What is Christianity About?

Christianity is about a relationship with the true and living God through the person of Jesus Christ. All who trust in Jesus Christ for salvation are forgiven of their sins and they escape the righteous judgment of God. Many people today think a Christian is someone who believes that there is a God and who tries to live a good life and may even go to church.  But none of these things make a person a Christian.

The Bible teaches that there is only one God in existence, and that this one God made the whole universe, and everything in it. He created the first human beings who were Adam and Eve and made them in his image.  Therefore because we are made in the image of God, every person is worthy of respect and honour.

When God created Adam and Eve He placed them in the Garden of Eden and gave them the opportunity to live forever through simple obedience to their God. However they chose to sin by doing what God prohibited; for they partook of the forbidden fruit. You see sin is doing what is contrary to the nature and will of God.  The sin of disobeying God that Adam and Eve committed led to them being expelled from the Garden of Eden and for the first time facing death.

As a result of their sin, their children and all of us inherited a sinful nature.  Every person born since Adam is born with a nature that is sinful. If you just think about it for a minute then this truth is obvious. We never have to teach our children how to do wrong; we don’t give them lessons in being selfish or in lying.  Children like adults know how to do these things naturally.  Does this not clearly teach us that what the bible says is right that we are all born with sinful hearts?

Now the bible teaches that God is a Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God in three persons). Within the Godhead Jesus Christ is the second person of the Trinity, He is God the Son and this Jesus came into our world as a human being; died on the cross and rose from the dead. But why did God the Son do that? The Bible teaches that because we are sinners by nature and because we personally sin we are all due to face the righteous judgment of God. Our sin is against God and God is just and therefore He cannot let people get away with sin. All wrongdoing must be punished and all our wrongdoing should be punished. But God is a God of love as well as a God of justice and He longs to save sinners like us from their sin.

The only way God could do this and remain just is by sending his Son Jesus into the world to die in the place of sinners. Jesus took the punishment that we deserved so that we could be saved from God’s just punishment because of our sins. This salvation is received by faith in the work of Christ on the cross and not by anything that we can do to please God. Anyone can receive this salvation but we can only receive through trusting in Jesus and in his death and resurrection on our behalf.

Christianity is the only faith that teaches salvation is by grace alone.  This means that we are not made right before God by our own efforts or good works.  Instead, we are brought into a right relationship with God by faith in what Christ did on our behalf at the cross. When we are enabled by God to turn to him; God takes up residence in our lives through the Holy Spirit and He begins to change us as people. He begins to make us the sort of people that God always intended us to be.