I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS





You've just made the best decision of your life and have taken your first steps into an incredible new life as you follow after Jesus!

We want to help you to know God better and to grow to become more like Him while finding a place to belong within His family, the Church!

Here are some simple next steps you can take, that will help you continue from this decision you've made today:

O1. Develop your personal relationship with Jesus by getting to know Him personally. This book has a simple reading plan that will help you to understand who you

are in Christ and how to take steps towards knowing Him more. If you don't have a Bible yet, the simplest way to start reading God's word is to download the YouVersion App. This easy to read online Bible is accessable any time on your phone or tablet.

02. Be a part of the Church!

More than just a place to attend services, The Church is a place to belong. Every single one of us has been united together in Christ as His family. We worship together, encourage one another and help each other to follow Jesus and tell others about Him. Make being together on Sunday a priority! You can also come to our Belong Classes, which run during our Sunday services, and will help you connect into Church life; or join a Grow Group to connect with people during the week.

O3. Know your foundations! When you gave your life to Christ, you became a new person. Come and be a part of our Christian Foundations classes running each school term. They'll help you to understand who you are in Christ and what it means to live each day in this new identity.

04. Tell your friends and your family about the decision you have made!

You might not feel like you know enough yet, but that's not the point! You have had an encounter with Jesus an He has given you new life! Your friends and family need this just as much as you do. Decide that you wont hide this away, but instead, simply tell them about your experience and trust that God can speak to them the same way He has spoken to you.



WEEK ONE DEVOTION

YOUR NEW LIFE WITH JESUS

PRAY

Jesus, thank you for new life today! You have forgiven me, you have washed me clean, and you have given me a new spirit – your spirit! Thank you for setting me free from my sin and my shame, help me to live free today! You are my Lord and I will follow you. Give me strength and give me courage to live for you today!

DO ≥

As you read through these scriptures this week, invite Jesus to speak to you about them and He will show you what it means to live a new life IN HIM. Choose to step into new ways of living as He encounter His love and forgiveness for you. If you can, share one of the verses with a friend and tell them what God has done in your life.

DEVOTION VIDEO



READ >

DAY 1 1 JOHN 1:8-9 (NLT)

The simplest way to describe sin is as rebellion against God. Instead of living His way, we sin and choose to live our own way instead. To repent of Sin is to realise that He is Lord and that we are not. Repentance leads us to submit our lives to His Lordship. The moment we repent and submit our lives to Jesus, God completely and totally forgives us.

DAY 2 | ROMANS 6:20-23

Before we gave our life to Jesus, the Bible says we were slaves to Sin. It held us captive, there was nothing we could do about it, and it'd earned us the death penalty. But Jesus set free! While sin earned me death, the free gift of God is eternal life for anyone that gives their life to Jesus. We aren't trapped in sin any more, we're set free to be made righteous!

DAY 3 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-18

When you gave your life to Jesus, you didn't just decide to live differently, He made you new! God gave us a new Spirit, His Spirit, to live within us. While your day-to-day life will begin a process of changing (new thoughts, attitudes, desires), your spiritual identity is completely new from the moment you invite Jesus into your life.

DAY 4 | EZEKIEL 36:25-27

Before we encountered Jesus, our hearts were hard and stubborn; we rebelled against God. God gives us a new heart, a soft heart, that is able to respond to His love for us. We don't push away from God, we press towards Him. His Spirit within us will help us to live a life that pleases Him.

DAY 5 | EPHESIANS 1:4-8

Not only are your sins forgiven by Jesus, but your relationship with God is completely transformed too! Because of God's love for us, He completely restores us and calls us His sons and daughters. More than just forgiven, through Jesus you are completely accepted by God and He welcomes you close to Him.

WEEK TWO DEVOTION

WALKING WITH JESUS EVERY DAY

PRAY

Jesus, thank you that you love me, that you're with me at all times. I love you and a want to walk with you each day! Help me to stop and listen for your voice so you can lead me and guide me, as I do my best to walk with you each day.

DO ≥

Your relationship with Jesus grows the same way as every relationship does, with time and attention. Make it a priority each day to stop, pray, and connect with Jesus. Invite Him into your day and listen as He speaks to you - because He will! The more you do, the easier it becomes as you learn to recognise the way He speaks to you. Your friends might not understand what it means to follow Jesus, tell them about your journey! You could even invite them along to church with you.





