

I'm Saved! Now What?

First Steps for New

Believers

Transformational Discipleship Ministries

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I'm Saved! Now What? First Steps for New Believers

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Disclaimer: This resource is designed to provide biblical encouragement and practical steps for new believers in Christ. It is not intended as a substitute for personal Bible study, prayer, or pastoral counsel. Readers are encouraged to seek guidance from their local church and trusted spiritual mentors as they grow in their faith.

Published by:

Kingdompreneur Publishing www.kingdompreneurpublishing.com

Cover Design: Kingdompreneur Publishing

First Edition - 2025

Printed in the United States of America

Dedication

This book is dedicated to every new believer who has taken the bold step of saying "Yes" to Jesus.

May you be rooted and grounded in His love, strengthened by His Word, and guided daily by the Holy Spirit. You are not alone on this journey—the Lord walks with you, and a family of believers surrounds you.

I also dedicate this work to the future disciples, pastors, teachers, and leaders who will rise from among new believers like you. May your faith grow strong and may your life be a testimony of God's grace and power.

Above all, this book is dedicated to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who is the Author and Finisher of our faith.



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Introduction: Welcome to the Family of God

Congratulations! By receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you have made the most important decision of your life. In that very moment, something powerful happened—your sins were forgiven, your heart was made new, and you became a child of God (John 1:12). Heaven is rejoicing because you have entered into the Kingdom of God!

But now, a natural question arises: "I'm saved...now what?"

You are not alone in wondering this. Every believer, no matter how long they've been walking with Christ, has had to take their first steps of faith. Just like a newborn baby needs guidance and care to grow, new believers need a strong foundation to grow spiritually. That's what this book is all about.

Why This Book Matters

Many new believers are excited about salvation but quickly feel overwhelmed or unsure of how to move forward. Questions begin to stir in your heart:

- How do I read and understand the Bible?
- What does prayer look like?
- Who is the Holy Spirit, and how does He help me?
- Do I need to be part of a church?
- How do I live as a Christian in the real world?

This guide is designed to answer those very questions. Think of it as your spiritual starter kit—a simple, biblical roadmap to help you build your new life in Christ one step at a time.



A Journey, Not a Sprint



Your faith journey will not be perfect, and that's okay. You may stumble, have doubts, or feel discouraged at times. But remember: God promises to never leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:5). He is patient, loving, and committed to seeing you grow.

Just like learning any new skill, discipleship takes time and practice. This journey isn't about rules or religion—it's about building a real relationship with Jesus and letting Him transform your life from the inside out.

How to Use This Book

Each chapter in this guide will cover a foundational area of the Christian faith:

- Understanding your salvation
- Reading and applying the Bible
- Talking with God in prayer
- Walking with the Holy Spirit
- Growing with others in community
- Living out your faith daily
- Taking your next steps as a disciple

At the end of each chapter, you'll find reflection questions to help you think deeper and a prayer to guide your conversation with God.

A Personal Invitation

This book is just the beginning. If you'd like more guidance and community support, you're invited to join our School of Discipleship—a free 12-week online class that



Meets

On Sundays at 5:00pm CST via zoom

You'll also be welcomed into our Transformative Discipleship Community, where you'll find encouragement, accountability, and resources to help you keep growing.

So, take a deep breath. You are at the very beginning of the greatest journey of your life. You don't have to have it all figured out—you simply need to take one step at a time with Jesus. He will guide you, strengthen you, and walk with you every step of the way.

Welcome to the family of God. Let's begin.



Chapter 01:

Understanding Salvation



A New Beginning



When you said "yes" to Jesus, something powerful happened—you stepped into a brand-new life. The Bible says:

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" – 2 Corinthians 5:17

This means your past no longer defines you. Every sin is forgiven, and you are now made new in Christ. Salvation isn't just a decision you made—it's the beginning of a transformation that God Himself is working in you.

What Just Happened?

You might be asking: What really happened when I gave my life to Christ? Here are some key truths:

- You are forgiven. Every sin—past, present, and future—has been paid for by Jesus on the cross (Colossians 2:13–14).
- You are adopted into God's family. You are now a child of God, not just His creation (John 1:12).
- You have eternal life. Eternal life isn't just about heaven someday—it begins right now as you walk in a restored relationship with God (John 17:3).
- You are sealed with the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit now lives in you as proof that you belong to Him (Ephesians 1:13–14).

