



5 Starter Facts About Methodist Christianity

1. Minister John Wesley founded a group of Methodists in 1729 Oxford, England. Its name came from the group's methodical devotion to practice. Wesley sent preachers to the newly colonized America. The formal break from the Church of England was in 1795. Today, there are ~ 70 million adherents worldwide.
2. Methodist churches accept the Bible as the supreme guide to faith. Most welcome modern biblical scholarship, fundamentalist groups being the exception. The churches emphasize the teaching of Christian perfection. Wesley held that every Christian should aspire to such perfection with the help of the Holy Spirit.
3. Methodist churches affirm infant baptism. They also regularly receive the sacrament of the communion, in which they believe Christ to be truly present.
4. The essence of Methodist practice is in the "Four Alls":
 - a. All need to be saved – the doctrine of original sin
 - b. All can be saved – Universal Salvation
 - c. All can know they are saved – Assurance
 - d. All can be saved completely – Christian perfection
5. Wesley emphasized service work as important as faith in leading a Christian life. Methodists were involved in welfare projects, and this practice is still apparent today.

Learn more at:

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/>

These five points are not meant to be comprehensive or authoritative. We hope they encourage you to explore this spirituality more deeply and seek out members of this community to learn about their beliefs in action. In understanding our differences we will better understand our common humanity.

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