READ >

DAY 6 | MATTHEW 4:18-25

To be a Christian is to be a follower of Jesus. To every single one of us Jesus has said, "Come, follow me". Every single one of us is on a journey of following Him each day, drawing closer to Him, learning how to be more like Him. You don't have to be perfect to follow Jesus, you only need to be willing to stop going your way and keep in step with Him instead. You'll be amazed at the difference He'll make in your life as you follow Him ever day!

DAY 7 GALATIANS 5

The inevitable effect of sin in our life is a downward spiral of hate, anger and wickedness. In serving ourselves, we hurt others and end up hurting ourselves too. But God sent Holy Spirit to lead and guide us towards a new way of life. As we keep in step with Him, he takes away the negative impacts of sin and replaces them with pattern of love, joy and peace. The goodness of God simply grows within us as we follow Him.

DAY 8 | 1 JOHN 3:11-19

Those who've experienced the love and forgiveness of God learn to live showing this same love to others. The Bible says this is actually evidence of walking with Jesus. When we know His love, we show it, in more than words, we demonstrate it in the way we act towards others! As you experience this each day, allow it to transform you to be more like Him.

DAY 9 | ROMANS 12:1-2

Worship is so much more than signing songs. To worship God is to honour Him as Lord of all things. The truest form of worship is submitting your life to Him and following His will. We truly worship God as we stop living according to the ways of this world and let Him teach us a new way to live.

DAY 10 | PROVERBS 3:5-6

God promises that He will lead us and guide us each day. We only need to trust in Him and surrender our lives to His way. When we live like this, He promises to look after us and keep us on the right path. He is responsible for the outcomes; our only responsibility is to trust in Him.

WEEK THREE DEVOTION

GROWING CLOSER TO JESUS

PRAY >

Jesus, thank you that you're close to me and call me friend, that you speak to me and I can speak to you! I want to know you more and become more like you! Speak to me in the quiet moments, as I read my Bible and set aside time to pray. More than anything else, I want to grow closer to you today.

DO 😼

God wants you to know Him. He invites you to draw near to Him and promises that as you do, He will draw near to you. God reveals Himself to us because He desires we grow closer to Him! Through His Word, the Bible, living and inspired, He speaks and reveals Himself. Through Holy Spirit dwelling within; the very presence of God, helping us at every moment. When we pray, He hears and speaks to us - a spiritual conversation! Don't ever think God's holding Himself back. He loves you, invites you to know Him, and welcomes you closer every time you draw near.





READ >

DAY 11 | MATTHEW 6:9-13

Jesus teaches us how we should pray to our Heavenly Father, posturing ourselves in a position of worship and surrender and inviting Him to be Lord of our life each day. When we position ourselves like this, and make our relationship with Him our first priority each day – we will see Him move in our life and through our life to bring about His Kingdom.

DAY 12 | PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

You weren't made to live in worry, you were made to live in an attitude of trust in God. He is good and He is faithful all the time. He invites you to bring every need that you have to Him in prayer and promises that as you choose to trust Him, He will give you peace.

DAY 13 | 1 JOHN 5:13-15

Prayer is not just talking into the air; it's talking TO God. When we pray, not only does He hear us, but He responds to us as well. When you pray, don't just speak, make time to be still and listen – expecting God will speak to you too. Look for His answers to prayer and His involvement in your life every day.

DAY 14 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

The Bible isn't just another book, it is the inspired (God breathed) word of God. God has breathed life into these words, they're His words to every single one of us – even today! As we study the Bible, it will teach us truth, convict us of sin, and call us towards righteousness.

DAY 15 | PSALM 119:97-112

The Word of God is essential for life! Without His word, we don't know how to live. The Bible IS God's word and reveals the very nature of God to us. From it we learn not only who God is, but how we are to live our life in a way that pleases Him. Let His word be like a light that reveals the truth to you each day. Learn to love His word!

WEEK FOUR DEVOTION

I AM THE CHURCH

PRAY

Jesus, thank you for placing me within your body

– The Church! This is where I am being healed and
made whole. Help me to understand, more and
more, who you've made me to be. Show me how to
use this, to love you and to serve others! Use me
to show your love to the world in a way that helps
them to encounter your presence too!

