

SOMETHING TO GROW BY

Asking Jesus Christ into your heart is only the beginning of the Christian life. There is more, "much more" as Rom. 5:10 tell us.

You have been born again, but, when you were first born into the world, you didn't start life with a full-grown body. You were just a baby. Well, the Bible tells us that you begin your new spiritual life in exactly the same way. From the time you receive Jesus, you too begin to grow spiritually.

Listed below are four helps to Christian growth. This lesson and those to follow will help you to grow in each of these four ways.

1. BIBLE STUDY

As your body could not grow big and strong without nourishment, as a Christian you must also have food of the spiritual kind, the Word of God. "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" (Mat. 4:4)

2. PRAYER LIFE

Many people don't understand what prayer is all about. It's really just talking to God and letting God talk to you. Prayer builds confidence, hope and a joy in every situation of life. Prayer develops your relationship with Jesus. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6-7)

3. CHURCH

When you received Christ you became one of God's children (John 1:12). You need to attend church and have fellowship in the same way a child needs the love and support of his family. That's why God says, "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." (Heb. 10:24-25)

4. WITNESSING

Witnessing means to tell other people what has happened to you. Now that you're a Christian and have had your sins forgiven you can tell others the "Good News" of Jesus and what He will do for those who turn their life over to Him! Many verses in these lessons will help you point others to Christ and make you a better witness. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mat. 28:19)

READY TO GO!

Start each study time in prayer. Only God the Holy Spirit is able to "lead you into all truth" (John 16:13). Conversion is the beginning of the new life in Christ. God's purpose in creating living things is that they grow and develop according to His plan. The new life is described in the Bible as a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17). As you follow Jesus your life will become real and exciting for you.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU?

Before beginning your study please read: Mat. 4:18-22; Lk. 9:57-62; John 12:16-26; Gal. 5:16-26; Phil. 3:1-11.



IN YOUR OWN WORDS

1. What kind of life does Jesus give to those who trust Him? (John 10:10, 28)
2. How did Jesus save you? (Rom. 8:3)
3. How do I confirm my own salvation? (Rom. 10:9-10)

4. What has happened to my old desires? (Rom. 6:6-14)

5. What must happen for a person to both "see" and be able to "enter" the kingdom of heaven? (John 3:3,5,7)

6. How can I show the Lord that I love Him? (John 14:21-24)

7. What are some ways I can show others God's love? (1 John 3:16-18)

8. As the Holy Spirit has full control in my life, what can I expect to see? (Gal. 5:22-23)

9. Is there any way to heaven besides Jesus? (John 14:6)

10. What will separate you from the love of God? (Rom. 8:38-39)

Write out the following scriptures just as they are in your Bible:

11. John 3:16

12. 1 John 4:4

13. Rom. 5:8

14. Eph. 1:13

15. Something has happened to you. How do you feel that your life has been changed?



MEMORY VERSE

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

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