

Dear John Wesley,

The Wesley Project, PO box 1771, Clayton, GA 30525



Question:

Can a person be a baptized church member yet not be a real Christian?

Answer:

Without a doubt. For many years, I was an ordained minister in the Church of England but I was still an “Almost Christian.” I was moral. I was religious. I was sincere. I worked hard to please God. I was a good person. Yet, I remained “almost.” Something was missing and I knew it. I could not find the love and joy and peace that the scripture promised.

I became an “Altogether Christian” when, by faith, I allowed... yes allowed... God to fill me with a supernatural love for Him and for my neighbor. It was at that point that His love was “shed abroad in my heart” and that “His Spirit witnessed with my spirit” that I truly was His child. With that inner witness, came the joy and peace I had sought for so long..

The one thing needed to make this happen was what I call “true Christian faith.” This faith is more than just intellectual assent to a creed or a belief system or even believing that the Bible is true from cover to cover. The demons go this far... yet they remain demons.

True Christian faith is an absolute conviction that:

1. God has promised this “altogetherness” to me.
2. That God is able to bring it about in my life.
3. That God is willing to bring it about in my life.
4. That God will do it in my life now!

You might want to study my sermon entitled [The Almost Christian](#) for a more complete discussion.

I hope this helps. May God bless us all.

Your Brother-in-Christ,

John

Note: The *Dear John Wesley* series is presented as a public service in the hope that the thinking and practical theology of this great Christian will once again take root in the hearts and minds of real people.

Obviously, John Wesley did not write the answers to the questions. They were written by Christians versed in the Wesleyan tradition and drawn from the actual sermons of John Wesley. Please feel free to distribute these as you will.

For more information,, visit www.thewesleyproject.com.