

GROWING IN CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

CONGRATULATIONS

on the step you are taking in walking on God's pathway!

Growing in your faith and Christian walk is one of the most important things you will ever do. Responding to what God has said to you is the essential key, not only for obedience to God but also to a life of fulfillment and joy.

Jesus said, *"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly"* (John 10:10).

As you have responded to the message of the Gospel, you are showing that you are determined not only to hear God's Word but to act upon it.

The aim of this booklet is to help you understand what it means to be a Christian and to know some of the basic steps of living the Christian life.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Growing in Christ is a study featuring 10 different topics with six Bible verses for each lesson. The Scriptures selected are basic to the Christian life and witness. This material can be used for personal devotions, one-on-one discipling of another, or for small group discussions.

Personal Devotions

Take one topic a week for 10 weeks. Take at least 15 minutes each day to ...

1

Prayerfully read each verse.

2

Circle key words or phrases. This will make you look more closely at the content of each verse.

3

Answer the questions at the bottom of each page. You may want to use a separate sheet of paper or a small notebook for your written work.

4

The verse study will give you a good look at some basic truth and specific insight to apply to everyday life.

5

Memorize the verse in each lesson that is used for the verse study form.

Once you have finished the exercises you can start all over again. The second time, open your Bible and look at each verse in its context—reading the whole chapter from which the verse is taken.

One-On-One Discipleship

You can use this material for meeting with an individual for personalized follow-up. Have the individual complete the exercises on a weekly basis. When you meet, compare key words and phrases as well as answers to the questions. Discuss the application of these principles and have prayer together.

Salvation means deliverance from sin and its consequence. Review and meditate on these truths until you can say with confidence, “I know I am a Christian ... I have been born into God’s family as His child ... I now have eternal life.”

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about Jesus.

Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures about salvation.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ROMANS 5:8

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. EPHESIANS 2:8-9

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about becoming God’s child.

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

*who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh
nor of the will of man, but of God.* JOHN 1:12-13

**Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture
about eternal life.**

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal
life.* JOHN 3:16

What did you learn about:

1. List what you learned about Jesus in

Philippians 2:5-8 _____

2. List what you learned about salvation in

Romans 5:8 _____

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 _____

Ephesians 2:8-9 _____

3. List what you learned about becoming God's child in

John 1:12-13 _____

4. List what you learned about eternal life in

John 3:16 _____

5. Do the verse study using the form on the next page.

Verse Study Form

Use the following Scripture to complete the verse study.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

1. List two key words and define them.

Key word _____

Definition _____

Key word _____

Definition _____

2. What does the verse say?
(Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

3. How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?

4. Memorize John 3:16. (Verse card is in the back of this book.)

One of Satan's tricks is to cause believers to doubt their salvation. Having assurance means being certain, with freedom from doubt. Meditate on the following Scriptures to enable you to have victory over your doubts.

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about salvation.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

EPHESIANS 1:7

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures about why you can be sure.

I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 JOHN 5:13

Who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 PETER 1:5

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about Jesus.

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

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about who guarantees your salvation.

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

JOHN 10:27-29

What did you learn about:

1. List what you learned about salvation in

Ephesians 1:7 _____

2. List what you learned about why you can be sure in

Philippians 1:6 _____

1 John 5:13 _____

1 Peter 1:5 _____

3. List what you learned about Jesus in

Romans 8:38-39 _____

4. List what you learned about who guarantees your salvation in

John 10:27-29 _____

5. Do the verse study using the form on the next page.

Verse Study Form

Use the following Scripture to complete the verse study.

I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

1. List two key words and define them.

Key word _____

Definition _____

Key word _____

Definition _____

2. What does the verse say?

(Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

3. How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?

4. Memorize Philippians 1:6. (Verse card is in the back of this book.)

To be the kind of Christians God wants us to be, we need to know and obey the Scriptures. Make it your habit to memorize and meditate on the Word of God daily.

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about the Bible.

And how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

2 TIMOTHY 3:15-16

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures about the value of reading the Bible.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

PSALM 119:105

The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

PSALM 119:130

Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble.

PSALM 119:165

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about meditating on the Bible.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

PSALM 1:2-3

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scripture about obedience.

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

JAMES 1:22

What did you learn about:

1. List what you learned about the Bible in

2 Timothy 3:15-16 _____

2. List what you learned about the value of reading the Bible in

Psalm 119:105 _____

Psalm 119:130 _____

Psalm 119:165 _____

3. List what you learned about the value of meditating on the Bible in

Psalm 1:2-3 _____

4. List what you learned about obedience in

James 1:22 _____

5. Do the verse study using the form on the next page.

Verse Study Form

Use the following Scripture to complete the verse study form.

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only,
deceiving yourselves.*

JAMES 1:22

1. List two key words and define them.

Key word _____

Definition _____

Key word _____

Definition _____

2. What does the verse say?
(Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

3. How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?

4. Memorize James 1:22. (Verse card is in the back of
this book.)

PRAYER

Prayer is our lifeline to God. We need to form the habit of starting each day with prayer and then praying throughout the day.

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures about prayer.

Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

JOHN 16:24

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

MATTHEW 7:7

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures about God's power through prayer.

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

JEREMIAH 33:3

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.

EPHESIANS 3:20

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures about praying with confidence.

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

1 JOHN 3:21-22

This is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

1 JOHN 5:14-15

What did you learn about:

1. List what you learned about prayer in

John 16:24 _____

Matthew 7:7 _____

2. List what you learned about God's power through prayer in

Jeremiah 33:3 _____

Ephesians 3:20 _____

3. List what you learned about praying with confidence in

1 John 3:21-22 _____

1 John 5:14-15 _____

4. Do the verse study using the form on the next page.

Verse Study Form

Use the following Scripture to complete the verse study.

Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. **JOHN 16:24**

1. List two key words and define them.

Key word _____
Definition _____

Key word _____
Definition _____

2. What does the verse say?
(Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

3. How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?

4. Memorize John 16:24. (Verse card is in the back of this book.)

The Bible clearly states that believers should meet together regularly for prayer, worship, teaching, fellowship, and mutual encouragement. God never intended that we walk alone in our faith. Involvement in a local church is vital to our growth in Christ.

Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures.

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

ACTS 2:42

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

MATTHEW 18:20

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

GALATIANS 6:2

Let us ... not [neglect] to meet together, as is the habit of some, but [encourage] one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

HEBREWS 10:24-25

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

JOHN 13:34-35

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:11-13

What did you learn about:

1. List what you learned about the church in

Acts 2:42 _____

Matthew 18:20 _____

Galatians 6:2 _____

Hebrews 10:24-25 _____

John 13:34-35 _____

Ephesians 4:11-13 _____

2. Do the verse study using the form on the next page.

Verse Study Form

Use the following Scripture to complete the verse study.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

MATTHEW 18:20

1. List two key words and define them.

Key word _____

Definition _____

Key word _____

Definition _____

2. What does the verse say?

(Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

3. How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?
