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*Sharon's Communiqué...*  
Fresh. Encouraging. True.

**WHAT WILL I HAVE TO GIVE UP TO  
BECOME A CHRISTIAN?**

By Sharon Houk

To become a Christian, you will have to give up loneliness, hopelessness and emptiness. If you want to, you can give up addictions, hangovers and sexually transmitted diseases.

God only gave up one thing so people could become “Christians.” He gave up his only Son who was Christ. Jesus gave up everything including his life so that you and I wouldn’t have to. He doesn’t make us give up anything. He merely offers us a new abundant life while we’re alive and the after life to come.

He only asks that we recognize we are lost and wayward and needing a Savior. He only asks that we lay down the pride of our selfishness that says, “We don’t need God.” That pride is sin. The plain truth is we are born that way; born in sin and separated from God. That’s why our lives get so messed up.

What are you searching for? The list could be long and the answers may be many, but there is only one right answer to your search, to your struggle—Jesus Christ. It is wise to count the cost of

Christianity, just as it is wise to consider the cost of life without it.

Should you decide you do not want to live in loneliness, hopelessness, fearfulness, or whatever state you find yourself in, the next step is simple. Answer this question, “Are you willing to lay down your pride and ask God for help?”

If so, then by faith, which comes from God, admit your life is a mess and you need a helper, a comforter—a Savior. Recognize that you need Jesus as your Savior. Commit to putting your trust in Christ so that you will be right with God. So far you have been trusting in yourself and look where you’re at.

Trust in Jesus, he will not let you down. The Bible says, “For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you [confess](#) and are saved.” As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Lay your pride down, hold your head up and receive new life.