

I SAID YES TO JESUS

NOW WHAT?

A NEW BELIEVER'S GUIDE
TO YOUR NEXT STEPS



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to Your Next Steps

by Spirit Led Walk

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

You said yes to Jesus.

Maybe it happened in a church service, during a conversation with someone, while praying at home, or in a moment when you simply knew it was time to surrender your life to Him.

However you arrived here, something new has begun. When you placed your faith in Jesus Christ and received Him as your Savior and Lord, you didn't simply make a religious decision. You began a relationship with Jesus.

Scripture says:

"If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

— 2 Corinthians 5:17

You may feel completely different today or you may not feel different at all.

Your relationship with God is not based upon a feeling. It is based upon what Jesus has done for you and your faith in Him and now you may be wondering:

What do I do next?

That is exactly why this little booklet was written.

You don't need to know everything about the Bible today. You don't need to understand every Christian term. And you certainly don't need to have your entire life cleaned up before you begin walking with Jesus.

You are going to learn as you follow Him.

THIS IS A BEGINNING

Receiving Jesus isn't the finish line. It is the beginning of a new life with Him.

Jesus wants you to know Him, not simply know about Him. He wants to teach and lead you. He wants to speak to you through His Word and by His Spirit and transform the way you think and live.

He will empower you through the Holy Spirit to become the person He created you to be and to do the work He has called you to do. You were never meant to figure all of this out by yourself. Jesus has given you His Word.

He has given you the Holy Spirit. He has also given you other believers to walk alongside you. In the sections ahead, we're going to talk about some of the first steps in your new life with Jesus:

- Learning who you are in Christ.
- Water baptism.
- Being baptized and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- Being discipled and growing with other believers.
- Reading God's Word.
- Learning to pray and worship.

You don't have to do everything today. Just take the next step. Jesus called His first disciples with two simple words:

"Follow me." — Matthew 4:19

That same invitation is before you now. You said yes to Jesus.

Now let's learn how to follow Him.

SECTION 1

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

Several words help describe what happens when someone receives Jesus: salvation, grace, repentance, forgiveness, and being born again.

These words may be new to you, but each one reveals something important about what God has done.

SALVATION

Salvation means rescue and deliverance.

Every person has sinned, and sin separates us from God. We cannot remove that separation through good behavior, religious activity, or our own effort.

Jesus came to rescue us.

He lived without sin, willingly died on the cross for our sins, and rose from the dead. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus bore the judgment our sins deserved and opened the way for us to be reconciled to God.

Salvation is not about becoming good enough for God to accept you. It is trusting in Jesus Christ and in what He has done for you.

GRACE

Grace is God's undeserved favor.

It means God offers salvation as a gift, not as something you can earn.

Scripture says:

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”

— Ephesians 2:8–9

You did not earn salvation by doing enough good things. You received it by placing your faith in Jesus.

Faith means trusting who Jesus is and relying on His death and resurrection as the sufficient basis for your forgiveness and salvation. Grace removes every reason to boast, but it also removes every reason to believe you are beyond God's reach.

No one can earn salvation, and no one who turns to Christ is beyond God's mercy.

REPENTANCE

Repentance means turning from sin and turning toward God.

Before coming to Jesus, you lived in rebellion against God and according to your own understanding and desires. Repentance begins when you recognize that your sin cannot make you right with God and you turn to Jesus in faith.

It is more than feeling sorry for something you have done. Feeling sorry may fade without producing change. Repentance involves a changed mind and a changed direction.

You turn away from sin and self-rule, and you turn toward God.

This does not mean every wrong habit disappears immediately. It means you have begun a new way of life. As God shows you attitudes, choices, or behaviors that do not agree with His ways, repentance leads you to

confess them, turn from them, and seek His help to obey.

Repentance is not a way to earn forgiveness. It is the response of a heart that has been awakened to God's truth and mercy. It is an invitation to leave behind what brings death and walk in the life God gives.

FORGIVENESS

Sin brought guilt and a debt we could not repay.

Jesus paid the price for our sins through His death on the cross.

Scripture says:

“In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

— Colossians 1:14

Redemption means that Jesus paid the price to free us from sin's bondage and bring us to God.