Why It Matters

Before Christ, we were separated from God because of sin. But the good news—the "gospel"—is that Jesus took our place. Romans 10:9 says:

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Salvation means more than escaping judgment—it means being brought into a living relationship with God. You are no longer an outsider. You belong to Him.

Grace, Not Works

It's important to understand: you did not and cannot earn salvation. It is a gift from God.

"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 don't have to "perform" to stay saved. Instead, you get to rest in God's love while growing in obedience out of gratitude, not fear.

Living Out Your Salvation

Being saved is not the end of your journey—it's the beginning. God wants you to grow in your relationship with Him every day. That's what discipleship is all about: learning to follow Jesus step by step.

Practical ways to start living out your salvation:

- Spend time daily with God in prayer and Bible reading.
- Share your decision with someone you trust—let others know about your new life in Christ.
- Begin asking God to guide your decisions and help you live in a way that honors Him.



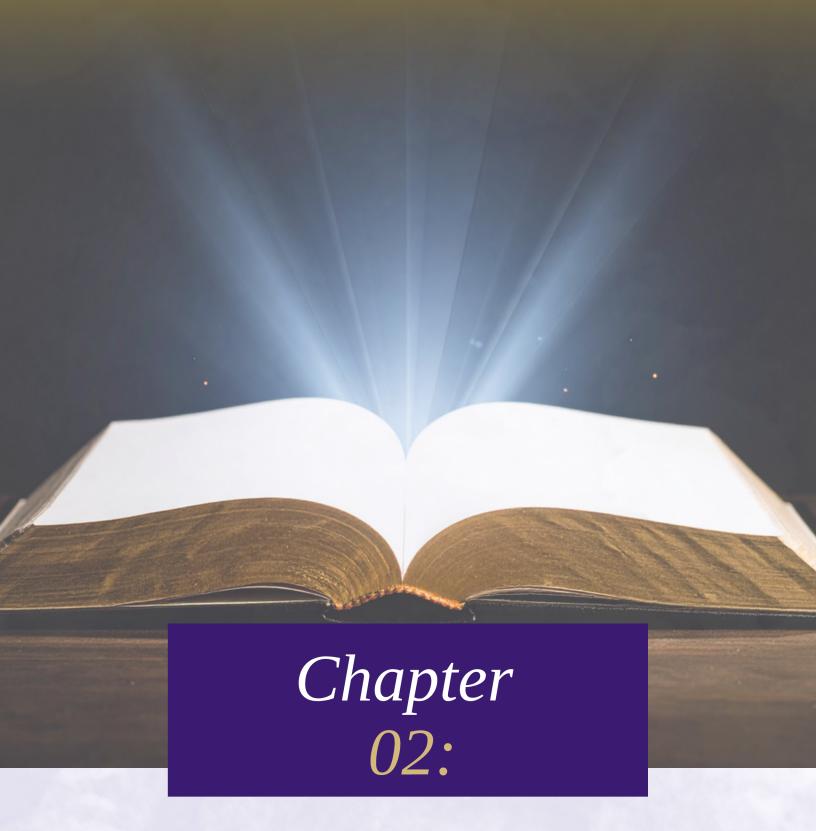
Reflection Questions?

How does it feel to know that all of your sins are forgiven?
In what areas of your life do you need to remind yourself that you are a new creation in Christ?
What does being a child of God mean to you personally?

A Prayer for You

Heavenly Father, thank You for saving me through Jesus Christ. Thank You that I am forgiven, loved, and made new. Teach me what it means to live as Your child. Help me to walk in Your truth every day, guided by Your Spirit. In Jesus' name, Amen.





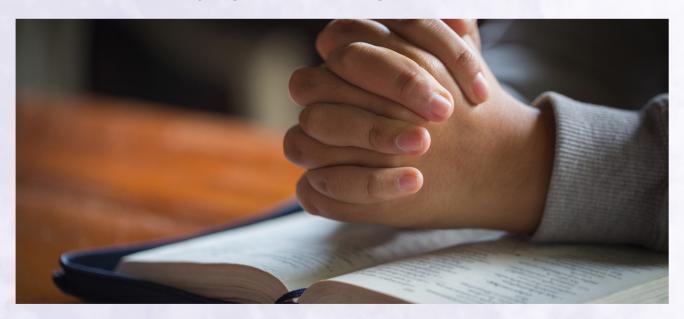
The Bible – God's Word for You

Why the Bible Matters

The Bible is not just another book on a shelf—it is God's Word, alive and active. It was written by human authors, but inspired by the Spirit of God Himself. Through it, God reveals who He is, what He has done, and how we should live.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." – 2 Timothy 3:16–17

The Bible is your guidebook for life. Just like a map shows the way to a destination, the Word of God shows you how to walk the path of faith. Without it, you can easily drift off course. With it, you gain wisdom, strength, and direction.



