



A N E W B E G I N N I N G

A New Beginning

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A New Beginning

Would you like to begin life over again?
Things have not gone the way you planned.
You are discouraged.
You want to give up, because no one
seems to care or understand.
But Someone does care.
Someone who loves you very much!

No matter what has happened,
no matter what you have done,
no matter how you have lived your life,
God is personally interested in you,
and He cares what happens to you.
He loves you!

He understands your frustration,
your loneliness,
your heartaches.
He wants you to come to Him
so He can take care of your greatest need
and enable you to cope with life.

God says,
“I have loved you with an everlasting love.”

Jeremiah 31:3b, NASB

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You have lived to please yourself,
but it has only brought unhappiness.
You have left God out of your life and it has left
you empty.
God says living to please yourself is sin.
Sin separates us from God.

God loves you and has provided the only way to
be forgiven.

*“But God has shown us how much He loves
us—it was while we were still sinners
that Christ died for us!”*

1 John 4:10

Jesus Christ, God’s Son, not only died to pay the
penalty for your sin but He conquered death
when He rose from the grave.
He is alive today, and will come to live in you by
His spirit.
He will give you a new beginning if you
surrender the control of your life to Him.

When you ask Him to forgive your sin and enter
your life,
He will enable you to live in a way that is
fulfilling to you and pleasing to God.
He will give you a new life that will last forever.

*“For God loved the world so much that He
gave His only Son, so that everyone who
believes in Him, may not die but have
eternal life.”*

John 3:16

My Prayer For A New Beginning

Now that I understand who Jesus Christ
is and what He did for me, I want to
receive Him as my Savior and Lord.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I do believe You are the Son of God and
that You died on the cross to pay the
penalty for my sin.

Please come into my life, forgive my sin
and make me a member of Your family.
I now turn from going my own way.
I want You to be the center of my life.

Thank You for Your gift of eternal life
and for your Holy Spirit, who has now
come to live in me.

I ask this in Your name. Amen.

Signed _____

Date _____

Congratulations!

Now that you have prayed that prayer, do you know what just happened?

God has accepted you just the way you are. He has forgiven you of all your sins. He has given you His Holy Spirit to guide you and you now have eternal life.

How did that happen?

You prayed, confessing your sin of living to please yourself instead of living to please God.

You put your faith in what Jesus Christ did for you when He died on the cross, rose from the grave, and ascended into heaven. He is alive today.

What happened to you?

You received Jesus Christ, who said if you would open the door of your life to Him, He would come in. You invited Him in and **He came in.**

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him . . .”

Revelation 3:20, NASB

A New Beginning

When you asked Jesus Christ to come into your life to be your Savior and Lord, your name was written in the Book of Life.

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . .” “Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.” **Revelation 21:1, 27, NIV**

Where were you when you decided to follow Jesus Christ?

Who did you tell about your decision?

Now that you have made this life-changing decision, you need to grow spiritually. These three lessons are designed to introduce you to your wonderful new life in Jesus Christ. You can study on your own or with a friend.

In each lesson, Bible verses are quoted which give the answers to the questions. Read the verses carefully and write your answers in your own words on the lines which follow the questions.

Date you began these lessons ____ / ____ / ____.

Lesson 1

The Indwelling Christ

1. Now that you have received Jesus Christ, what is happening in your life?

“When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun!” **2 Corinthians 5:17, TLB**

You have new life. Your _____ life is passing away. Your _____ life is coming into being. These changes came because _____ is now living in you.

You gave God your old, mixed-up life. He gave you His new life, which gives you right-standing with Him. With this new life come **new values** and a **new lifestyle**.

“And you must put on the new self, which is created in God’s likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.” **Ephesians 4:24**

You have eternal life.

2. Briefly state in your own words, the following verses.

“For sin pays its wage—death; but God’s free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 6:23**

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not have life, but will remain under God’s punishment.” **John 3:36**

“I am telling you the truth: he who believes has eternal life.” **John 6:47**

Romans 6:23 _____

John 3:36 _____

John 6:47 _____

3. According to Ephesians 2:8-9, what did you do to deserve eternal life?

“For it is by God’s grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God’s gift, so that no one can boast about it.”

Ephesians 2:8-9

Nothing! None of us deserve it; it is a gift!

4. What gift does 1 John 4:13 say confirms the fact that you have become a Christian?

“We are sure that we live in union with God and that he lives in union with us, because he has given us his Spirit.”

1 John 4:13

As a Christian, you have received God’s gift of His Holy Spirit.

5. According to 1 John 4:14, what special title is given to Jesus?

“And we have seen and tell others that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.”

1 John 4:14

God sent Jesus Christ to be **your own** Savior, as well as the Savior of the world.

6. According to 1 John 4:15, what confession causes God to abide in you and you to abide in God?

“If anyone declares that Jesus is the Son of God, he lives in union with God and God lives in union with him.”

1 John 4:15

As a Christian, you have acknowledged the fact that Jesus is the Son of God.

7. How can you apply the above Scripture to your life in today’s world? What difference will there be in your attitude, actions, and conversation?

Lesson 2

Feed Your New Life

The Bible is not an ordinary book. It is God's special way of revealing truth. He tells us the truth about Himself, about ourselves, and about our relationship to Him and others.

1. Your spiritual life, as well as your physical life, needs nourishment. How can you feed your spiritual life?

"Like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation."

1 Peter 2:2, NASB

We need the nourishment of God's Word so that we will grow spiritually.