Because of Jesus, those who trust in Him are no longer condemned for their sins. You do

not have to hide from God, make excuses, or try to punish yourself for what He has forgiven.

Forgiveness does not mean sin was unimportant. The cross shows both how serious sin is and how great God's love is.

When you stumble, come honestly to God. Confess your sin, trust His promise of forgiveness, and allow Him to correct and restore you. As a Christian, you do not need to earn forgiveness again; you return to the Father who has already received you through Christ.

Shame tells you to hide.

God's forgiveness invites you to come into the light.

BORN AGAIN

Jesus told a man named Nicodemus:

*"No one can see the kingdom of God
unless they are born again."*

— John 3:3

Being born again is not about beginning your physical life over. It means receiving new spiritual life from God through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Christianity is not simply an attempt to improve your behavior. In salvation, God gives you a new identity and begins changing you from within.

The Holy Spirit helps you understand God's truth, recognize sin, desire what pleases God, and grow in obedience. He gives you new life and continues His work of making you more like Christ.

Spiritual growth takes time, just as physical growth does. A newborn child is fully alive even though the child still has much to learn.

In the same way, you have received new spiritual life, but you are still learning how to live faithfully as a follower of Jesus.

SAVIOR AND LORD

Jesus is both Savior and Lord. As Savior, Jesus rescues you from sin, condemnation, and separation from God.

As Lord, Jesus has rightful authority over your life and leads you in His ways.

Scripture says:

“If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

— Romans 10:9

Calling Jesus Lord means acknowledging who He truly is and submitting your life to Him.

Your time belongs to Him. Your relationships belong to Him.

Your choices, plans, gifts, and future belong to Him.

This surrender is not something to fear. The One who leads you is the same One who loved you enough to give His life for you.

You will not follow Him perfectly, but you can learn to trust His wisdom above your own.

When He corrects you, listen. When He directs you, obey. When you fail, confess your sin and return to Him.

Salvation is God's gift and following Jesus is your grateful response.

WHAT GOD HAS DONE

God rescued you through Jesus Christ.

He offered salvation by grace, and you received it through faith.

He brought you to repentance and turned your heart toward Him.

He forgave your sins and declared you righteous through Christ.

He gave you new spiritual life through the Holy Spirit.

You received Jesus as your Savior and Lord.

That is what happened when you trusted in Jesus.

SECTION 2

WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

When you received Jesus, God did more than forgive your past. He gave you a new identity.

The New Testament often describes believers as being “in Christ.” This means your relationship with God and your new identity are found in Jesus.

Your identity is no longer determined by your past, your mistakes, other people’s opinions, or the labels that have been placed upon you.

God’s Word now tells you who you are.

YOUR IDENTITY IS RECEIVED

The world often tells you to create your own identity or prove your worth through what you accomplish.

Your identity in Christ is different. You do not create it, earn it, or work to deserve it. You receive it because of what Jesus has done for you.

You are not trying to convince God to accept you. Through faith in Jesus, you have already been welcomed into His family.

Scripture says:

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

— John 1:12

You are now a child of God. You can come to Him as your Father, trust His care, receive His correction, and know that you belong to Him.

WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT YOU

You are a child of God.

You have been received into God’s family through faith in Jesus.

You are chosen and loved.

God knew you and chose to bring you into relationship with Himself. His love is not based upon your ability to perform perfectly.

You are forgiven. Jesus paid for your sins. Your past no longer stands between you and God.

You are no longer condemned.

Scripture says:

*“Therefore, there is now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.”*

— Romans 8:1

You have been made righteous in Christ.

Scripture says:

*“God made him who had no sin to be sin
for us, so that in him we might become the
righteousness of God.”*

— 2 Corinthians 5:21

Righteousness means being placed in right standing with God. This does not mean you will never make another mistake. It means your acceptance before God rests upon the righteousness of Jesus rather than your own performance.

You are a new creation.

Your old life is no longer your identity. God has given you new spiritual life and is continuing His work within you.

The Holy Spirit lives in you.

You are not left to follow Jesus through your own strength. God's Spirit is present to teach, lead, correct, strengthen, and transform you.

You are God's workmanship.

Scripture says:

“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

— Ephesians 2:10

Your life has purpose. God is forming you and preparing you to participate in the work He is doing.

