



Growing in the Faith

Special points of interest:

- God saved us while we were His enemies
- We must be born again
- Our nourishment comes from the Word
- We must walk by the Spirit
- Put no confidence in the flesh

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Born Again From Above

When you confessed Jesus Christ as Lord and believed in your heart that God raised Him from the dead it was only the beginning of your Christian life!

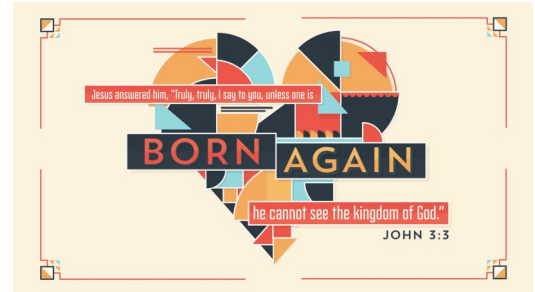
Romans 5:10 tells us there is much more:

“For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.” (Romans 5:10, ESV)

You have been born again (from on high), but when you were first born into the world you didn't

start life with a full-grown body — you were just a baby. Your life in Christ will now grow in a similar manner.

“Jesus answered him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.’” (John 3:3, ESV)



Interview between Nicodemus and Jesus

Four Helps for Christian Growth

Bible Study: As your body could not grow without nourishment, as a Christian you must also have food of the spiritual kind, the Word of God. “But he answered, It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by

every word that comes from the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4, ESV)

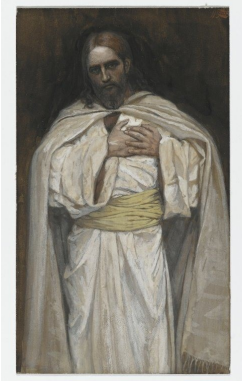
Prayer Life: Prayer is really just talking to God and listening to His response. Prayer builds confidence, hope and a joy in every situation of life.



Prayer develops your relationship with Jesus.
“do not be anxious

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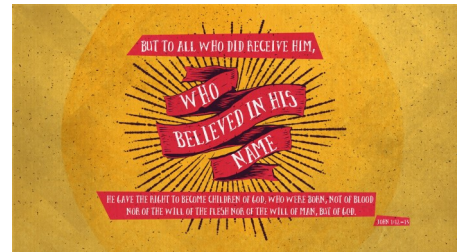
Four Helps for Christian Growth

about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6–7, ESV)

Church: When you received Christ you became one of God’s children. You need to attend church and have fellowship in the same way a

child needs the love and support of his family. The author of the Epistle to the Hebrews encourages us:

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24–25, ESV)



Witnessing: witnessing means telling others what has happened to you. Now that you are a Christian and have had your sins forgiven you can tell others the “Good News” of Jesus and what He will do for those who turn their life over to Him?

Bible Study

Ready to Go!

Start each study time in prayer. Only the Holy spirit is able to “lead you into all truth” (John 16:13). Your new birth is the beginning of your new life in Christ.. God’s purpose in creating living things is that they grow and develop according to His plan. This new life is described in the Bible as a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

What has happened to you?

Before beginning your study please read:

“While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.” (Matthew 4:18, ESV)

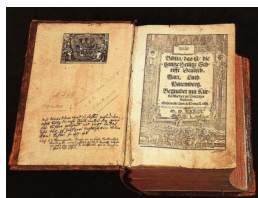
“As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you



go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” And Jesus said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Yet another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”” (Luke

9:57–62, ESV)

“His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing.



Luther Bible, 1534

Bible Study

Look, the world has gone after him.” Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.” (John 12:16–26, ESV)

“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you

are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.” (Galatians 5:16–26, ESV)

“Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus

and put no confidence in the flesh— though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.” (Philippians 3:1–11, ESV)



The Descent from the Cross

Answer in your own words

1. “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10, ESV)

“I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.” (John 10:28, ESV)

What kind of life does Jesus give to those who trust Him?

2. “For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,” (Romans 8:3, ESV)

How did Jesus save you?

3. “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart

one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” (Romans 10:9–10, ESV)

How do I confirm my own salvation?

4. “We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set



The Entombment

CHRISTIAN
MILITARY
FELLOWSHIP



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Victorious Christian

<p>Spirit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born again (John 3:3-16; Acts 2:38-39; Romans 8:9-11) • New creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) • Crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20) • Living through Christ (John 4:9) a. victorious life (1 Corinthians 15:57) b. more than compares life (Romans 8:37) c. more abundant life (John 10:10) d. eternal life (John 3:16; 17:3) e. fruitful life (Galatians 5:16-23) f. peace (Philippians 4:6-7) g. joy (John 15:5-12) 	<p>Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reconciled to one another by grace (2 Corinthians 5:18-20; 2 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 4:16) 2. Love one another (1 John 4:7-8; 1 Corinthians 13) 3. Trust (Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalm 32:10) 4. Respect (1 Peter 2:17, 3:7; 1 Timothy 3:2-5) 5. Helpful communication (Ephesians 4:29) 6. Forgiving each other (Ephesians 4:32) 7. Praying for each other (James 5:13-15) 8. Worship (Matthew 18:20)
<p>JESUS CHRIST Is Lord! Not Self (Galatians 2:20; John 1:1-4)</p>	
<p>Soul (personality)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mind (attitude of Christ—Christlike behavior) (Philippians 2:5) 2. Strength through Christ (Philippians 4:13; Ephesians 6:10) 3. Needs met through Christ (Philippians 4:19) 4. Will of God (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) 5. Healthy self-esteem through Christ (Galatians 2:20) 6. Damaged emotions healed (2 Kings 20:5; 1 Peter 2:24; Psalm 147:3) 	<p>Body</p> <p>Healing: Isaiah 53:4-5; Psalm 103:2-3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sin 2. Physical 3. Emotional 4. Mental 5. Spiritual

Answer in your own words

free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.” (Romans 6:6–14, ESV)

What happened to my old desires?

5. “Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”” (John 3:3, ESV)

“Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” (John 3:5,

ESV)

“Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’” (John 3:7, ESV)

What must happen for a person to both “see” and be able to “enter” the kingdom of Heaven?

6. “Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.” (John 14:21–24, ESV)

How can I show the Lord that I love Him?

7. ““For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the

world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.” (John 3:16–18, ESV)

What are some ways I can show others God’s love?

8. “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22–23, ESV)
9. “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6, ESV)
10. “For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38–39, ESV)

Write out the following verses as they appear in your Bible

1. John 3:16
2. 1 John 4:4
3. Romans 5:8
4. Ephesians 1:13

Something has happened to you. How do you feel that your life has been changed?

Memory Verse:

“do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6–7, ESV)

