all.”

NO: That is wrong. It is false teaching.





False Teaching

Be careful of the false teaching.
Remember the Bible verses.

Remember:

You must change your attitude to sin. You must hate your sin. You must want God to forgive you.

You must change your attitude to God. You must know He is the only one who can forgive you. You must serve Him, the one who rules your life.

No shame — **No conversion.**

Keep your old life — **No conversion.**

Jesus Christ is not your Lord — **No conversion.**

Convicted means you feel deeply sad and sorry for your sin. You want God to forgive your sin. You want God to rule your life.

Do you feel convicted?

YES — NO

2

Question 2

Do you love the Bible?



Acts chapter 2 verse 42

The believers (Christian people) spent their time listening to the teaching of the apostles.

Who were the **apostles**? They were the disciples, special friends of the Lord Jesus. The apostles had God's words. When they preached, they spoke God's words. Means the people in Acts chapter 2 listened to **God's words**.

The apostles are all dead. We cannot listen to the apostles teaching. But the apostles wrote God's words. Where? In the Bible. We can read God's words in the Bible.

4 Questions:

Are you the same as the people in Acts chapter 2?

Do you love God's words in the Bible?

Do you understand the Bible?

Do you want to read the Bible?



Answer,
"Yes"

Means you are a true
Christian.



Answer,
"No"

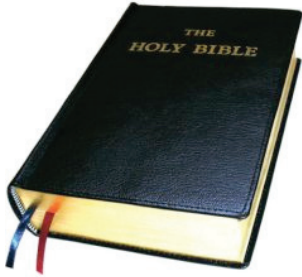
Means you are **not yet**
a true Christian.

1 Corinthians chapter 2 verse 14

People who do not have God's Spirit do not accept
the things that come from his Spirit.

They think these things are foolish.

They cannot understand them,
because they can only be understood
with the Spirit's help.



The Bible is
hard to read.
I don't understand it.

Yes, many deaf people cannot understand the words, because English is their second language.

But many deaf people are not **interested**. They don't want to understand. Are you the same? Maybe you are not a true Christian — you are not a spiritual person. Means you do not want to understand the things from the Holy Spirit in the Bible. You are not interested.

I try to read the Bible. The language is
hard, but I try to read.
If I don't understand, I ask for help.
The Bible makes me happy.
I want to do what the Bible tells me.

Means you are a true Christian, or soon you will be a true Christian.

Only true Christians want to truly understand the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps Christian people to understand.

I understand most of the Bible, but some books are very hard to understand. Ezekiel and Revelation are hard, and I am confused. Am I a true Christian or not?

Don't worry.

If you understand most of the Bible, means the Holy Spirit is helping you. You will not understand all of the Bible quickly. Christian people not deaf sometimes do not understand parts of the Bible. That is normal. Some verses have very deep teaching. You must continue to read the Bible and ask God for help. The Holy Spirit will help you understand.

The most important thing is your attitude.

Check yourself:

Do you want to obey the Bible?

Do you follow the Bible in every part of your life?

Do you follow the Bible's teaching every day?

Do you respect the Bible, and accept what it says?

Do you want to change your life because of the Bible?

**Do you understand and
love and obey the
Bible? YES — NO**

3

Question 3

Do you have a new family?



Acts chapter 2 verse 42

They shared everything with each other.
They ate together and prayed together.

The people in **Acts chapter 2** loved each other.
They liked to talk and share with each other.
They felt close to each other. They were a new family.

Please read these other verses:

1 John chapter 3 verse 14

We know that we have left death and have come into life.
We know this because we love each other as brothers and sisters. Anyone who does not love is still in death.

Ruth chapter 1 verse 16

Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you sleep,
I will sleep. Your people will be my people.
Your God will be my God.

The verses show that people loved each other because they loved God. They loved each other, and talked and shared with each other. They felt close to each other. They were a family, and God was their Father.

Questions

1. Do you want to meet with other Christian people?
2. Maybe you come to church, but when the preaching is finished, do you stay and talk to Christian people?
3. Or do you want to go and meet other friends?
4. Do you like your other friends better than Christian people?



Fellowship

When a man becomes a Christian, he feels close to other Christians. He has **fellowship** with other Christians because he loves to be with them. He feels far from people who are not Christians. He feels different: he has different aims. He has a new family: **Christian people.**

Maybe it is hard to separate from old friends, but if you have been converted you will separate naturally.

You will like Christian people better than your old friends.

Be careful

Maybe you feel you like to be in church.

You think, “I have been converted. I am a true Christian.” But you have not felt **conviction**, and you do not understand the Bible.

Maybe you are not yet a true Christian.

You must be honest. You must answer, “Yes” to all the 7 questions, not one question only.