You belong to God's people.

Through Jesus, you have been brought into His family.

YOUR PAST IS NOT YOUR NAME

Your memories, former choices, and old patterns may not disappear immediately. Some consequences may remain, and certain habits may take time to change.

None of those things have the authority to define who you are now.

You may have sinned, but sin is no longer your master.

You may have experienced rejection, but you have been received by God.

You may have been called worthless, unwanted, difficult, weak, or damaged, but those labels do not have the final word.

God does. You are learning to live according to the new life He has given you.

CONVICTION IS NOT CONDEMNATION

As you grow, the Holy Spirit will show you attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that need to change. This is conviction.

Conviction is specific and leads you toward repentance, forgiveness, and restoration.

Condemnation tells you that you are hopeless, rejected, and should hide from God.

When the Holy Spirit corrects you, He is not removing you from God's family. He is teaching you how to live as a child of God.

You can respond honestly, receive His correction, and continue moving forward with Jesus.

LIVE FROM YOUR IDENTITY

You do not obey God to earn an identity. You obey because He has already made you His own.

Your feelings may not always agree with what Scripture says. There may be days when you do not feel forgiven, accepted, loved, or changed.

Learning your identity in Christ will change how you think, how you respond to temptation, how you relate to others, and how you approach God.

In Christ, you are not trying to become someone God might accept.

You are learning to live as the person He has already made you.

SECTION 3

WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism is one of the first steps of obedience Jesus asks a new believer to take.

JESUS COMMANDED BAPTISM

Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His followers:

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

— Matthew 28:19

Throughout the book of Acts, people heard the message about Jesus, believed in Him, and were baptized.

DYING AND RISING WITH CHRIST

The word baptize means to immerse or submerge.

Being lowered beneath the water represents dying and being buried with Christ. Rising out of the water represents being raised with Christ and living alive in Him.

Scripture says:

“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

— Romans 6:3–4

As you go beneath the water, you are saying that your former life has died with Christ. As you rise from the water, you are saying that you have risen with Christ and your life now belongs to Him.

BAPTISM FOLLOWS SALVATION

Water baptism does not save you or add to what Jesus accomplished on the cross. It is for anyone who has placed faith in Jesus Christ

and chosen to follow Him. You are baptized because He has already saved you.

WHERE AND HOW?

Baptism is not required to be a public confession. It does not require a church building, stage, congregation, or audience.

A believer can be baptized in a river, ocean, swimming pool, lake, bathtub, church baptistry, or anywhere there is enough water for immersion.

Another follower of Jesus can baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You will be briefly lowered beneath the water and then raised back up.

YOUR NEXT STEP

If you have received Jesus but have not been baptized, speak with a pastor, ministry leader, or mature believer who understands water baptism. Tell them: *“I have received Jesus, and I want to be baptized.”* Choose a suitable place and take this step of obedience.

SECTION 4

BAPTIZED AND EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit gave you new life when you received Jesus. Scripture also teaches that Jesus wants to baptize and empower His followers with the Holy Spirit.

This is not about becoming more saved or earning a higher place with God. It is His gift of power to help you follow Jesus and carry out the work He has called you to do.

THE PROMISE OF POWER

Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His disciples: *“Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”*— Acts 1:4–5

These disciples already believed in Jesus, yet He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit's power before beginning their work.

Jesus continued: *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses."* — Acts 1:8

The word translated as power speaks of God's ability working through you. Jesus did not expect His disciples to fulfill their calling through human strength, knowledge, or determination. He promised to empower them through the Holy Spirit.

That promise is for believers today.

WHY YOU NEED HIS POWER

The baptism of the Holy Spirit equips you to live boldly for Jesus.

He empowers you to share your faith, pray according to God's will, minister to others, and operate in the spiritual gifts He gives. He strengthens you to obey God when you feel weak or afraid. This power is never given to draw attention to us. It is given so that Jesus can be revealed through us.

You do not have to carry out God's purpose in your own strength. The Holy Spirit provides what you cannot produce by yourself.

WHAT HAPPENED AT PENTECOST

The disciples obeyed Jesus and waited together in prayer. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon them.

