

HOW TO KNOW IF *I'm Going to Heaven*

In this article, which was inspired by the second chapter of the Forge discipleship resource *Multiplying Movements*, we'll explore a helpful visual called the "Four Chairs," which can help you to prayerfully answer that very question—
How do I know if I'm going to heaven?

THE FOUR CHAIRS: A POWERFUL VISUAL FOR YOUR FAITH

- 1** **Chair 1** represents those who are fully committed to Christ, living out their faith and growing in a relationship with Jesus—this means they will be in heaven with Him.
- 2** **Chair 2** represents people who are lukewarm—perhaps they go to church, and they have a limited relationship with Jesus as their Savior to get to heaven, but their hearts aren't fully in it.
- 3** **Chair 3** is where many who call themselves Christians unknowingly sit. They may believe in God intellectually but lack a real relationship with Jesus. This is a dangerous position because these people are deceived into thinking they are going to heaven when they are not.
- 4** **Chair 4** represents those who are spiritually lost, having never trusted or known Christ for their salvation.

CHAIR 1: TRUE SALVATION

Chair 1 is where you want to be. People sitting in this chair have surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ. They aren't just going through the motions of religion—they have a genuine, intimate relationship with God.

First-chair Christians have a love for Jesus that shows in all areas of their lives. For one thing, it shows in the way they obey God. They also want to know Him better. That is why they study the Bible and pray. Not because they have to, but because they want to.

If you're wondering, How do I know if I'm going to heaven? ask yourself if you've truly placed your trust in Christ. If you've surrendered your life to Him, seeking to live according to His will, you can be confident that you're going to heaven. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6, CSB).

CHAIR 2: LUKEWARM FAITH

In Chair 2, you believe in God, you know Jesus just enough to make Him your Savior and go to heaven, but your heart is not fully devoted. Jesus warned about this in Revelation 3:16, saying, "So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of My mouth."

If you're sitting in Chair 2, it's time to talk to Jesus about your relationship with Him. Are you merely going through the motions of relationship, or is your heart truly committed to Him? He wants all of you, AND He wants to give you all He has to offer, all of His care, provision, love, joy, hope, all of Himself!

CHAIR 3: INTELLECTUAL FAITH WITHOUT A RELATIONSHIP

Chair 3 is a deceptive place to be. People sitting in this chair may know a lot about God, but they don't truly know Him. They might attend church, read the Bible, or even serve in ministry, but their faith remains disconnected from their hearts.

In Matthew 7:21-23, Jesus warned that many will claim to know Him, but He will say, "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!" If you're wondering, How do I know if I'm going to heaven? check your relationship with Christ. Are you truly surrendered to Him, or are you just going through the motions with intellectual beliefs? True faith in Christ is more than knowledge—it's a heart transformed by His grace.

CHAIR 4: THE LOST AND UNAWARE

Finally, there's Chair 4. This is where those who are spiritually lost sit. Maybe they have never been told the Good News about Jesus and His forgiveness for their sins, or maybe they have heard about it but never personally accepted it.

If you're sitting in Chair 4, it's time for a decision. You're spiritually dead without a relationship with Jesus, but the good news is, it's not too late. The Bible says, "For 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). If you're unsure whether you're going to heaven, it's time to cry out to Jesus for salvation. Recognize your need for Him, and trust in His sacrifice on the cross to forgive your sins

HOW TO MOVE TO THE FIRST CHAIR

If you're not in the first chair already, there's Good News! You can make a decision today to move to the first chair. It's not too late. But the choice comes with a cost. It requires that you humbly bow your heart before Jesus, recognizing your desperate need for Him. It requires that you confess your sins to Him and truly believe in Him with your whole life. It requires that you surrender your life to God's ways and purposes and place your full trust in Him to provide for every spiritual, physical, and emotional need you have. That is what it means to live in the first chair.

MOVING FORWARD: YOUR DECISION

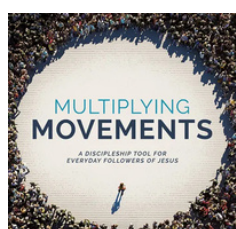
Jesus is offering you a way out of spiritual death. It's not about being perfect, but about trusting in the One who is perfect. If you're not sure where you stand, ask God today. Pray: Do I have a personal relationship with you, Jesus? If not, He's waiting for you to come to Him.

When you recognize Jesus as Lord, it will change the rest of your life and eternity. If you want to choose to accept Jesus as your personal Savior, you can use the following prayer as your guide, anywhere, at any time. Don't delay!

Prayer: Lord, I admit that I am a sinner in need of a Savior. I believe You sent Your one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for me and my sins. I believe You are the only way. I accept You as my Lord and Savior and choose to follow You all the days of my life. I want to be in the first chair! In Jesus' name. Amen.

If you prayed that prayer for the first time, congratulations and welcome to God's family! If you recommitted your life to Christ, welcome back home! And if you prayed that prayer and are living for Jesus already, great job! Keep passionately pursuing and proclaiming Jesus. We at Forge would love to help you activate the impact of your spiritual decision and empower your purpose!

DON'T WAIT TO MAKE A DECISION. THE SOONER YOU ACT, THE SOONER YOU'LL KNOW FOR SURE: YOU ARE GOING TO HEAVEN.



For more discipleship training material like this, click here to access [Multiplying Movements](#) — a 12-part Video or Book Study Ideal for Bible Studies or 1-on-1 Mentoring.