

# LEARNING TO **REALLY LIVE**

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*A five week journey into walking with Jesus.*





# 1

## YOUR STORY

This little book is designed to help you understand what God has done for you in Jesus and what He wants you to do now.

This is just the “beginning.” God wants to walk with you through ALL of your life. He wants to show you how to do life right. He has given you several things to help you. You will learn what they are in the next four weeks.

Stop now and pray. Ask God to teach you. Thank Him again for Jesus, because what Jesus did for us is the beginning of everything.

Now turn to the next page and write out your story.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I gave my life to Jesus on \_\_\_\_\_  
(date you were saved).

What circumstances did God use to bring  
you to Himself?

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What do you think this decision means for  
your life now?

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Write in your Bible the day and place you  
were saved.

# 2

## YOUR NEW HELPER

You have made a wonderful decision that has changed your life. From this point you can make a fresh start. God will not only show you how, but He Himself will help you do it.

Read John 6:44 (NAS) and fill in the blanks: Jesus said, " \_\_\_\_\_ can come to Me unless the \_\_\_\_\_ who sent Me \_\_\_\_\_ Him; and I will \_\_\_\_\_ him up on the last day."

Wow! Think about it. God, the one who created the universe, loved YOU and drew you to Jesus. Maybe you were listening to a preacher, or maybe a friend was talking to you about Jesus, or maybe you were watching something on TV or listening to a

song, but God Himself used that to help you see Him.

You probably felt something in your life was missing or just messed up and you needed to do something about it. You have said 'YES' to God, and now you start living the life He planned for you.

Put your name in the following blanks and really think about what it says,

God so loved \_\_\_\_\_ that He gave His only son that when \_\_\_\_\_ believes \_\_\_\_\_ should not perish, but \_\_\_\_\_ will have eternal life.

John 3:16

Jesus talking.

You may have done things in the past that you are ashamed of. Things you know were not good for you. But understand this ---- You get to start over now. God has forgiven you and gives you a clean page.

Read I John 1:9 (NAS) and fill in the blanks:

If we \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_, He  
is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to  
\_\_\_\_\_ us our \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ us from all \_\_\_\_\_.

God cleans us up and we start fresh. Some people have not done terrible things in their life, but all were born selfish and we want our own way. We are ALL separated from God and need Jesus. Someone once said if the worst person stood in the deepest part of the ocean and the best person stood on the tallest mountain, neither could reach the stars. That is a good picture of man trying to reach God. It is impossible except that God has reached down to us through Jesus.

Read Romans 3:23 (NAS) and fill in the blanks:

\_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ and fall  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the glory of \_\_\_\_\_.

No one is born connected to God like He made us to be. Adam and Eve lost that for us when they fell for Satan's lie in the Garden of Eden. (see Genesis 3)

Think of it like this. A part of you, call it your Spirit part, is empty when you are born. It was made to be connected to God and is empty till you choose to let Him fill it. You did that when you asked Jesus to forgive you and told Him He can now be the boss of your life. That is the decision you have recently made and now the real Spirit of God lives in that empty place inside of you.

You are now connected to God through His Holy Spirit- your new helper. This is what you were born to be- in a right relationship with the creator of the universe. Just like your lungs were made to be filled with oxygen, your spirit place was made to be filled with the Spirit of God. You now have that empty space in your life filled, and you will never again have to search for something to fill it.



Jesus died to make this possible. Don't ever forget what your salvation cost the Father and the Son. Thank Him regularly.

The first thing God gave you to help you live this new life –begin again and be successful- is His Spirit. This is the power and presence of God Himself in you. Always remember those two 'p' words. They are two things you need every day.

He is willing to give you direction.  
He is willing to give you wisdom.  
He is willing to give you peace  
He is willing to give you joy.

But moment by moment every day of your life you must CHOOSE to let Him be in charge. You know from experience your choices make you what you are. This is a choice you will never regret making.

Read some things about this Spirit that has come to live in you. Write down what you learn.

John 14:15-17 \_\_\_\_\_

John 14:26 \_\_\_\_\_

I Corinthians 6:19-20 \_\_\_\_\_

I John 3:24 \_\_\_\_\_

I John 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Remember you must choose to let Jesus be your boss through the power and presence of His Spirit in you. But know this: If He really lives in you, He will not let you go your 'own' way happily. He loves you too much and He will let you know you are going the wrong way every time.

Read Psalm 84:11-12 (NAS) and write it here:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mark this verse in your Bible and memorize it. God wants to give you good things like peace and joy and blessings. If He says NO

to something, it is because it is NOT good for you.