“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

— Acts 2:4

They were transformed from frightened followers into bold witnesses for Jesus. They preached the gospel, prayed for the sick, ministered in spiritual gifts, and followed the Holy Spirit's direction.

The book of Acts records other believers receiving this same empowerment. Some received while another believer prayed and laid hands on them. Others received while hearing the Word of God. God is not limited to a particular place or method.

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

In the book of Acts, speaking in tongues often accompanied believers receiving the Holy Spirit.

Tongues is a spiritual language given by the Holy Spirit. It allows you to pray beyond the limits of your own understanding as the Spirit helps you speak.

You do not need to be afraid of it, force it, or imitate someone else. The Holy Spirit gives the words, but you choose to yield your voice and speak by faith.

Your voice belongs to you. The language comes from Him.

ASK AND RECEIVE

Jesus said:

“How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

— Luke 11:13

You may receive while praying alone, gathered with other believers, or while a trusted believer prays with you. You do not need to earn this gift or create an emotional experience.

Come to God with an open heart. Ask Jesus to baptize you with the Holy Spirit. Surrender yourself to Him and receive by faith.

You can pray:

Father, thank You for giving me new life through Jesus. I ask You to baptize me with the Holy Spirit. Fill me with Your power and equip me to do everything You have called me to do. I surrender my mind, my heart, my voice, and my life to You. I receive Your gift by faith. In Jesus' name, amen.

Trust the Holy Spirit as you begin to pray. If He gives you words you do not understand, speak them by faith without trying to control or analyze them.

The Holy Spirit is not distant. He is present to lead you, empower you, and help you live as a faithful witness for Jesus.

SECTION 5

GETTING CONNECTED WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

Following Jesus is personal, but it was never intended to be private.

When you received Jesus, you became part of God's family. Other believers are now your brothers and sisters in Christ, and God desires for you to grow alongside them.

THE CHURCH IS GOD'S PEOPLE

The church is not simply a building or a Sunday service. It is the community of people who belong to Jesus.

Believers may gather in a church building, a home, a rented room, or another location. The place is not what makes them the church. Jesus does.

When believers gather, they worship God, learn His Word, pray for one another, share

life, and encourage each other to keep following Jesus.

The first believers lived this way:

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

— Acts 2:42

They did not gather only to attend a meeting. They shared their lives and grew together as followers of Jesus.

WHY DISCIPLESHIP WITH OTHERS MATTERS

Discipleship means learning to follow Jesus and become more like Him. Your relationship with Jesus belongs to you, but you were not meant to grow in isolation.

God often uses mature believers to help you understand Scripture, recognize the Holy Spirit’s leading, pray through difficulties, and learn how faith is lived in everyday life. They can answer questions, offer wisdom,

encourage you, and lovingly correct you when needed.

There may also be times when you feel discouraged, tempted, confused, or alone. God can use His people to strengthen you and remind you of what is true.

Scripture says:

“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together...but encouraging one another.”

— Hebrews 10:24–25

Being discipled does not mean allowing another person to control your choices or take the place of the Holy Spirit. Healthy discipleship keeps Jesus at the center, agrees with Scripture, and teaches you to follow Him for yourself.

Connection does not mean everyone will always agree or that relationships will never be difficult. Christians are still growing, and healthy relationships require patience, honesty, forgiveness, and grace.

FINDING A HEALTHY CHURCH

Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to a healthy community of believers where you can grow.

Look for a church where:

- Jesus is honored as Savior and Lord.
- The Bible is taught as God's Word.
- The Holy Spirit is welcomed and followed.
- Prayer and worship are important.
- People are encouraged to grow, serve, and become more like Jesus.
- Leaders point people toward Jesus rather than drawing attention to themselves.

No church will be perfect because every church is made up of people who are still growing. A healthy church will remain centered on Jesus, submit to Scripture, and be willing to correct what is wrong.

If you hear something that concerns or confuses you, compare it with the Bible. Ask the Holy Spirit for understanding and speak with a trusted, mature believer who handles Scripture faithfully.

YOU HAVE A PLACE

You were not created only to receive from other believers. God has also placed something within you that will strengthen others.

Scripture says:

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

— 1 Corinthians 12:27

Every part of the body has a purpose. In the same way, every believer has a place in the body of Christ.