The Bible as Spiritual Food

Jesus said:

"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." – Matthew 4:4

Just as your physical body needs food every day to stay healthy, your spiritual life needs nourishment from the Word of God. Reading the Bible daily feeds your soul, strengthens your faith, and helps you grow.

Where Should I Start?

The Bible is a big book, and it can feel overwhelming at first. Here are some helpful starting points:



- The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John): These tell the story of Jesus—His life, teachings, death, and resurrection. Begin here to know Christ more personally.
- The Book of Acts: This shows how the early church began and how ordinary believers lived out their faith.
- **Psalms:** A collection of prayers, songs, and encouragement for every season of life.
- Proverbs: A book filled with wisdom for daily living.

Don't worry if you don't understand everything right away. The more you read, the more God will open your eyes to His truth.

How to Read the Bible

When you sit down with your Bible, invite God to speak to you. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding. Here are three simple questions you can use every time you read:

- 1. What does this passage teach me about God?
- 2. What does this passage teach me about myself?
- 3. How can I apply this truth today?

Practical Steps for Beginners

- Set a time: Choose a consistent time each day (morning, lunch break, or evening).
- Use a translation you understand: The New Living Translation (NLT) or English Standard Version (ESV) are both easy for new believers.
- Take notes: Write down verses that stand out to you.
- Apply it: Ask God to help you live out what you've read.

Remember, the goal is not to check off a box—it's to connect with God.

Reflection Questions?

That excites me most about starting to read the Bible?
hen during my day can I set aside 10–15 minutes to spend in God's Word?
Which book of the Bible will I begin reading this week?

A Prayer for You

Heavenly Father, thank You for giving me Your Word as a guide for my life. Help me to love the Bible and make it a part of my daily walk. Open my heart and mind to understand it, and give me the strength to live by it. In Jesus' name, Amen.





Prayer – Talking With God

What is Prayer?

Prayer is simply a conversation with God. It's not about having perfect words or a formal script—it's about opening your heart to your Heavenly Father. Just like any healthy relationship requires communication, your relationship with God grows stronger as you talk with Him daily.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." – Philippians 4:6

Prayer is more than asking for things. It's praising God, confessing your sins, thanking Him for His blessings, and listening for His guidance.



Why Prayer Matters



When you pray:

- You draw near to God (James 4:8).
- You receive peace that calms your heart (Philippians 4:7).
- You build intimacy with your Father.
- You align your will with His.

Jesus Himself often withdrew to pray (Luke 5:16). If prayer was vital for Him, it is even more vital for us.

How Do I Pray?

Prayer doesn't have to be complicated. Jesus gave us a simple model in the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9–13). From this, we see four key parts:

- Praise: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name." \rightarrow Start by worshiping God for who He is.
- Surrender: "Your kingdom come, Your will be done." → Submit your plans to God's will.
- *Provision: "Give us today our daily bread."* \rightarrow *Ask for what you need today.*
- Forgiveness & Protection: "Forgive us our debts…deliver us from the evil one." → Ask for cleansing and strength against temptation.

You can pray these words directly or use them as a pattern to shape your own prayers.

Practical Steps to Build a Prayer Life

- Set a time: Morning or evening works well—find what's best for you.
- Find a quiet place: Remove distractions when possible.
- Write it out: Keep a prayer journal to track what you've prayed for and how God has answered.
- Pray throughout the day: Prayer doesn't stop after "Amen." Talk to God in moments of joy, worry, or decision.

Remember: prayer is a two-way conversation. Take time to listen as well. God often speaks through His Word, a gentle nudge, or peace in your spirit.