2. How did Jesus Christ say our spiritual life is to be fed?

"But Jesus answered, 'The scripture says, 'Man cannot live on bread alone, but needs every word that God speaks.' ' "

Matthew 4:4

Read the Bible daily, think about what you read, and consider how you can put each biblical truth to work in your life.

3. What do the two following Bible verses tell about how God's Word guides us in our Christian living?

"Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path." **Psalm 119:105**

God's Word (the Bible) is a light, showing a Christian how to live.

"If you wander off the road to the right or left, you will hear his voice behind you saying, 'Here is the road. Follow it.'"

Isaiah 30:21

When we read and meditate on God's Word, it is like His voice telling us what He wants us to do.

4. What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say about the Bible?

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

In light of this verse, why is Bible study necessary?

**ENJOY GOD’S WORD.
Establish the habit of reading
your Bible every day.**

5. What do the following verses call the Word of God?

“Like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.”

1 Peter 2:2

God’s Word is _____

“But Jesus answered, ‘The scripture says, ‘Man cannot live on bread alone, but needs every word that God speaks.’ ’ ”

Matthew 4:4

God’s Word is _____

“Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.”

Psalms 119:105

God’s Word is a _____

“So put on God’s armor now! Then when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist the enemy’s attacks; and after fighting to the end, you will still hold your ground.”

“And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you.”

Ephesians 4:13, 17

God’s Word is a _____

The best way to remember what you read is to memorize it. Read the verse you want to remember over and over again. Soon you will have it memorized. Don't forget to learn the location where it is to be found.

6. Memorize Matthew 4:4. Write it here.

7. Read Colossians 3:1-11 thoughtfully. It tells how to live this new life.

“You have been raised to life with Christ, so set your hearts on the things that are in heaven, where Christ sits on his throne at the right side of God. Keep your minds fixed on things there, not on things here on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. Your real life is Christ and when he appears, then you too will appear with him and share his glory!”

“You must put to death, then, the earthly desires at work in you, such as sexual immorality, indecency, lust, evil passions, and greed (for greed is a form of idolatry). Because of such things God’s anger will come upon those who do not obey him. At one time you yourselves used to live according to such desires, when your life was dominated by them. But now you must get rid of all these things: anger, passion, and hateful feelings. No insults or obscene talk must ever come from your lips.

“Do not lie to one another, for you have put off the old self with its habits and have put on the new self. This is the new being which God, its Creator, is constantly renewing in his own image, in order to bring you to a full knowledge of himself. As a result, there is no longer any distinction between Gentiles and Jews, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarians, savages, slaves and free men, but Christ is all, Christ is in all.”

Colossians 3:1-11

8. How are you going to make these commands a part of your daily life?

Lesson 3

Talk to God

Communication is an important part of both our physical and spiritual lives. Prayer is communication with God. We can talk to Him as we talk to a beloved friend. God hears and delights in our prayers.

**The Bible is the main way
God speaks to us.
Prayer is the main way
we speak to God.**

1. Does God want us to pray?

*“The prayer of the upright pleases him . . .
He hears the prayer of the righteous.”*

Proverbs 15:8, 29, NIV

*“Call to me, and I will answer you; I will
tell you wonderful and marvelous things
that you know nothing about.”*

Jeremiah 33:3

God wants to give us more than we ask.

2. Does God hear us when we pray?

*“We know that God does not listen to
sinners; he does listen to people who
respect him and do what he wants them
to do.”* **John 9:31**

*“If I had ignored my sins, the Lord would
not have listened to me.”* **Psalm 66:18**

We are not limited to a certain time or a place when we pray. God is eternal and always present with us wherever we are.

3. What do the following verses say about prayer?

*“If you believe, you will receive whatever
you ask in prayer.”* **Matthew 21:22**

“When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites! They love to stand up and pray in the houses of worship and on the street corners, so that everyone will see them. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. But when you pray, go to your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you. When you pray, do not use a lot of meaningless words, as the pagans do, who think that God will hear them because their prayers are long.”

Matthew 6:5-7

“He is near to those who call to him, who call to him with sincerity.”

Psalms 145:18

4. The following verses tell us the prerequisites to answered prayer. What are they?

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it.”

John 15:7

“If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.”

John 14:14

“We have courage in God’s presence, because we are sure that he hears us if we ask him for anything that is according to his will.”

1 John 5:14

5. After each of the verses below, write the reason some prayers are not answered.

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, he should pray to God, who will give it to him; because God gives generously and graciously to all. But when you pray, you must believe and not doubt at all. Whoever doubts is like a wave in the sea that is driven and blown about by the wind. A person like that, unable to make up his mind and undecided in all he does, must not think that he will receive anything from the Lord.”

James 1:5-8

“And when you stand and pray, forgive anything you may have against anyone, so that your Father in heaven will forgive the wrongs you have done.”

Mark 11:25, 26

“And when you ask, you do not receive it, because your motives are bad; you ask for things to use for your own pleasures.”

James 4:3

6. Memorize 2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.”

2 Corinthians 5:17, NASB

7. What are some evidences that new, good things are being added to your life?

8. What old things are passing away from your life?

Pray, thanking God for His great salvation and all it includes.

Date you finished these lessons ___/___/___.

The Christian life is living in obedience to God.

Every day can be a new adventure as you—

- **continue to study the Bible;**
- **believe God's promises;**
- **obey God's will for your life.**

Would you like to learn more about God's Word?

Stonecroft Ministries offers two opportunities for you:

- Small group studies through our Friendship Bible Coffee program
- Individual studies through Stonecroft Bible Correspondence courses.

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