

Praise the Lord!

You have just received the greatest gift that you could ever receive. Eternal Salvation has been birthed into your soul. The Holy Spirit of God is now residing within your body.

There are some very important and helpful things that every new believer needs to know. These Bible truths will help you grow in the knowledge of Christ. It is only through praying, reading and studying His Word (the Bible) that a new Christian can mature.

In this booklet you will find some basic helps that will guide you in your new walk with Christ. It is very important that you stay in church, pray, and read your Bible. Because you have been saved, the devil will try to get you to stop going to church, stop praying and reading your Bible. Never listen to a liar, listen to God, the one who has saved you! May these seven chapters help your new walk with the Greatest Saviour!

Assurance of Eternal Salvation

(Understanding your Security in Christ)

Baptism

(Your public profession of faith)

Bible Study

(Looking deeper into His Word)

Prayer

(Just talking to God)

Christian Fellowship

(Gods choice in friends)

Learning to Give

(More than just your finances)

Soul Winning

(Telling others what God did for you)

The Lords Supper

(A time of self examination and humility)

Assurance of Eternal Salvation

(Understanding your Security in Christ)

The Bible's teaching of eternal security can be understood through many scriptures. Salvation is an act in which God births your soul into His family. We become adopted children and heirs of eternal life. Romans 8: 15-17 says, "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Also in Galatians 3:29 the Bible says, "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." In Titus 3:7 it says, " That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." To be an heir means to have all the rights to everything that Christ owns. As a new believer, you must understand that He owns it all, even you! So when you asked Him for salvation, He makes you an heir.

The scriptures are clear about salvation. It is free, the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" and in Romans 6:23 it says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." It is not of works or what you do, salvation is free, and no one can earn it. It is His salvation and because He owns it, that provides us assurance. Titus 3:5 is very clear, that it is by what God has done, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

Paul writes to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:12 and says, "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not

ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Your salvation is a work that God completes, not you. Colossians 2:10 says, "And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:". We simply receive the gift. God knew that mankind was unable to save themselves, or even keep His law. Because of that, God sent His Son to complete the work, so all we would have to do is receive the gift through faith. The Bible states in 1John 5:13, " These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

The most famous scripture in the Bible is found in the book of John, chapter three. It declares that God gives eternal salvation, not a temporary one that is based on works. In verse 15 it says, "That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

To have the assurance of eternal salvation means that you believe the Bible for what it says. It calls the salvation we receive, eternal. It declares that it is not ours, not something we create but it is what God has provided, Psalms 3:8 says, "Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah." It is Jesus that creates a new person and secures us. Hebrews 6:19 says, "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." We also can read John 10: 28-29, "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My

Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." The Lord wants His children to serve Him out of LOVE, not FEAR! When a new Christian comes to understand their assurance of eternal salvation, they will serve God and love God, not out obligation, but out of true love and joy.

The last scripture teaches us that God again is the one that keeps us safe. Jude 1:24 says; "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

Eternal Salvation does not mean that you can keep sinning and everything is fine. It is the opposite. Once God saves you, He creates in you a clean heart and gives you a desire not to sin. However, if we do, He has forgiven that sin. Never allow satan to rob you of the joy of assurance. Isaiah 32:17 says, "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance_for ever." You will not always do the right things, but your salvation is not based upon what we do that is right or wrong, it is based on what Jesus did and what He said He would do for everyone. Romans 10:13 says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Baptism

(Your public profession of faith)

After the Lord saves you, His Spirit will begin to teach you and to guide you in what you need to do. John 16:13 says, " Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

Salvation does give us eternal life, but it also changes you. It should make you want to follow Christ and to keep His commandments. The first thing that salvation should do for you is to make you not ashamed of God. Romans 10:11

says, "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed." Following in Baptism reveals to the congregation that you are not ashamed.

The first act of obedience is being publicly baptized. To baptize simply means to immerse in water. God wants His new children to follow in baptism. It is a symbol of dying to self, being buried in the grave and then being raised in newness of life. This is a picture of what Jesus did. It unites us publicly with what Christ did. Romans 6:4 says, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." The water is a picture of the grave. When you enter the water, whether a baptismal pool or a body of water, it symbolizes entering the grave. When you are placed under the water it symbolizes death to self, your desires and cares. When you are raised up, that symbolizes being made new. Although your salvation was totally complete the very moment you asked Him to be saved, following in baptism shows those present that you were sincere about your profession of faith.

Acts 2:41 says, "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."

The Bible teaches once a person was saved they immediately were baptized. As soon as possible obey the Word of God and be baptized. You should be sure to ask your pastor when you can be baptized. He will meet with you and make sure you understand what it means and will set a date.

Bible Study

(Looking deeper into His Word)

There is not anything more important to a new believer than Bible study and praying. It is through the Word that your faith will increase and your understanding of God will increase. It is through praying that you will find peace that God is listening.

After you have been saved, you should receive a King James Study Bible from the church.

As a new Christian you should start reading and studying in the book of John. This book deals with Jesus Christ, that He is Deity (God). Begin to read on a daily basis. The quantity of reading is not as important as the quality. Take your time and study. 2 Timothy 2:15 says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

It is also beneficial to read a chapter in Proverbs a day. There are 31 chapters, one for each day. They are wonderful and inspirational. The book of Psalms is another book that you can read through. It will encourage you and reveal to you the heart of the writers.

When you begin your Bible study, try to find scripture to memorize. The more scripture that you hide in your heart, the less you will deal with sin. Psalms 119:11 says, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." It would also be a great benefit for you to get into a group Bible study. This will allow you to ask for explanations to scriptures that you are uncertain about.

Prayer

(Just talking to God)

To pray is simply talking to God. As a new believer you have already prayed. You have asked God to save you and forgive you of your sins.