Common Struggles with Prayer

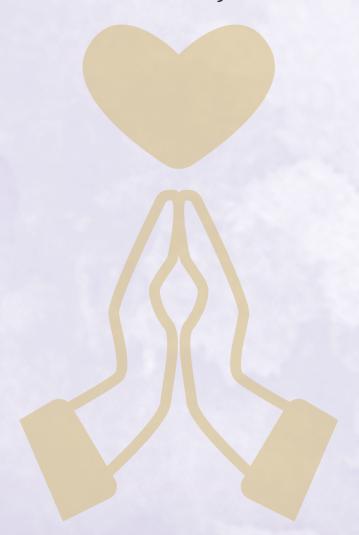
- "I don't know what to say." → Just start talking to God as you would a close friend.
- "I get distracted." → Write down your thoughts or pray out loud to stay focused.
- "I don't feel worthy." → Remember, you are God's child. He invites you to come boldly before Him (Hebrews 4:16).

Reflection Questions?

How do I feel when I think about talking to God in prayer?
When during my day can I set aside focused time to pray?
What is one thing I want to begin praying about consistently?

A Prayer for You

Father, thank You for the gift of prayer. Help me to draw near to You daily, not only when I need something, but because I love You. Teach me to listen for Your voice and to trust that You hear me when I pray. Build in me a lifestyle of prayer that keeps me close to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.





The Holy Spirit – Your Helper

Who is the Holy Spirit?

When you gave your life to Jesus, God placed His Spirit inside of you. The Holy Spirit is not just a force or a feeling—He is God Himself, living within you. Jesus promised His disciples that the Father would send the Spirit to be their helper:

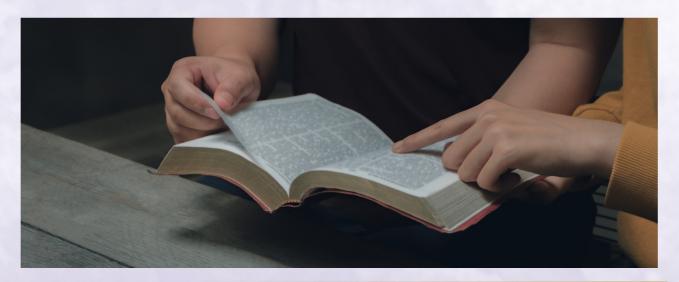
"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." – John 14:26

The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead now lives in you (Romans 8:11). That means you are never alone—you have a constant friend, guide, and teacher.

What the Holy Spirit Does

The Holy Spirit plays an essential role in your new life:

- Teaches and reminds you of God's Word (John 14:26).
- Guides you into truth and helps you make wise choices (John 16:13).
- Convicts you of sin and shows you the path back to God (John 16:8).
- Gives you strength to resist temptation and live holy (Galatians 5:16).
- **Produces fruit** in your life—qualities like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23).
- Equips you with spiritual gifts to serve and build up the church (1 Corinthians 12:7).



Walking with the Spirit

Living the Christian life is not about trying harder in your own strength. It's about learning to depend on the Spirit. The Bible says:

"So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh." – Galatians 5:16

When you walk with the Spirit, He helps you choose God's way instead of your old ways.

How to Stay Connected to the Spirit

Pray daily: Ask, "Holy Spirit, guide me today."

Obey His leading: When you feel convicted or nudged toward something godly, follow through.

Stay in God's Word: The Spirit uses Scripture to teach and guide you. Worship regularly: Worship softens your heart to hear His voice. Surround yourself with believers: The Spirit often speaks through the encouragement of others.

How to Stay Connected to the Spirit

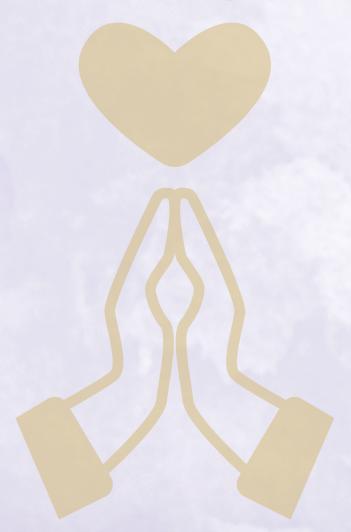
Imagine you're tempted to lash out in anger. On your own, it's easy to lose control. But when you pause and pray, "Holy Spirit, help me," He can give you peace and self-control in that moment. Over time, you'll notice your reactions changing—not because of your willpower, but because of His power at work in you.

Reflection Questions?

How have I already experienced the Holy Spirit guiding or convicting me?	
Which fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) do I most want to grow in right now?	
What is one step I can take to invite the Holy Spirit into my daily routine?	

