

LOOKING FOR A NEW LIFE?



Have you ever wondered what life is really all about? What you are here for, and what is the purpose and meaning of your life? The answer to these important questions can be found in the Bible, God's loving words to us.

The Bible tells us that "God is love" (1 John 4:8) and that He loves *you*. He is your heavenly Father who made this beautiful world as a home for you to live in, and He has given you a wonderful body, mind, and heart with which to enjoy it.

He is the great Spirit of love who created the entire universe. His greatness is far beyond our limited human understanding, but because He loves us and wants us to know and love Him, He sent His own Son to earth in the form of a man, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the perfect picture of God to show us what God is like.

Jesus taught about truth and love. He loved us so much that He gave His own life to save us—you and me. God promised to forgive us for our sins if we would believe in Jesus and accept His suffering on the cross for our sins.

To receive God's love and salvation in Jesus, you have to confess that you have sinned and that you need God's forgiveness. We have all done wrong, so we all need to be forgiven, because without forgiveness for our sins, we will be separated from God's perfect love. (See Romans 3:23; 6:23.)

Jesus wants to come and live with you as your closest friend. He says, "I stand at the door (of your heart) and knock: If you will hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to you" (Revelation 3:20).

If you have not yet received Jesus, you can ask Him to come into your heart right now by praying this prayer:

Dear Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God, and that You took my punishment and died for me. Please forgive me for all my sins. Jesus, I know that I can never be good enough to save myself, so I ask You to please come into my heart, fill me with Your Spirit, and give me Your free gift of eternal life. Amen.

YOUR FOREVER FRIEND

Jesus not only saves you, but He keeps you saved. "The gift of God is eternal life" (Romans 6:23), and once you have received eternal life, you cannot lose it. Even when you fail and make mistakes, Jesus promised, "Whoever comes to Me, I will *never* cast out" (John 6:37). You will always be His saved child, for He says, "I will *never* leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5).

When Jesus comes into your heart, your whole life is changed. Jesus said that salvation is being "*born again*," and that

you are now a new creation (John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 5:17).

Once you have begun your new life in Christ, there is a lot to learn. The way to grow in faith and understanding is to, "like a newborn infant, crave the pure milk of the word of God, so that you will grow in your salvation" (1 Peter 2:2).

If you prayerfully read God's wonderful Word in the Bible, you will find that it is "a lamp for your feet and a light for your path," a living guide for you in your new life (Psalm 119:105). God's Word is food for your soul, and to grow spiritually, you need to read and study it faithfully.

RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

When Jesus comes into your heart, you are "born again of the Spirit" (John 3:3–8), so you have God's Spirit living in you already. But you can overflow with the Holy Spirit if you ask the Lord to fill you with His power.

When the Lord fills us with the Holy Spirit, we receive the power and strength to live our lives in line with His Word and to tell others about God's love. Jesus promised, "You will receive power after the Holy Ghost has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses" (Acts 1:8).

To receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit, sincerely pray and ask God for it. "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For your heavenly Father will give the Holy Spirit to all who ask Him" (Luke 11:9–13).

PRAYER

Prayer is not a religious ritual or tradition, but it is personal living communication between a child of God and his or her heavenly Father. Jesus is your closest and best friend, and He will *always* hear when you cry to Him for help.

If you sincerely ask Him for answers, He will speak to your heart and "open your eyes to see wonderful things in His Word" as you prayerfully read it (Psalm 119:18).

Another important part of a child of God's spiritual life is fellowship with other Christians who also know and love the Lord. Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

God will greatly bless, inspire, and reward you as you step out to live your new life, grow in faith, and tell others how they can find a new life in Jesus.