Do you have a new family?

YES — NO

4

Question 4

Do you pray?



Acts chapter 2 verse 42
They ... prayed together.



The people in **Acts chapter 2** were Jews. They prayed **before** they were converted.

Then they prayed **after** they were converted. They changed, so their prayers were different:

Before they were converted:

They went to the synagogue (the Jews' church).

They asked the priest to pray for them.

And they prayed themselves, repeating the same words again and again.

When they were converted, their prayers changed:

After they were converted:

They talked to God straight – no priest.

They prayed with emotion and warm hearts.

They knew they were God's children. They knew they could talk to their Father in Heaven.

God answered their prayers and helped them.

It can be the same for you. You can check yourself:

Questions

1. Do you talk to God straight?
2. Do you pray with emotion and a warm heart?
3. Do you know you are God's child?
4. Do you know you can talk to your Father in Heaven?
5. Does God answer your prayers and help you?

Galatians chapter 4 verse 6

Since you are now God's children, he has sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts. The Spirit cries out, "Abba, Father."

If you have become a Christian, the Holy Spirit helps you to pray. Means you want spiritual things, not the world's things. What spiritual things?

What Spiritual Things?

1. You want blessing from God.
2. You want help to understand the Bible.
3. You want power to control sin.
4. You want help to witness
(means: tell people about Jesus Christ).
5. You want to help people who are not Christians.

People who are true Christians want these things. When they pray, they ask for these things.

Also, when Christians pray, they praise and worship God. People who are not Christians just ask God to give them things. They are not interested in spiritual things. They do not praise or worship.

You can check yourself:

Do you know how to pray?

Are your prayers honest and full of emotion?

Do you know you are talking to God, your Father in Heaven?

Do you ask God for spiritual things?

Do you pray?

YES — NO

5

Question 5

Do you have a new heart?



Acts chapter 2 verse 46

The believers shared a common purpose.

The people in **Acts chapter 2** had a big change.
Where? Inside, in their hearts.



Their attitude changed. Their lives changed. They all wanted the same thing. What? To serve God, and make Him happy. That's all. They did not want the world's things: money, famous, good life.

Please read some more verses:

2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 17

Easy Read Bible:

When anyone is in Christ, it is a whole new world.
The old things are gone; suddenly, everything is new!

King James Bible:

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:
old things are passed away;
behold, all things are become new.

Ezekiel chapter 11 verse 19

I will bring them together and make them like one person.
I will put a new spirit in them. I will take away that heart
of stone, and I will put a real heart in its place.

‘A new heart’ – means what?



A New Heart: 1

You respect God now.
Before, you did not respect God.
You hated Him. When you have
a new heart you respect God.
You know who He is.
You know God is holy and
powerful. You treat God with
care and respect. You do not
joke about God.

A New Heart: 2

You want to learn now.

Before, you were very proud. You were angry. But now you are open and ready to accept help from other Christian people. You don't mind when other Christian people challenge you. Think about two different people:

Example 1:

There is a very proud man. He always criticises.

He thinks he is better than other people.

Later, he says, "I have been converted! I am a Christian!"

He changes. He becomes humble, full of love,
helping people.



Example 2:

There is a lady who loves the world's things:
clothes, music, job, money.

Later, she says, "I have been converted! I am a Christian!"

But she does not change.

She still loves the world's clothes, music, job, and money.



Which one is a true Christian?

Answer: Example 1

His life changed. It is easy to see. He has a new heart.



Do you have a new heart?
Has your attitude changed?
Do you love the world's things,
or God's things? Which?

Do you have a new heart?
YES — NO

6

Question 6

Do you have assurance?



Assurance: Means you feel happy, because you have been converted.

Acts chapter 2 verse 46 & 47

They were happy ... The believers praised God.

The people in **Acts chapter 2** were very happy, and they praised God. Why? Because they knew they had been converted. They knew they were true Christians. They had assurance.

Ephesians chapter 1 verse 13

King James Bible:

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation:
in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

Easy Read Bible:

It is the same with you. You heard the true message, the Good News about the way God saves you. When you heard that Good News, you believed in Christ. And in Christ, God put his special mark on you by giving you the Holy Spirit that he promised.

This verse explains what assurance means. Assurance means that when a person becomes a Christian, God gives him or her a 'special mark' or a 'seal'.

What is a seal?

A seal is hot wax that someone dropped on to a letter, or a certificate. Then a stamp is pressed into the seal to leave a picture. When the wax becomes cool, the picture stays in the wax. No person can change the picture.



Wax Seal

A long time ago, Kings used seals on their letters. They used their own special stamp, with their own picture on it. Everyone knew the King's picture. Means everyone knew the letter was from the King. No person could argue.