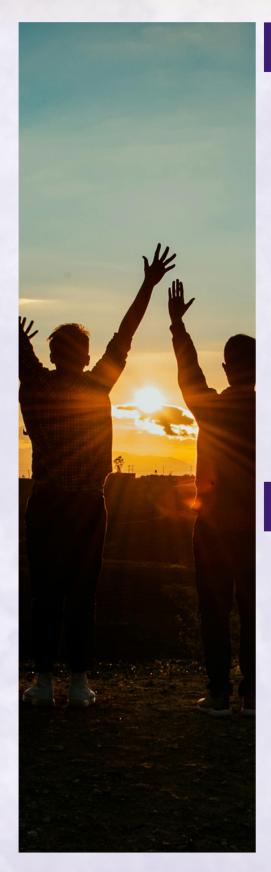
A Prayer for You

Holy Spirit, thank You for living inside of me. Teach me to hear Your voice and follow Your leading. Grow Your fruit in my life and help me to live in a way that honors God. Fill me with Your power so I can overcome temptation and walk faithfully with Jesus. In His name I pray, Amen.





Community – Growing With Others



Why Prayer Matters

Christianity is not meant to be lived in isolation. When you gave your life to Christ, you were adopted into God's family—not just as His child, but as a brother or sister among countless others in the faith.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." – Hebrews 10:24–25

Being connected to other believers strengthens your walk. When you stumble, others can lift you up. When you're weary, they can encourage you. And when you rejoice, they celebrate with you.

The Role of the Church

The church is not just a building—it's the people of God gathered together. In the church, you:

- Worship together (Psalm 34:3).
- Learn God's Word through teaching and preaching (Acts 2:42).
- Pray for one another (James 5:16).
- Serve others with your gifts (1 Peter 4:10).
- Experience fellowship—friendship built on faith in Christ (1 John 1:7).

The church is like a body. Each part is unique and necessary. You have a role to play that no one else can fill (1 Corinthians 12:12–27).

Why You Need Others

Following Jesus is a lifelong journey with highs and lows. When you walk alone, it's easy to get discouraged or drift away. But in community:

- You gain accountability to keep growing.
- You receive support in times of struggle.
- You give and receive encouragement.
- You are reminded that you belong.

Finding Your Faith Family

If you don't have a church/ministry/small group/mentorship yet, pray and ask God to lead you to one. Look for a local church/ministry/small group/mentorship that:

- Teaches the Bible faithfully.
- Worships Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- Loves people and reaches out to the community.

Don't be afraid to try a few until you find where you feel at home. Remember: no church/ministry/small group/mentorship is perfect, but every believer needs one.

Practical Steps

- Attend regularly: Make gathering with other believers a priority.
- Join a small group: Growth happens best in close-knit settings.
- Build friendships: Invite someone from your church/ministry/small group/mentorship to coffee or lunch.
- Serve: Look for opportunities to help—usher, teach, greet, behind-the-scenes support, etc.



Reflection Questions?

Who are the people God has a	already placed in my life to encourage my faith?
How can I begin building deep	per Christian friendships?
What step can I take this wee or mentorship?	k to connect with a local church, ministry, small group,

A Prayer for You

Lord, thank You for adopting me into Your family.

Help me to find my place in a
church/ministry/small group/mentorship where I
can grow, serve, and be encouraged. Teach me how
to build healthy, godly relationships that
strengthen my walk with You. Amen.





Living the Christian Life

A Changed Life

Saying "yes" to Jesus isn't just about a moment of decision—it's about a lifetime of transformation. When you gave your life to Christ, you began a new journey of living differently than before. Your salvation should shape how you think, speak, act, and treat others.

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." – Romans 12:2

Living the Christian life means allowing God to change you from the inside out.

What Does It Look Like?

Here are some key areas where your new life in Christ will begin to show:

- 1. **Obedience to God's Word** You live according to what the Bible teaches, not just personal feelings or cultural trends (James 1:22).
- 2. **Forgiveness** You extend grace to others, just as God forgave you (Colossians 3:13).
- 3.**Love** You show genuine love, even to those who are difficult to love (John 13:34–35).
- 4. **Integrity** You choose honesty and truth, even when no one is watching (Proverbs 10:9).
- 5. **Service** You use your gifts and time to serve others (Mark 10:45).

Sharing Your Faith

One of the most powerful ways to live out your new life is by sharing it with others. You don't have to know all the answers—you just need to share what Jesus has done for you.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." – Acts 1:8

Your testimony—your story of how Jesus saved you—can point others to Christ.