TRUST HIM.

He sees tomorrow better than you see yesterday.

God wants to show others what He is like by the way you act. It is a wonderful privilege to represent Jesus to the world. As you do this, other people will come to know Him because of you.

Isn't that exciting!

You will experience a wonderful life, and someone else will be in heaven and experience joy and peace on earth because of you.

Thank God for what He has done in your life. Thank Him for His Spirit in you. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Luke 9:23.

Each day this next week read the following verses and write a sentence or two about what it means to you.

Monday – Proverbs 3:5-6

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Tuesday – John 10: 27-28

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Wednesday – Galatians 5:22-25

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Thursday – Psalm 23

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Friday – Mark 12:30-31

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LIFE! LIFE! LIFE! LIFE! LIFE! LIFE! LIFE!

# 3

## YOUR NEW FAMILY

You have a Helper who lives inside you. He gives you the presence and power of God every moment every day of your life as you choose to follow Him. What a gift!

But that is not all. God has given you a new family. Your physical family may be a wonderful help to you in your fresh start. But whether they are or not, God has placed you in His family. He is Father and everyone who knows Him through Jesus is your brother and sister. This is called the "church."

You need to be part of a church where you will find people to:

Love you

Teach you

Encourage you

Hold you accountable

You may need new friends because your old group does not think like you do now. We all need friends and these friends will either help us or hurt us. Find a church to join and enjoy. There you will find friends with whom to share your life.

Remember, Jesus wants to be boss of every day, not just Sunday. Your social life is very important to Him so choose your companions with care.

Read I Corinthians 15:33 (NAS) and fill in the blanks.

Do not be \_\_\_\_\_. Bad \_\_\_\_\_ corrupts good morals.

What does this mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Look up these verses and write what God says about how to live in your new family.

Romans 12:10 \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 4:29 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 15:7 \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 6:10 \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 4:32 \_\_\_\_\_

Your new family should be a support group at school and in your free time. Choose your closest friends, male and female, from this new family. It is God's plan for you to associate with those who also want Jesus to be the boss of their life.

2 Corinthians 6:14 (NAS)

Do not be \_\_\_\_\_ together with \_\_\_\_\_; for what \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ and lawlessness, or what \_\_\_\_\_ has light with darkness.

Think about why God would want you to associate with those who love Him. Ask Him to guide you and bless you with friends like these.

One of the special things we do as a church family is to worship together. You have a wonderful and exciting life in store for you, but you must choose to follow God step by step. Worship is focusing on Jesus and experiencing worship will help you make that choice. Public worship with your family will give you encouragement and strength to follow God. You will sing together, pray together, and study together. You will

offer yourself to God as you honor Him in worship. He is the audience and you are worshipping Him.

As you grow in knowledge you will learn more about the body of Christ which is the church. But for now just understand that you are part of it because you have said 'yes' to Jesus. It is the way God works in the world.

Read Psalm 95:1-7. It is a call to worship. List three things it says about God.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Worship is all about God, but you will always be blessed as you participate. There is something wonderful about being in His presence with your new family.



This week, read the following passages from the book of Psalms which was the hymnbook of the Jews. Write one truth or something God says to you.

Monday – Psalm 36: 5-9

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Tuesday – Psalm 8:1-9

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Wednesday – Psalm 145: 1-3

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Thursday – Psalm 37:3-5

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Friday – Psalm 150

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# 4

## YOUR NEW INSTRUCTION BOOK

Would you like to have instructions on how to map out your life? The book that is the best seller of all time will do that for you. While the Bible won't tell you who to marry or where to work or go to college, it will give you instructions on many issues you are facing. The very best thing the Bible will do is keep you in God's presence as you read His words from prophets in the Old Testament and from Jesus in the New Testament.

The Bible will tell you the right way to live—the way you were designed by God to live. His way is so good and you don't want to miss it.

Read the following verse and fill in Jesus's words:

John 8:31-32 (NAS)

If you \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_, then you are truly \_\_\_\_\_ of mine and you shall \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall make you \_\_\_\_\_.

The voice of the world is everywhere. It has a very different message from the one God will give you. It is a very self-indulgent message—a message that makes hurtful things seem desirable.

In the very beginning (Genesis 3:4-5), Satan told Eve that God was not telling her the truth, but that He was keeping something good from her. She believed Satan instead of God and her life was never the same. She felt shame for the first time. She hid from God and was afraid of Him. (Genesis 3:7-10)

So many people still believe the lies of this world which is still saying that God's way is not good. In fact, they say there is no real right and wrong, but it just depends on the situation.

