



Yet to all who did receive Jesus, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God... John 1:12

YOU have decided to believe and follow Jesus...welcome to the Family of God! Of all the important decisions you make, this one is the BEST ever, and your new life in Jesus is about to change in the BEST of possible ways. Look at this...

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Cor 5:17

New, new, NEW! All the old sin in your life made a big mess of things, but all that old sin is now vanished...erased...GONE. You have received a brand new life and a shiny new heart because of Jesus Christ and His HUGE love for you.

Maybe you wonder what you are going to do with this new life you've been given? Hmmm...



### PARENTS:

Proverbs 22:6 Direct your children onto the right path and when they are older, they will not leave it. (NLT)



Moms & Dads, YOU have been placed in your child's life to help them grow in their love of Jesus. This booklet is designed to direct a child who has made the decision to believe and follow Christ; as well as to provide a guide to you, their parents, for leading your child and helping them understand their decision for Christ. If you haven't already, you may put into practice these things today:

- Reading the Bible to your child every day (and/or night)
- Praying with your child at times other than only mealtime...
- Including prayer for their protection, help and guidance from God







Jesus was baptized in water, by His cousin John. When John saw Jesus coming he thought that Jesus should be baptizing *him* instead. Jesus told John that it was exactly right for Him to be baptized, and that John

was the one to do it (you can read this in the Bible, in Matthew 3:13-15.) After all the speaking and splashing, GOD would then do the talking, by saying 'THIS is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.' At the same time, God's (Holy) Spirit would come down and rest upon Jesus.



Here is a new motto, A rule to live by for yourself:

If Jesus did it, I will do it too.

(If you are curious about others who

obeyed and were baptized, you can read in the book of Acts in your Bible; chapter 2:38 and chapter 8:12 and 8:36-38 – check it out!)







This is a book you will READ. You'll want to read it more than one time, to remind you of God's great love and His good instructions. In fact, you

should read it over and over again, because God's Holy Spirit will always show (in the words of this book) what YOU are supposed to be giving your attention to. Each day is a new day, and so are God's words for you new each day. Will you be listening? He wants to tell you something...









As much as God wants to talk to you (through the Bible) He also wants to hear you talk to Him! How does this happen? Are you supposed to write a book for Him to read? No, not really...it is way easier than that, because all you need to do is pray. In the Bible, King David would talk to God all the time, and here is something he prayed:

O LORD, hear me as I pray; pay attention to my groaning. Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for I pray to no one but you. Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly. Psalm 5:1-3

Jesus prayed to His Father God always, and remember your new motto: If Jesus did it, I will do it too.







## CHURCH:

Just so you know, church is more than just a building made of wood and steel and carpet and chairs. The Bible calls the people (like you) who believe and follow Jesus 'the church.'

Jesus is like a strong magnet, who draws all His believers close to Him...and guess what? When the church comes together it makes Jesus very happy. He likes to see us love God together, sing songs together that tell God how good He is, and pray to God together with the help of God's Holy Spirit. Jesus also wants to teach us His words together (from the Bible) and to remind us to love and serve each other. (Acts 2:42 and 1 John 1:7 - good Bible verses to read about our church times together.)

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### THERE'S MORE!!!

What else will you be doing? Hmmm...

Two very special things that will get you started in your new life in Jesus have to do with **REMEMBERING** and with **SHARING**.





# COMMUNION:

In your mind, you remember lots of things, maybe even some silly or dumb things you wish you could forget. Jesus wants you to NEVER forget what He did for you on the cross...do you remember? Here is a clue:

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26

As believers and followers of Jesus, in times we are together, we eat a cracker (His body) and drink a sip of juice (His blood) to remember how He died on a cross for each of us, for our sins. This is called communion, and it is a practice we share. Speaking of sharing...







We can share a bag of candies, or a pizza together, but you now have something so good to share that it wants to jump right out of you! It is called the GOSPEL, and it simply means 'the Good News.' I think you can guess what that good news is...YOU already know it, but there are others who haven't yet heard it...

#### JESUS DIED FOR YOUR SIN HE CAME ALIVE AGAIN BELIEVE IN HIM LIVE FOREVER IN HEAVEN WITH HIM.

One day, long ago, Jesus told some people who wanted Him to stay only with them, 'I must preach the Good news of the kingdom of God in the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.' Luke 4:43



What is your new motto (rule to live by)?