Daily Practices for Christian Living

- **Read your Bible:** Let God's Word guide your choices.
- Pray continually: Stay connected with God in every situation.
- Worship regularly: Lift your heart in praise, both privately and with others.
- **Stay accountable:** Surround yourself with people who will encourage and challenge you.
- **Serve faithfully:** Look for ways to bless others in your church/ministry/small group/mentorship, home, and community

Living Differently

When you follow Jesus, your lifestyle will look different from the world's. That may mean saying no to things you used to do, or making decisions others don't understand. But remember, you're living for an audience of One.

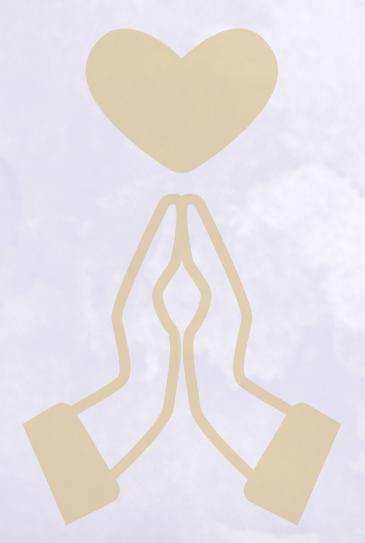
"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." - 1 Corinthians 10:31

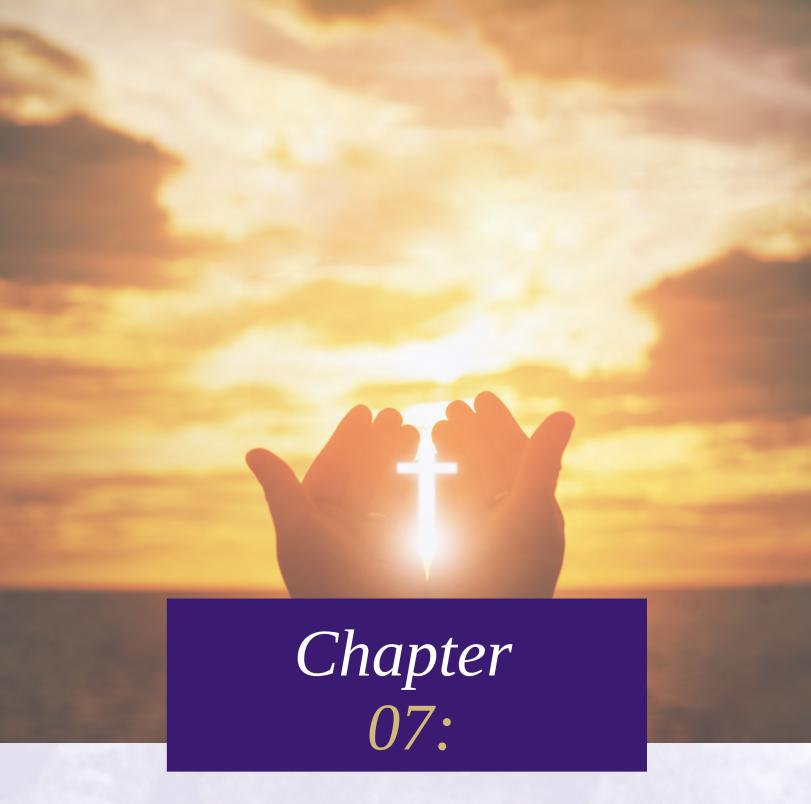
Reflection Questions?

In what areas of my life do I need God to bring transformation?
Who in my life can I begin to show Christ's love and forgiveness to?
wito it my fire can't begin to show chirist's love and forgiveness to:
How can I share my testimony with someone this week?
now can't share my testimony with someone this week:

A Prayer for You

Lord, thank You for giving me a new life in Christ. Teach me to live in a way that honors You in every area of my life. Help me to forgive quickly, love deeply, and serve faithfully. Give me boldness to share my story with others so that they too can know You. Amen.





Next Steps in Your Journey

Salvation is the Starting Line

When you accepted Jesus, you didn't cross the finish line—you stepped onto the starting line of a lifelong journey with Him. God has begun a good work in you, and He promises to complete it.

"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." – Philippians 1:6

The road ahead will have both joys and challenges, but you don't have to walk it alone. God will be with you every step of the way.