DO ≥

Church isn't just a Sunday service, it's an essential part of your new identity in Christ! When The Church gathers, make it a priority to be there! It brings God glory when His people worship Him and love one another. Beyond this, ask God to show you who He made you to be and how that fits within the context of The Church. Look for opportunities to contribute meaningfully to The Church and its ministries in meaningful ways.





READ >

DAY 16 | ACTS 2:42-47

As you follow Jesus, you'll find yourself surrounded by other people doing the same. Christianity isn't an individual expression, it's a new community identity. The Holy Spirit unites us together in a common spirit with a common purpose, to bring glory to Father God. Those who are devoted to Christ will become devoted to those He loves – The Church!

DAY 17 | HEBREWS 10:19-25

The Church isn't just a place we go, the church is who we are in Christ. We ARE The Church! We gather to worship God, to bring Him Glory, to encourage one another and to serve one another in love. Gathering as The Church must be a priority, it's where we're truly who God made us to be.

DAY 18 | JAMES 5:13-20

God created us to live within a healthy community with Himself at the centre – The Church. This is where God bring us to health and wholeness! It's as The Church that we're made physically, emotionally, and spiritually whole. It's as The Church we learn to love, forgive, to stand together in faith, to pray for and minister to one another – We need one another!

DAY 19 | 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27

God designed each of us on purpose, for a purpose, and He placed us within our local church to outwork it together. Every single one of us has an essential part to play, we need The Church and The Church needs us! As we discover who God made us to be and the spiritual gifts that He gives to us, we are better able to find our best fit within the life of our Church.

DAY 20 | EPHESIANS 4

God places us within The Church so that we can grow to maturity in the faith and learn to outwork the ministry call that God has for each of us. God appointed Spiritually gifted leaders within the Church to train and equip every believer for the work of ministry. When we understand this, we see that ministry isn't just the job of pastors in Church but is the responsibility of every person who had given their life to Jesus.

WEEK FIVE DEVOTION

A PUBLIC DECLARATION

PRAY

Jesus, thank you that you gave your everything for me and held nothing back. I'm thankful for forgiveness and new life! I now give you all of myself and hold nothing back. You are my life, and my future is in you. If there are areas of my life that I'm holding on to, help me to lay them down so I can walk in greater freedom.

DO ≥

Jesus gave you new life so that you can truly live it! Don't allow your old life, your old ways, or your old desires to pull you away from Jesus today – choose to walk in freedom! Invite Holy Spirit to teach you how to walk in His new life for you. Look for opportunities to tell others about the life God has given you and the freedom you have found.





READ >

DAY 21 | ACTS 2:36-40

Baptism is an outward demonstration of our inward decision to die to our will and submit our life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. We are to repent and be baptised. This is not a sign of Christian maturity, but a simple acknowledgement of repentance. You don't need to wait until you 'know enough' about Christianity. Once you have DECIDED to follow Jesus, Water Baptism is the declaration of this decision.

DAY 22 | ROMANS 6:1-14

Water Baptism is a symbolic representation of a powerful spiritual truth. Going beneath the water is a picture of death, I have died to my old, sinful life. Being raised up from the water is a picture of new life! I have been resurrected and given new life in Christ. This is a promise for your future – speaking of Heaven. This is also your new reality, you are not the same person, you have been made new!

DAY 23 | GALATIANS 3:23-29

Water baptism reminds me that every promise of God is available today. I am clothed in the righteousness of Christ and walk in a new identity in Christ. All my sin is forgiven; past, present, and future. I don't identify with my old self; I identify with Christ and His righteousness every day.

DAY 24 | ACTS 8:26-40

When you understand the love of God for you, you WANT to respond in the same way. Jesus gave His whole life for me; I should want to respond by giving mine Him. Water Baptism is the way that God invites us to declare our love for Him. Why wouldn't we want to respond in this way?

DAY 25 | ACTS 22:16

Throughout the Bible, water baptism is consistently linked with salvation. While not the means of our salvation, it demonstrates the posture of a repentant heart. It holds significant personal and spiritual meaning, and publicly declares to the people around you the new life you are choosing to live. What is stopping you from taking this next step?

