WHY BE A CHRISTIAN

TEXT: Acts 26

INTRODUCTION:

A. There is nothing that is more important that being a Christian!
   1. You may be a member of a political organization or political party.
   2. You may be a member of some social or cultural organization.

B. But there is nothing more important than being a C – H – R – I – S – T – I – A – N!

TS: Consider, Why Be a Christian?

I. BECAUSE JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD

A. Matthew 16:16

B. Jesus fulfilled prophecy, worked miracles, proclaimed who He was, and rose from the dead!
   1. Acts 2:22, Ye Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know
   2. John 20:30-31
   3. Romans 1:4…declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

C. Born of a lowly mother without an earthly father; reared in meekness in a remote town called Nazareth; without credentials from the religious leaders of his day; had no accredited education from the schools of his time; hated by the religious leaders, yet followed by the poor, illiterate, downtrodden; falsely accused of blasphemy and mocked by the crowds with had formerly pursued Him; His death demanded by an angry mob, condemned to die by crucifixion, buried in a borrowed tomb; It would seem the world had heard the last of Him - but, NO! The pages of history are filled with the loves of those who would give their life for Him; His name has been above every name; His teachings have transformed individuals, communities, towns, cities, nations, and continents – Truly, this was the Son of God....”

II. BECAUSE OF OUR NEED

A. Man’s greatest need: Forgiveness! Romans 3:23; 6:23; Isaiah 59:1-2; 1 John 1:6-10

B. Forgiveness is through Christ! John 14:6
   1. He is the one – and only one – way to God.
   2. If you want to get to God, you must go through Jesus Christ!
III. BECAUSE OF THE CHRISTIAN WAY OF LIFE

A. In Christ = new creature: Romans 6:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:17

B. Purpose and meaning to life: Matthew 22:37-40

C. The Christian life is the right way to live: intellectually, morally, socially, spiritually.

IV. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE CHRISTIAN POSSESSES

A. What does the child of God have?
   1. Forgiveness: 1 John 1:7
   2. Hope: Hebrews 6:19
   3. Prayer: 1 Peter 3:12
   4. Relationship with God: 1 John 1:3
   5. Hope of heaven: 1 Peter 1:3-4

B. IN CHRIST we have a:
   1. LOVE that will never be fathomed;
   2. RIGHTEOUSNESS that will never be tarnished;
   3. PEACE that the world can’t understand;
   4. JOY that will never be diminished;
   5. REST that will never be disturbed;
   6. HOPE that will never be disappointed!

CONCLUSION:

A. There is a God, and Jesus Christ is His only begotten Son!
B. Because of that, you should be a Christian – a member of Christ’s church!
C. Are you a Christian? If not, why not?