Salvation is the Starting Line

Here are some important steps to help you grow strong in your new faith:

1. Be Baptized

Baptism is an outward expression of your inward decision. It's a way of declaring to the world that you belong to Jesus.

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." – Acts 2:38

2. Build Spiritual Habits

Keep feeding your spirit daily through prayer, Bible reading, and worship. These habits will strengthen your foundation in Christ.

3. Stay Connected

Don't walk alone. Get plugged into a local church/ministry/ small group/ or mentorship where you can be encouraged and held accountable.

4. Serve Others

God saved you not just for yourself, but so you could bless others. Look for opportunities to serve in your church/ministry/small group/mentorship, family, and community.

5. Keep Learning

Discipleship is a lifelong journey. Stay hungry for God's Word, attend Bible studies, and keep growing in knowledge and faith.

Guarding Your Faith

As you grow, you'll face temptations, doubts, and spiritual battles. Remember:

- You are not powerless—the Holy Spirit lives inside you.
- God's Word is your weapon against lies (Ephesians 6:17).
- Prayer is your lifeline in every season.
- Other believers are your support system—lean on them

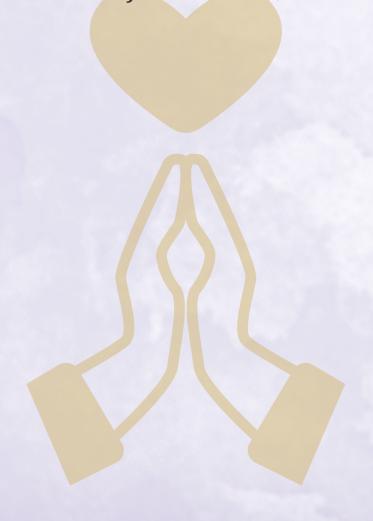
Reflection Questions?

Which of these next steps do I need to take first?
How can I create a plan for daily prayer and Bible reading?
Who can I ask to walk alongside me as I grow in my faith?

A Prayer for You

Father, thank You for saving me and giving me a new life in Christ. I want to keep growing, learning, and becoming more like Jesus. Show me my next steps and give me the courage to take them.

Surround me with people who will encourage me, and use me to make a difference in the lives of others. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Next Step: Join the School of Discipleship

You don't have to figure everything out on your own. If you'd like help growing stronger in your faith and building your foundation in Christ, we invite you to join our School of Discipleship—and it's completely FREE.

Here's what you need to know:



If you'd like to sign up for the next class, let us know by sending us an interest email to

infobox@transformationaldiscipleshipministries.com

We'll email you when the next session begins along with a copy of the student workbook, weekly zoom link, and a link to register to gain access to our private community called the Transformative Discipleship Community

Take this next step and continue building your faith from the ground up.

Stay Connected With Transformational Discipleship Ministries

Your journey with Jesus doesn't stop here. At Transformational Discipleship Ministries (TDM), our mission is to walk alongside believers like you, helping you grow deeper in your relationship with Christ and live out your God-given purpose.

Through TDM you'll find:

Bible-based teachings to strengthen your walk with God Prayer gatherings where you can seek God with others Accountability and fellowship with a community of believers Special events and workshops designed to help you grow in faith

We would love to connect with you!

Here's how you can stay in touch:

- Website: transformationaldiscipleshipministries.com
- Email: infobox@transformationaldiscipleshipministries.com
- **Facebook:** Transformational Discipleship Ministries
- O Instagram: @transformationaldiscipleship
- YouTube: <u>@TransformationalDiscipleship</u>

Don't walk this journey alone. Join the Transformational Discipleship Ministries family today—we're here to encourage you, pray with you, and help you keep building your life on Christ.

About Prophets Bre & Eric Smith



Prophets Bre and Eric Smith are passionate servants of God, called to equip and empower believers to walk faithfully with Jesus Christ. As transformational marriage coaches, pastors, and leaders, they have experienced firsthand the life-changing power of God's Word and the importance of discipleship in the Christian journey.

Together, Bre and Eric share a heart for guiding people—especially new believers—into a deeper relationship with Christ. Their ministry focuses on teaching practical, biblical principles that help believers grow strong foundations of faith while also experiencing transformation in every area of life, from family to calling.

With years of ministry, coaching, and leadership experience, the Smiths are dedicated to building up the Body of Christ through discipleship programs, workshops, and resources like this guide. Their desire is to see every believer not only begin their walk with Jesus but also grow into mature disciples who make disciples.