You may not know yet how God wants to work through you. That is okay. Begin by being present, learning, building relationships, and allowing others to know you.

As you grow, the Holy Spirit will help you recognize your gifts and show you how to use them to serve others.

YOUR NEXT STEP

If you are not connected with a church

community, ask God to lead you to one.

Visit, listen, pray, and pay attention to whether Jesus is being honored and Scripture is being taught faithfully.

Once God leads you to a healthy community, allow yourself to become connected. Attend regularly, introduce yourself, join others in prayer, and begin building relationships.

You belong to Jesus.

You also have a place among His people.

SECTION 6

READING GOD'S WORD

The Bible is one of the greatest gifts God has given you. Through Scripture, you learn who God is, what He has done, and how He desires you to live.

You do not need to understand the entire Bible before you begin. Start where you are and allow God to teach you one step at a time.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is a collection of writings inspired by God and written through people He chose.

Scripture says:

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

— 2 Timothy 3:16

The Bible is divided into two main parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Old Testament records creation, the history of God's people, His laws, His promises, and the words of the prophets. It points forward to the coming of Jesus.

The New Testament begins with the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It continues with the beginning of the church and letters written to help believers understand how to follow Him.

Although the Bible contains many books written at different times, they come together to reveal God's plan of redemption through Jesus Christ.

WHERE SHOULD I BEGIN?

You do not have to begin with the first page and read straight through.

A helpful place for a new believer to begin is the Gospel of John. John will help you learn who Jesus is, what He taught, and what He came to accomplish.

After John, read the book of Acts. Acts shows what happened after Jesus returned to heaven

and how the first believers followed the Holy Spirit, shared the gospel, and lived together.

You can also read Psalms as you learn to pray, worship, and trust God through different circumstances.

Choose a Bible translation that you can understand. The goal is not to struggle through unfamiliar language. The goal is to understand God's truth and allow it to change your life.

ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP YOU

The Bible is not merely a book to study with your mind. The Holy Spirit helps you understand and receive what God has written.

Before you read, pause and ask for His help.

You can pray:

Holy Spirit, help me understand God's Word. Show me who God is, reveal anything in me that needs to change, and teach me how to obey what I read.

Read with an open heart. Do not approach Scripture only to confirm what you already

believe or find a verse that agrees with what you want to do.

Allow God's Word to correct your thinking and shape your choices.

READ SLOWLY AND PAY ATTENTION

Give yourself permission to read slowly.

As you read, ask:

- What is happening in this passage?
- Who is speaking, and who are they speaking to?
- What does this show me about God?
- Is there a truth to believe, an instruction to follow, or a warning to consider?
- How should I respond?

Pay attention to the verses surrounding a passage. Reading a verse by itself can cause you to misunderstand what it means. The sentences and chapters around it help reveal the writer's intended message.

God's Word will not contradict itself. If your understanding of one verse seems to disagree with the rest of Scripture, continue studying and ask a mature believer for help.

DO WHAT THE WORD SAYS

The purpose of reading the Bible is not simply to gain information. God wants His truth to become part of how you think and live.

Scripture says:

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

— James 1:22

When Scripture reveals something that needs to change, respond to God. You may need to repent, forgive someone, change a habit, believe a promise, or obey an instruction.

Knowledge alone will not produce spiritual growth. Growth comes as you receive God's truth and put it into practice.

WHEN YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND

Some parts of the Bible will be easy to understand. Other parts may take time, study, and help from others.

Do not become discouraged when you have questions. Write them down and continue reading. Ask the Holy Spirit for understanding, speak with a trusted believer, and use reliable study resources when needed.

You will not learn everything at once.

Some passages will also become clearer as you grow and gain a better understanding of the rest of Scripture.

BUILD A CONSISTENT HABIT

Choose a regular time and place to read the Bible.

If all you read is one verse each day, read it slowly and meditate on it. Think about what it means and carry that truth with you throughout the day. One verse you understand and receive is better than reading nothing at all.

It is also more valuable than rushing through an entire chapter without comprehending what you read.

Consistency matters more than reading a large amount at once.

There may be days when a passage feels deeply personal and speaks directly to what you are facing. Other days may feel quiet. God's Word is still working in you even when you do not feel an immediate emotional response.

