

..but I have come that they may have life
and have it to the full. John 10:10

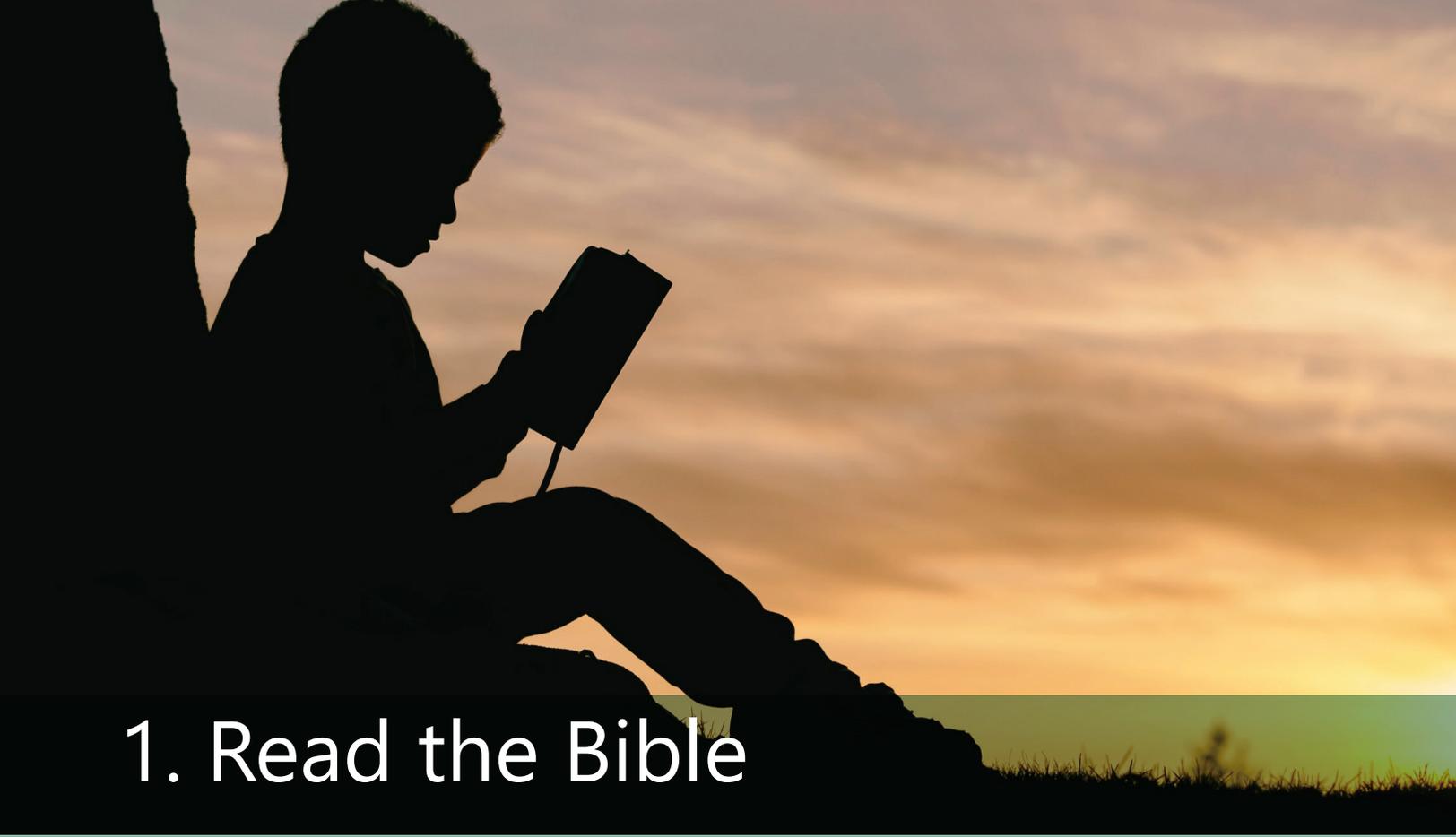


WHAT TO DO

Now That You Are Saved

5 STEPS TO TAKE AFTER RECEIVING JESUS





1. Read the Bible

God gave us the Bible as a way to get to know Him and as a way to know how we should live this new life. The Bible dictates for us our lifestyle and our world view. It is the final word for the Christian.

If you're not sure where to start reading, try starting in the gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John about the stories of Jesus and His words. They give life. Then jump into proverbs and psalms to give you wisdom and understanding.

One thing you need to realize is that doing any of these 5 things, including reading your Bible, doesn't make God love you more.

He loves you just because He loves you! But you do these things to get closer to Him and find out who you are and who's you are. The Bible is something you can always trust in because it will never die out.

