FREE NEWCOMERS GUIDE

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Welcome to ‘Christians Like Me’ a site aims at practicing Christians and people searching for meaning and faith. The site was created over four years ago and its membership has grown steadily, and the site has developed continually ever since and continues to do so.

Membership of the site is entirely free but donations are thankfully received to help with the running costs. We believe that God’s word should be free for all. Please pray whether God is asking you to contribute. There are only a few rules, these are displayed at the top of the HOME page, but above all we ask that members practice patience, love, kindness and respect to each other, act just as Jesus would have us do.

Christians Like Me, is an easy site to navigate and find your way around, at first some people may find it daunting, so I am putting together some simple guidelines that you may find useful.

The main navigation is from the bar at the top of EVERY screen.

The navigation includes: Home, My Page, Invite Friends, Members, Forum, Groups, Videos, Blogs, News, FAQ’s, Photos, Audio Bible & Bible Questions. To get to any of the areas just left-click on the name in the tab

Let’s look at these one at a time:
The Home page is the hub of the community, it displays the few rules we have at the top of the page.

Below that is the instant post area (see below).

Activity

What’s on your mind?

In this area you can make instant posts about almost anything, praises, witness, events, even the weather. The post will appear at the top of the activity list.

The main part of the Home page displays all the activity from the whole site (except posts to the Home pages of the various groups).

When longer or extensive posts have been made, as is likely in the Blogs area, or Bible Study, an extract will appear in the activity list, normally the first paragraph, together with any graphic used. When it’s an excerpt the post will end with ‘…’

On the right hand side of the screen you will find a couple of messages from our sponsor and below that the avatars of the latest members to join the community. It is always nice to send new members a welcome message.

If you wish to look further back, at the bottom of the Home page you will find a “More…” button that extends the page and shows earlier activity, as shown below.
Your Page will have its own navigation bar, lower down than the main bar and below your chosen banner picture.

You will see the following tabs:
Activity Feed, Comment Wall, About (you), Photos, Latest FAQ’s, Blog Posts, Christian Videos, Discussions, Groups and Friends.

**Activity Feed:** displays a record of all your past activity on the site.

**Comment Wall:** where you and other members can leave comments for you, it displays all comments.

**About:** displays your profile, the information that you gave when you applied for membership. You can edit and update your profile details at any time by going to the options button in the upper right cornet.

**Photos:** here you can find all the pictures that you have uploaded to the site.

**Latest FAQ’s:** here you will find a list of frequently asked questions about Christianity.

**Blog Posts:** will contain a linked list of all your previous blogs.

**Christian Videos:** will be a list of videos that you or others have uploaded for you, mostly from You Tube or similar source.

**Discussions:** contains a list of all the discussions that you have started, not the discussions that others have started and that you have responded to, with direct links to the discussions.

**Groups:** displays all the Groups that you have either joined or started, with direct links to the Groups.

**Friends:** is simply a list of all your friends on the site, displayed with their avatars linked to their pages.
INVITE FRIENDS

This is an opportunity to invite your contacts and friends from other networks or contacts list, easy and convenient.

You can click here to go directly to the “Invite Friends” page.

MEMBERS

Here you will find a full list of all CML members, displayed with their avatars linked to their pages. Also included is an explanation of the ranking system and the various badges.

You can click here to go directly to the “Members” page.
Here is one of the most popular areas of the site, on the first page you will find a list of all the discussions available on CLM, the latest discussion will always be on the top of the list.

You can click here to go directly to the “Forum” page.

Discussions are a great way to start to interact in CLM and it’s easy to do. Scroll through the various discussions, they are all titled, and click on the title of whichever catches your attention.

Once the discussion is open you can read the opening comments from the author, then scroll down to see the replies that the discussion has received. You can respond either to the opening comment or click on the reply button at the bottom left of the post reply.

We love to hear your opinions so don’t hold back, we learn by discussing issues.

You can also add a discussion of your own just click on the “Add Discussion” button located in the top right corner of any discussion page and you will be taken to a screen that looks like the one below.
Groups are another great way to join in the activities on CLM, we have a wide range of groups covering many subjects from the spiritual to the political, from worship to crafts, movies, books and music.

You can join one of the many Christian groups or become a group Admin and create your own!

The creator or "Admin" of a group can upload a cover photo, broadcast a message to all the group members, they can choose alternate layouts for their group pages, add and remove group content modules, create new pages and more!

You can click here to go directly to the “Groups” page.
If you have an idea for a group, one that you think may be of interest to others, it is easy to create your group.

First step, check that there is no group on that subject already created, then, just click on the + Create Group button (circled above in yellow) in the top right hand corner of the page.

You may want to decide on a suitable banner and avatar for your group before you start to create the group. Ideally the banner should be a wide narrow picture or graphic, one that you feel will fit into the space, have a look at other groups to get the idea on these banners, although they are optional.

The avatar is the small picture that appears on the Groups Page above and will also appear at the top left when the group is open. Again to get an idea for this picture just browse the groups that are already running. Ideally you will need a square picture although the software will crop the picture to fit when you upload the picture.

If you do not have anything suitable, you can find many Christian 'Clip-art' sites on line that offer free pictures and symbols.

If you use these services, please be careful that they are copyright free and that you are allowed to use it.

Once you have created your group it will act in the same way as a discussion, members can view the site, join it and then comment, or create discussions articles, upload photos and more.
Once the Group is created, you can change the content of the group by clicking on the “Options” button at the top right of the page, this will give you a drop-down menu (similar to the one on the right).

Advice should be sought before using these options, however:

- **Edit Group** allows you to edit the introduction to the group and tells people what the group is about.
- **Manage Pages** allows you to change the look or configuration of the pages and allows you to add extra pages.
- **Manage Members** allows you to suspend or promote members.
- **Invite** allows you to invite specific site members to join the group.
- **Message Settings** allows you to specify the way you communicate with your members.
- **Leave This Group** allows you to do just that.
VIDEOS

The Videos page contains the same material as you found in the video tab in Your Page. Bible movies, comedy, documentaries, inspirational, kids, ministry, music, and sermon videos.

You can add suitable videos yourself, full instructions can be found in the group ‘Top Christian Websites & Resources’.

We can only accept videos that have been previously submitted and published on YouTube, Vimeo or similar websites.

You can click here to go directly to the “Videos” page.

BLOGS

This area contains hundreds of blogs written by our members and hundreds of renown preachers and pastors worldwide. It is a great resource for learning about God and the faith of others.

You can click here to go directly to the “Blogs” page.

The great thing is that you can contribute to the library of blogs; maybe you feel the Spirit has given you something to say, or you feel strongly about something Christian, this is the place to share it.

It’s easy, type it on your own computer or tablet, or type it directly into the blog-space and click the [Publish] button, here’s how.
Click on the **Add a Blog** button in the top right hand corner of the page.

Then the page below will appear:

You can insert pictures or photos by clicking on the photo icon shown here.

Past in a Excerpt, usually the opening paragraph.

Maybe a comment from you

Add your key words to help someone search.

Click on 'Publish' and it's done
This area of the site highlights and contains top Christian news stories.

You can click here to go directly to the "News" page.
Get Answers to Frequently Asked Site Related and Biblical Questions We want you to get the most out of the Christians Like Me community and your relationship with Christ. We pray and search the scriptures for Biblical truth.

Come to this area of the site if you have any questions first, or go to the group, ‘How to Do Almost Anything on CLM’ in the groups section. Questions include ones of faith as well as about this site.

You can click here to go directly to the “FAQ's” page.
Here you will find lots of photos and pictures that are dear to our members.

It may be a text or a photo of your family, an inspiring place or a picture of God’s creation.

It’s easy to do, to start click on the + Add Photo button, you will be taken to your own computer’s file system for you to choose the photo you want to upload. A black box with a revolving wheel will appear until the file has been uploaded, as in the graphic below.

You can click here to go directly to the “Photos” page.
PHOTOS (continued…)

When the file (photo) has finished uploading the below dialog box will appear, fill the boxes in as per instruction.

Then your picture will appear in the list of photos.
Here you can listen to the Bible being read for you. Click any of the books of the Bible to open up the player so you can listen to the Bible being read online. The Holy Bible is read from the King James Version (KJV).

You can also find a book of the Bible by clicking on the corresponding category links.

You can click here to go directly to the “Audio Bible” page.

BIBLE QUESTIONS

Here you can get all your Bible questions answered.

Watch dozens of helpful videos and texts answering of popular Bible questions answered by qualified experts in the fields of biblical studies, theology, history, philosophy, ethics and science.
PRIVATE MESSAGING

Private messaging on CLM is easy and there are several ways to send and receive messages.

One way private message another member is to click on a member’s name (blue link) which will take you to the person’s page that you want to message.

Once on the member’s page you will see the [Message] button in the top right corner; see picture.

Then simply click on this button and it will take you to the e-mail form (below).

An alternative way to get to the e-mail/Message form is to click on the e-mail link at the top right of any page (see picture), it is always on the screen.
PRIVATE MESSAGING (continued…)

You will normally be informed by e-mail when you have a message, through the e-mail account that you registered for membership with. You will need to follow the link below the message that takes you back to the CLM site, to reply to the Message/e-mail.

Otherwise you can click on the e-mail icon, a drop down box will appear giving you the choice to select the e-mail/Message you wish to read or compose a message.
- Compose
- Messages
- View In-box

BLUE HYPERLINKS

When on the site you will see that certain parts of the text are in blue, these are mostly links.

In the example above there are several links on which you can click to perform operations and functions.
- Clicking on ‘The name link’ will take you to that person’s page.
- Clicking on the Group Link will take you to the group or the Group where the post is located.
- Clicking on the discussion link will take you to the forum discussion or the actual article where the post is located.

Whenever you see a blue word or words on the Home Page they will be a link to somewhere on the site, or sometimes in posts they will link you to Bible verses.
This is a basic introduction to Christians Like Me community web-site enough to get you started to achieve the best from your membership.

This is not a definitive guide and you will have many other questions as you develop your membership and get more involved.

When those questions arise the admin team will be only too happy to answer them.

www.ChristiansLikeMe.net