Scripture says:

*"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light
on my path."*

— Psalm 119:105

God's Word will help you recognize truth, make wise choices, and continue walking with Jesus.

SECTION 7

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Prayer and worship are important parts of your relationship with God.

Prayer is how you speak with Him.

Worship is how you respond to who He is.

Neither one requires special words, a certain location, or years of experience. You can begin right where you are.

PRAYER IS A CONVERSATION

Prayer is not a performance. You do not have to sound impressive or use words you do not understand.

Jesus taught His followers to approach God as their Father.

Scripture says:

“This, then, is how you should pray:

*‘Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.’”*

— Matthew 6:9–10

Jesus continued by teaching His followers to ask for daily provision, forgiveness, and protection from temptation.

This prayer gives you a simple pattern:

- Honor God for who He is.
- Surrender your plans to His will.
- Ask Him for what you need.
- Confess your sins and receive His forgiveness.
- Forgive those who have wronged you.
- Ask for His guidance and protection.

You do not have to follow this pattern in the same order every time. It simply helps you

understand that prayer includes more than asking God for things.

TALK TO GOD HONESTLY

Prayer becomes more meaningful as you bring your whole self before God. He already knows what you are thinking and feeling, so you can speak to Him honestly about your fears, questions, disappointments, needs, and hopes.

You can pray aloud or silently.

You can pray while sitting quietly, driving, walking, working, or lying in bed.

You can pray alone or with other believers.

There may be times when you do not know what to say. A prayer can be as simple as:

“Jesus, help me.”

“Father, I need Your wisdom.”

“Lord, show me what is true.”

“Thank You for being with me.”

The strength of prayer is not found in the number of words you speak. It is found in the God who hears you.

Scripture says:

“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

— James 5:16

Because you have been made righteous through Jesus, you can approach God with confidence. You are not trying to persuade a distant God to notice you. You are speaking with your Father, who has welcomed you through Christ.

PRAY IN JESUS' NAME

As you grow more comfortable speaking honestly with God, remember that you come to the Father through Jesus.

Jesus taught His followers to pray in His name.

Praying in Jesus' name does not mean adding a phrase to the end of a prayer so that God must give you whatever you request. It means

coming to the Father through Jesus and praying in agreement with His character, authority, and will.

You can bring every request to God while trusting Him to answer with perfect wisdom.

Sometimes His answer will be yes.

Sometimes His answer will be no.

Sometimes His answer will require you to wait.

God's response may not always be what you expected, but you can trust His goodness even when you do not yet understand what He is doing.

WHAT IS WORSHIP?

Prayer draws you into conversation with God, and that conversation naturally leads to a response. Worship is recognizing God's worth and responding to Him with love, honor, gratitude, and surrender.

Music can help you worship, but worship is greater than singing a song.

You worship when you praise God for who He is. You worship when you thank Him for what He has done.

You worship when you obey Him. You worship when you surrender your plans, choices, and desires to Him.

You worship when your daily life honors Him.

Scripture says: *“Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”* — Romans 12:1

Worship is not limited to what happens during a church service. Your entire life can become an offering to God.

WORSHIP IN EVERY SEASON

Because worship involves your whole life, it remains possible in every season. Some days worship will flow easily from a thankful heart. Other days you may feel discouraged, tired, or distracted. Worship is still possible when your feelings are unsettled. You can remind yourself of God’s faithfulness, speak His truth, and thank Him for what has not changed.

He is still good. He is still faithful. He is still worthy.

Worship turns your attention away from the size of your circumstances and toward the greatness of God.

A LIFE WITH GOD

Together, prayer and worship shape a life lived with God. They are not religious duties you must perform to earn God's love. They are ways of living in relationship with the One who already loves you.

Speak with Him throughout your day.

Thank Him when you recognize His goodness.

Ask for His help when you need it.

Worship Him through your words, choices, and obedience.

You do not have to pray perfectly or worship perfectly.

Come to God honestly and keep coming.

He wants you to know Him.

You said yes to Jesus.

Now keep walking Him one step at a time.

Keep your eyes upon Jesus.

Keep moving forward.

**YOU ARE A NEW CREATION IN
CHRIST JESUS!**

Follow Him, and do not look back.