WEEK SIX DEVOTION

EMPOWERED FOR PURPOSE

PRAY

Holy Spirit, I know you are doing a good work within me today. In all things, I want to see more of you and less of me. I want to be immersed in your presence and fully given over to you today. I want to live according to your spirit within me, not my own strength and ability. Fill me with your power! Baptise me in your spirit the way you promised to. In Jesus name, Amen.

DO ≥

Holy Spirit Baptism is a good gift promised by The Father to those who believe. We weren't made to do His by our strength, but in His. Ask Father for this gift, be expectant – desire it! Make time to stop, to be aware, and to ask for Him to fill you. As you go about your week, invite Holy Spirit to direct and to empower you for His purposes. If you haven't received the gift of Baptism in Holy Spirit, this week ask a friend from church or your pastor to pray with you that you would receive it.





READ >

DAY 26 | LUKE 24:36-53

In both the Old and New Testament, the Bible teaches us to look for a baptism in the Holy Spirit; Jesus even taught this directly. More than a nice experience, this moment of infilling is essential for us to outwork the great mission that God has called us to. If you haven't experienced this Holy Spirit baptism, begin to wait and pray that you would receive this incredible gift promised by God to those who believe.

DAY 27 | ACTS 1:1-11

From the moment of our salvation, Holy Spirit is at work within us to transform us personally to be more like Christ. But in the same way that Jesus was filled with power from on high, we too need to be FILLED with Holy Spirit power to not just be like Jesus but to DO WHAT HE DID. Baptism in Holy Spirit is all about empowering the Church to minister in the power of Holy Spirit, that the Kingdom of God would be outworked on the earth.

DAY 28 | 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

When we are filled with the Spirit, we receive gifts from Holy Spirit – ways that He works through us to those around us. He equips and empowers us to minister both to other believers, that they might be build up in the faith; and to unbelievers, that they would encounter the presence and power of God. Start to invite the Holy Spirit to minister through you!

DAY 29 | ROMANS 8:22-27

Paul teaches us that Holy Spirit helps us pray, even when we don't know what to pray. When we pray in our heavenly language, Holy Spirit speaks directly (as a spirit) to God the Father. These prayers are powerful, just as all prayer is, and aligns both us and the world around us to the will of God.

DAY 30 | JUDE 1:20

Praying in our heavenly language creates an environment where we're able to engage spiritually, without natural limitations. We're spiritually active in our relationship with God, not held back by our own human understanding. This type of prayer allows us to be encouraged and strengthened spiritually. It produces good spiritual fruit in our lives!

NEW CHRISTIANS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Deciding to follow Jesus opens our eyes to a whole new way of life and a lot of it is incredibly different to how we're used to living!

We know you might have a lot of unanswered questions about what it *means* to be Christian and *how* to follow Jesus. As such we've answered a few of the most common questions in very simple terms!

But don't stop at just reading about it on our website or trying to work it all out on your own. God joins us together as a Church so that we can grow together in faith. Our Sunday services, Chistian Foundations, Belong Classes and Grow Groups are all great opportunities to connect with other believers, helping one another to Know God more, Belong in His family, Grow to be like Him, Serve Him and Tell others about Him.

MISSED A WEEK?

REVISIT OUR WEEKLY DEVOTIONS



WEEK 1: YOUR NEW LIFE WITH JESUS



WEEK 2: WALKING WITH JESUS EVERY DAY



WEEK 3: GROWING CLOSER TO JESUS



WEEK 4: I AM THE CHURCH



WEEK 5: A PUBLIC DECLARATION



WEEK 6: EMPOWERED FOR PURPOSE



TODAY I CONFESS THAT JESUS CHRIST AS MY LORD AND SAVIOUR HE HAS FORGIVEN MY SIN AND MADE ME A NEW CREATION

I DEVOTE MY LIFE TO KNOWING HIM, **PFRSONALLY**

I BELONG TO THE BODY OF CHRIST, HIS CHURCH

I WILL GROW TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS, EACH DAY

I WILL LOVE AND SERVE GOD, WITH ALL THAT I AM

I WILL TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM. THAT THEY WOULD KNOW HIM TOO