"The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever."
Isaiah 40:8 NLT

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right."
2 Timothy 3:16 NLT



2. Pray

Prayer is how we speak to God. It is how we communicate with Him. It is also how we open up our hearts for Him to change us and to keep our hearts and minds focused on Him.

I believe a lot of people over complicate prayer and what it is, but there are three things you need to know about prayer:

1. Prayer is not reading other people's prayers.

Just like your husband wouldn't want you to recite Hallmark card greetings as a way to express your feelings to him, so God doesn't want us to just read other people's prayers. It's not wrong to allow prayers such as the Serenity Prayer to inspire us to pray, but written prayers are not a replacement for us expressing our heart to God.:

2. We can pray wherever we are.

In your bed, in your shower, in your car...you can pray anywhere and at anytime. Just like a parent is always ready to listen to whatever their child has to say, so God is eager to hear our prayers! You don't have to be in a church to pray, and no one has to do the praying for you. God wants to hear your heart! Just start talking to Him as you would your best friend.

3. God cares about the small things.

You will never annoy God with your prayers and nothing is too small for God to care about. In fact, He cares about the small things in our lives as much as the big things. Are you thinking about buying a new car? Pray about it! Are you considering putting your children in a new school? Pray about it! In fact, James tells us that if we need wisdom for anything in life, all we need to do is ask God. He will give it to us. In fact, James says that God doesn't prefer certain people over others. He won't say to you, "Uh, your not Billy Graham, so forget it!" No, God doesn't play favorites. The only condition to this is that when you ask God for wisdom, believe that He will actually give it to you. And He will.



3. Go to church

I know some people believe that this is optional, but it really isn't.

The Bible 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." – Hebrews 10:24-25

I know some people believe that this is optional, but it really isn't.

While you may argue that the church is full of hypocrites, the fact is that there are hypocrites wherever you go.

This argument often makes me laugh because you wouldn't say, "I'm quitting my job because it's full of hypocrites."

The truth is that the church is full of humans, and these humans are all on various levels of maturity – emotional and spiritual maturity. Each of these humans have come to Christ with baggage, and some of them have come with a lot of baggage.

But that baggage can fall off and become less and less the closer you get to Jesus. You can be healed and set free in Jesus name!



4. Get baptized

While some may believe that baptism is an unnecessary ritual, throughout the New Testament we see multiple commands, by both Jesus and the Apostles, for baptism.

As a matter of fact, baptism always immediately followed salvation. In every instance.

But what is baptism?

First of all, we need to understand that baptism does not save us. Baptism doesn't wash away our sins.

Baptism is a symbolic act that reflects what we read in

Romans 6:4: "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

When the pastor (or baptizer) lowers us down into the water, it symbolizes our old life being dead and buried – just as Jesus died and was buried in a tomb.

When he lifts us out of the water, it symbolizes Jesus' resurrection from the dead, and that through Him, we have new life, too!



5. Tell others

There is just something very powerful about sharing your faith with others.

Telling other people about Jesus can feel scary and intimidating, but taking that first step to tell someone about your new faith in Christ is so powerful!

In fact, in Revelation 12:11 it says, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb (this is Jesus and His sacrifice) and by the word of their testimony (this is you telling your friend about Jesus), and they did not love their lives to the death." So don't be afraid because the Bible tells us He didn't give us fear, the enemy did that, but He gave us power, love and a sound mind. So step out on the water and tell someone about the decision you just made. To follow Jesus!

I often use this picture. I don't know if you like dessert and sweet stuff as much as I do but let's say you try something new for the first time like chocolate cake or (insert favorite dessert, sweet, or food here). What is the first thing that you are going to do (besides get another piece or bite of it)? Of course you're going to tell someone else! Hey Fred, Bob, Susie, Deborah... you have got to try this! It's so good! It's just as the same with Jesus Christ. If He has really rescued you and is changing you, you will want someone to know about it!

Challenge

So now the challenge I would like to invite you to is something I call the thirsty 30. Do you ever get thirsty during the day? So thirsty you have to have some water or something to drink right then? That's your body telling you that your are dehydrated or in need of water or hydration. It gives you strength and energy to keep going. Your soul is the same way, it needs Gods word, prayer and people speaking the word to keep you going and strong from the inside out.

The Thirsty 30:

10 Mins.- Worship

10 Mins. - Prayer

10 Mins. - Word.

This will be a great start to help you with your new walk with Jesus. You can start here and work on your time and before you know it you will be spending an hour or more a day with your creator! The more time you spend with Him the more you will become like Him.

Please go to celebrationwc.com and fill out a I just got saved form and also a connect card so we can continue to connect with you and see how you are growing with Jesus and we will be there if you need any help along the way. You are not in this alone. You can do it!

God Bless You!