Your prayer life is the most important part of your life in Christ. In prayer, is where you submit into the presence of God. Hebrews 4:16 says, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Prayer is one of the ways in which the believer humbly honors God. It is also the place that you will grow the greatest spiritually.

When you pray, begin with exalting God for who He is and what He has done. Then you can move into a time of

thanksgiving. Thank Him for everything and everyone. Then you can get into asking God for help for others and yourself. The Bible teaches the saint how to pray. It is referred to as the model (Lord's) prayer. In Matthew 6:9-13 it says, "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.¹⁰ Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread.¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

As your relationship with God grows, your prayer time will grow also. Remember to pray in the mornings and in the evenings. These times should be alone times with no distractions. When you pray, try to use your own words. Repeating the phrases that others use can make a prayer sound good, but it often does not come from the heart. The Bible teaches the saint in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to "Pray without ceasing."

This means that throughout the hours that you are awake, talk to God in your mind. This will help build your relationship with Him. When you begin to pray regularly your Bible reading will be easier and more exciting. When you read, God talks to you, when you pray, you are talking to Him.

Christian Fellowship

(Gods choice in friends)

As a Christian, God wants you around Godly people. The wrong kind of fellowship can really hinder you and cause you to backslide, (fall into sin.) Satan wants the Christian to hang out with the wrong crowd. To grow close to God, Christian Fellowship is necessary and Biblical. 2 Corinthians 6:14-17 says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁷ Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith

the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

Prior to separating from those friends that are a bad influence, tell them what the Lord did for you. You will find out that most of the old crowd will still love you and be happy for you, or they will separate from you. Do not be discouraged when this happens. Try to understand that lost can not be comfortable around the saved. The saved should not be comfortable around the lost either. You will find the best Christian fellowship at church. Talk to the pastor to find Christian people to fellowship with.

Learning to Give

(More than just your finances)

The church is a place that we give. We give ourselves to God and all that we have. The reason Christians should give is that is what Jesus did. The Bible teaches that the Christian life is one that gives. What we give is more than our money but it does include it. God is the great giver. James 1:17 says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." The Bible says that God gave His only begotten son. What is important for the Christian is that you learn to give from your heart. In Matthew 6:21 it says, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." In Acts 20:35 it says, "I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." God desires the believer to give their time. In Hebrews 10: 25 it says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Also in Ephesians 5:16 it says, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." There is

a great importance that you give God your time in church attendance, Bible reading, prayer and in witnessing.

We also should give God our talents, or in simple terms, He wants us to serve Him. In Colossians 3:23 it says, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." Also it says in Colossians 3:17, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Finally, to give includes your money. God gave a command in the Old Testament to give a tenth of your gross income. Leviticus 27:30 says, "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD." In the New Testament it says what to give and when to give it. "1Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." What this means is that we are to dedicate first, what God tells us to give. We are to give this tithe and offering on Sunday, the first day of the week. Our tithe is our duty, what we give above the ten percent is called an offering. This is where God really blesses the believer. This is where you also reveal your trust. Learning to give is a very important part of your growth and faith. Remember that if God has your heart, He will have your time, talent and treasure. Act 20:35 says, "I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Soul Winning

(Telling others what God did for you)

To win a soul to Jesus means you tell them what they must do to be saved. As a new Christian, telling others about what God did for you will build your confidence in Christ. The world needs to be saved and God wants you to tell them. Matthew

28:19 says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:" and in Luke 14:23 it says, " And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." When you tell others about what Christ did for you, it expresses your love and loyalty. You will find great peace and joy through helping the lost come to know Christ. The Bible even calls the soul winner wise! Proverbs 11:30 says, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

Begin telling your family and friends and then as God leads you, and He will, start telling the people that you meet in the stores and at work. It is great to start a conversation about God, with a question. You can say, "Do you go to church anywhere?" Asking them if they know Jesus is also a great way to make them look toward Christ. If the door opens to talk, then talk, if not, just pray for them. The world today does not tolerate Christians that are overly pushy. Allow God to reveal Himself through your life.

Finally, a Christian should find out when the church meets to go out and share Christ. Get involved with those times. If you can find another Christian to go out with at a different time than the churches scheduled times, go for it! May God bless your efforts to get the Gospel in the hands of the lost.

Reminders!

Be sure to write down the date when God saved you and the date you were baptized in the front or back of your Bible.

The Lords Supper

(A time of self examination and humility)

The night before the Lord was taken to be crucified, He gathered the disciples together to eat the Passover dinner. This was a meal that commemorated the time when God spared the Israelite people from death. God told them to sprinkle the blood of a lamb on the door post. Obeying this command would protect them from death. (Exodus 12:1-14)

In like manner, Jesus Christ, The Lamb of God, was slain to protect the lives of all those that obeyed His Word. That night, Jesus gave instructions to the believers of the new supper they would participate in. In the book of first Corinthians 11:23-34, the Lord explains the Lords Supper. This is also called Holy Communion.

The bread would represent His body, which is broken for you. The juice, would represent His blood that was shed for the remissions of sin. When the disciples would eat and drink these sacraments, it was a time of remembrance of what Christ did for us. No one should ever partake of this supper if they are not saved or if they have any unconfessed sin in their life.

Several times a year the church will hold a Communion Service. It is important that you prepare your heart, or as 1 Corinthians 11:28 states, " But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup." The believer must understand that this is a special time of honor and respect toward our Lord. You never just take it, to just take it!

Every Communion will be special, if you enter into it with the right heart and attitude. Every time you participate in a Communion Service, be sure you confess your sins to the Lord, and ask the Lord to prepare your heart for the remembrance of His great Sacrifice for us!