

How to Get to Heaven

Andy Stanley, senior pastor of North Point Community Church and four other campuses in Georgia, shared a delightful story in his book, *How Good Is Good Enough?*

A Sunday school teacher wanted to explain to the 6-year-olds in his class what someone had to do to go to heaven. To find out what the kids believed about the subject, he asked a few questions.

“If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale, and gave all my money to the church, would that get me to heaven?” he asked.

“No!” the children answered. The teacher was encouraged.

“If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me to heaven?”

Again, the answer was, “No!”

“If I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children and loved my wife, would that get me into heaven?”

Again, they all shouted “No!”

“Well, then, how can I get to heaven!” he asked.

A boy in the back row stood up and yelled, “You gotta be dead!”



We chuckle at the story, and how the little fellow had it figured out in his head. And he was on to something.

Of course, the real answer – the one the teacher was looking for – is that we get to heaven through faith in Jesus Christ.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter