

Complete IN CHRIST

by Marla Vermillion

Jesus completes what is missing in everyone's life.

I grew up knowing I was Jewish. My family celebrated Hanukkah, Passover, and other Jewish holidays. Many of my friends were Jewish. I knew I was born Jewish, and I thought my non-Jewish friends were born Christian. I didn't understand what it meant to be a Christian. I just thought if a person's parents were Christian, that meant the child was also a Christian.

Jesus Was a Jew

When I was in college, a friend told me about Jesus. I had no idea Jesus was Jewish. I had never opened a Bible, but my friend challenged me to start reading Genesis and John and to watch the movie *Jesus of Nazareth*.

I soon realized Jesus was Jewish, and His

Jesus is Truth. Share His story with everyone!

disciples were also Jewish. I was surprised by this because I thought you had to be a Christian to learn about Jesus. The more I read, the more I realized what Jesus taught was true. I learned He came especially for the Jewish people. For me that meant I, a Jew, could believe in Jesus! I also read Jesus did not teach that people were no longer Jews because they chose to follow Him, or that non-Jews had to become Jews.

The Rest of the Story

I became a Christian, and now I am both a Jew and a Christian. But for me, since I was born Jewish by heritage, I am now a "completed Jew" spiritually—because I realize that Jesus is the "rest of the story." I now know who the Jewish Messiah is,

why I needed Him, and God called me to faith in Him. Sometimes I call myself a Christian because I'm a follower of Christ (*Christ* means "Messiah"); sometimes I call myself a Messianic Jew because I am a follower of God's Messiah; and sometimes I call myself a completed Jew because Jesus completes what is spiritually missing in everyone's life. All of those terms fit.

Now that I know Jesus is Truth, I want to share His story with everyone—especially Jewish people because Jesus is Jewish. I still enjoy celebrating Jewish holidays, and I invite my Jewish friends to join my family in those. I enjoy cooking the traditional Jewish foods. I love my Jewish friends! I want to introduce them to my dearest friend and their Messiah—Jesus! I want them to be complete in Him, as well.