This toolbox is given to equip parents to disciple their children through the following aspects of their decision to believe and follow Christ. If used to help lead a child to Christ, it gives simple explanations and actions for the "new-walk, new practice" facets illustrated in this booklet. Biblical scripture is referenced here for added understanding, and may also be used for any child's present or ongoing discipleship. Learning and studying these principles in more depth are also enhanced by such online resources as **blueletterbible.org** 

## TER BAPTISMS: MATTHEW 3:13-15; ACTS 2:38; ACTS 8:36-38

Water baptism is an excellent expression of a person's faith and obedience to Christ. For your child, you are best equipped to evaluate their sincerity of purpose. You might seek from them direct answers to the following simple questions: What does the cross mean to you? What does the grave (or tomb) mean to you? (and from their Jesus-centered answers...) Do you believe this?

Another avenue might include listening to the Bible Study on water baptism together. Acting on their full understanding, in obedience, your child may be water baptized by a pastor or elder at your next church baptism event.

### READING THE BIBLE: 1 CORINTHIANS 2:12-13; PSALM 119:50; JOHN 5:39-40

When your child is reading, it is time for them to graduate to a Books-Chapters-Verses Bible (as we adults use.) Begin with teaching them about its construct -

- 66 books, written by men, inspired by God
- 2 Testaments which define God's promises (past and present) to those who call on His Name;
- 4 Gospels which testify to the life of Jesus, God's own Son, upon the earth.

When they have a basic understanding of its construct and purpose, you might practice charting out every day reading times – explaining that this shows their devotion to God. To this end, help your child by reading with them, as well as giving a path to follow on their own.

**TIP:** Try alternating verses as you read together. Practice memorizing Bible verses together; with rewards added for successes.



PSALM 69:13; 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18; ROMANS 8:26-27

In its essence, praying to God is talking to Him. He certainly desires to hear from your child - and you as well! **Tip:** You might pray at their bedtime, using a shared Bible reading time, or a school/friend experience they had that day to help generate the content of these prayers. Whenever you wonder what to pray, consider including:

ADORATION: Tell God how much you love and worship Him. CONFESSION: Tell God about the sins you know you committed, and ask for forgiveness. THANKSGIVING: Thank God for all He is, and has done in your life. SUPPLICATION: Pray to God for others, asking Him to bless, help and encourage them.

Your best encouragement for them regarding prayer is given by your own example. Allow your child to see prayer to God is important in your life, and not solely offered in times of trial or despair; being sure to acknowledge God to your child for any answered prayer you lift up together!

## URCH FELLOWSHIP: 1 JOHN 1:7; ACTS 2:42; 1 JOHN 1:7

As with prayer, your own example of regular fellowship with other believers also impacts your child's mind towards its value. It is helpful that your child knows there is a purpose to worshiping God together, as a church. Therefore, bring them to church as much as you can; even in times where you think they (or you?) might need more sleep. God will bless you as you train your child on the importance of these things, knowing they are personally included in our collective worship at church, and the time they get to spend with church friends is like the fun frosting on a beautiful cake. Cake is meant to be shared, and so is our worship of God – shared with each other.

TIP: Speak with your kids after church, about what they learned and what God showed them. If they are sitting with you during any service time, help them to sing along with the adults, and to listen to the Bible studies. Our 'Sermon Notes for Kids' sheets for kids are made available (at info desks) especially for this purpose.

## 1 CORINTHIANS 11:26; PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8; 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18

Like water baptism, taking communion is also an excellent expression of your child's belief and obedience to Christ. The symbolism of Jesus' broken body and His shed blood reminds your child of Christ's forgiveness. Turning from their sin, to Jesus' forgiveness, is a daily exercise for their life ahead, and helping them to know and practice that communion time is specially used to remember Jesus – and what He did for us on the cross – and why He did it. Snack time is later...

TIP: You can take communion at home! With the same elements you can sing a song, pass out the cracker & juice, and pray – partaking together.

#### HARING THE GOOD NEW ACTS 8:34-35; ACTS 10:42; 1 CORINTHIANS 1:17

The motto of 'If Jesus did it, I will do it too.' is tailor-made for helping your child to share their faith with their friends and family...even with new people they meet. It is natural for them to invite those they care about to come to their church with them, so be available to aid in this way. Jesus' disciples were always available to help the people Jesus invited to come to Him.

Tip: Tell your child about people you are sharing Jesus with at work, or among your friends and family. Help them to begin learning about the 'Romans Road' guide to sharing. An example of this path tracks through this booklet.



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WHO ARE YOU?
Q: Do you remember where you were when you decided to believe and follow Jesus?
Q: How many people are in your own family? Any family pets?
Q: Do you have a Bible that is yours?
Q: What is your favorite food to eat?
Q: Do you remember if you have gone to church before?
Q: Write down the name of a good friend you have:
Q: Why do you think you made this decision for yourself?
Thanks for your good answers! Please get the help you need to put this note in the mail - including a stamp - and be sure to add your own home address (in the special corner) so someone here can write back to you.

CUT ALONG LINE

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