When a person becomes a Christian, God gives him or her His special seal.

**What is God's seal?
Is it wax?**

No. God's seal is spiritual — you can't see it. God's seal is the Holy Spirit. When you have God's seal, you know you belong to God. You feel happy and safe, because you have the Holy Spirit. You know God has forgiven your sins. You know you will go to Heaven. You have assurance.

You can check yourself. Do you feel assurance?

1. Do you feel happy and peace, because God has forgiven your sins?
Yes — assurance.
2. Do you feel sure you will go to Heaven?
Yes — assurance.
3. Do you know your life has changed?
Yes — assurance.

Be careful! Sometimes people do not feel strong assurance. Sometimes people are not sure. If you do not feel sure, use the other 6 questions to check yourself.

Sometimes people are converted and they have strong assurance quickly. Later they lose assurance. They don't feel assurance. But later they can get it back again.

Do not rely on assurance alone.

Do you have assurance?

YES — NO

7

Question 7

Does the devil
attack you?



Luke chapter 11 verse 21

(The Lord Jesus said:)

“When a strong man with many weapons guards his own house, the things in his house are safe.”

This is an example. The Lord Jesus used the example to explain how people feel who are not Christians.

1. They feel safe.
2. They do not worry.

Why? Because the devil is not bothered with them. He does not attack them. Why? They are his slaves.

He leaves them to sin.

People who are Christians feel different. The devil hates them. He attacks them. Why? Because they are not his slaves now. He tries to make them doubt, or go back to their sin.

Christian people must always resist the devil.

Ephesians chapter 6 verse 12

We are fighting against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness. We are fighting against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly places.

Maybe you think you have been converted, but you always feel doubts. Sometimes you think the Gospel is not true. Sometimes you feel it is a mistake. You are worried.

Good! This is proof:

This is proof that the devil is real. He is there.

This is proof that the devil wants to attack you.

Why? Because you have been converted.

What about before, when you did not think you were a Christian? Did you feel the same doubts? Did you feel the same worry? No. Why? Because you belonged to the devil. The devil left you alone. He had no reason to attack you.

Example: Many people grow up with Christian parents. They go to church and learn about the Bible. They accept everything. They do not doubt. But later they feel conviction,

and they ask God to forgive them, and He converts them. They become Christians. Then they start to feel doubt. They are not sure about their conversion or the Bible. Why? Because the devil is angry. He sees they are Christians, and he wants to attack them.

How does the devil attack people?

The devil wants you to doubt:

The devil says,



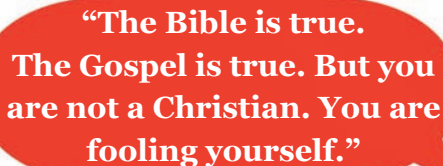
**“Are you sure
the Bible is true?”**

You start to doubt the Bible.

You think maybe the Bible is not true.

No: You must resist.

The devil says,



**“The Bible is true.
The Gospel is true. But you
are not a Christian. You are
fooling yourself.”**

You start to doubt.

You think, “Maybe I am not a true Christian”.

No: You must resist.

The devil says,

**“You sinned!
You are not a
true Christian.”**

You feel you are not a true Christian,
because you have sinned.

No: You must resist.

All true Christian people sin.

You can ask the Lord Jesus to forgive you. He will.

1 John chapter 1 verses 8-9

If we say that we have no sin, we are fooling ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God will forgive us. We can trust God to do this. He always does what is right. He will make us clean from all the wrong things we have done.

Remember, if you are worried about your soul, or you are not sure if you are a true Christian or not, it means the devil is attacking you. Use the other questions to check yourself.

People who are not Christians do not worry about their soul. They feel OK because the devil has trapped them.

Does the devil attack you?

YES — NO

Remember the 7 questions:

Question 1

Do you feel convicted?

Question 2

Do you understand the Bible?

Question 3

Do you have a new family?

Question 4

Do you pray?

Question 5

Do you have a new heart?

Question 6

Do you have assurance?

Question 7

Does the devil attack you?

Please use these seven questions to check your life.
Check to see if you have been converted.
You must be honest—are you a true Christian or not?

For this book in sign language:
<http://desireholiness.com/>

Seven Questions *for Deaf People*

P E T E R M A S T E R S

How do I know if I am a true Christian?

How can I check if I am a true Christian?

I want proof – can I have proof?

The Bible can answer all these questions.

This book has seven questions. You can read the seven questions to check if you are a true Christian or not.

This book is in English that Deaf people can understand, and with pictures.



Dr Peter Masters has been
Minister of the Metropolitan
Tabernacle in central London
since 1970.

A Sword & Trowel Booklet