Read what Jesus says in John 16:13 (NAS):

But when He the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_  
comes, He will \_\_\_\_\_ you into all  
\_\_\_\_\_, for He will not \_\_\_\_\_  
on His own \_\_\_\_\_, but  
whatever He \_\_\_\_\_, He will speak  
and He will \_\_\_\_\_ to you what is to  
come.

In John 14:6, Jesus says He is the TRUTH. He  
came to show us the truth about God and  
show us that there is a right way to live.

You will only know this truth if you read  
the Bible. It is a wonderful love letter  
full of promises that are yours to claim.  
Remember, everything God tells you to do is  
because it is best and brings life and peace.  
(Psalm 84:11-12)

Look around you at people doing life the  
world's way. Look at the guilt and regret  
and problems they are causing themselves.  
List a few problems caused by doing  
life the world's way in the area of sexual  
relationships. \_\_\_\_\_

We could take many areas of life (friendships, marriage, use of leisure time) and list problems caused by doing them the world's way. Learn this truth early—You will save yourself much heartache by doing life according to the Word of God which you are reading and studying as a daily habit.

Get a good translation that you can understand. Start reading the books listed on the last page of this section and check them off as you finish. Read at least 5 minutes a day. Mark promises and commands. Underline verses that really speak to you and put the date in the margin. Your Bible will become very important to you as you do this. Remember, it is written to you by the creator of the universe.

Read this verse and see all the good things Bible study will do for you.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NAS)

All \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ and is profitable for \_\_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_\_, for training in \_\_\_\_\_, that the man of God may be \_\_\_\_\_, equipped for every good \_\_\_\_\_.

This is that passage from The Message.

“Every part of Scripture is God breathed and useful one way or another –showing us truths, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way.”

Read these seven books in this order.

- \_\_\_\_\_ John
- \_\_\_\_\_ I John
- \_\_\_\_\_ Philippians
- \_\_\_\_\_ Matthew
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ephesians
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mark
- \_\_\_\_\_ Galatians

A few facts about these seven books:

John, Matthew, and Mark are called "gospels" which means "good news." They tell the events of Jesus's life on earth.

I John is a letter John wrote to Christians and it describes what the Christian life should look like.

Philippians, Ephesians, and Galatians are letters written by Paul-a man who traveled the 1st century world telling people about Jesus. He wrote these letters back to churches to instruct them on how Christians should live and remind them of all the things God offers thru LIFE in Christ.

# 5

## YOUR NEW LIFE

In the past few steps we have been talking about all the things God has provided to help you live the way you were created to live –your helper, your family, and your instruction book. All these things you have learned will only grow more familiar as you get older walking with the Lord Jesus.

This is only the beginning!

This last step is about the new LIFE you are living and LIFE is really the way to describe it. It is “really living.”

Read and memorize this verse. It is a truth you don't want to forget. Jesus talking.



John 10:10 (NAS)

The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they might have life and might have it abundantly.

The Message says it like this:

I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

You have made a choice to give yourself to God. You have asked Him to forgive you and you told Him He was in charge of your life from now on. That is what a LORD is—in charge.

Don't ever forget this decision. It is the best one you will ever make. You were born to follow God, but you had to decide for yourself if you would do it. Because you chose to let God control you by His Spirit inside of you, you are now a complete human. You will live a wonderful life because God will guide your every step. Even when you go through hard things, He has you in

His hand and you know He is there. He gives you peace.

That is if you let Him.

You are his because you decided and now you must decide every day to:

learn more about Him by reading His Word

be in His presence by talking to Him

obey Him as He shows you what to do

Those three things will help you do what Paul says in Galatians 2:20- "live by faith." That means you get to follow God step by step, moment by moment, 24/7 for the rest of your life—which, by the way, will only continue after you die. You will then be perfectly in His presence with no sin nature to deal with at all.

Prayer is a vital part of your daily walk—number two in the list above. It is simply talking to and listening to God. Private worship (quiet time) is vital but learn to talk

to God all during the day. Jesus wants to be your constant companion thru His Spirit in you. He IS always there, but you must learn to be aware of Him. It is like anything you learn. The more you practice, the more it becomes your life habit.

As you learn to live by faith, God will give you opportunities to share what you know about Jesus with others. Everyone needs Him, many are searching, and it is our privilege to tell them the truth we know.

Continue reading those books you started reading.

Get involved in worship and small group Bible study.

Pray for your friends and family and share Jesus regularly.

It is a wonderful way to live. Don't miss it!

It's Your Choice!











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