



PEACE WITH GOD | APPLY SCRIPTURE | TRUST GOD | HELP OTHERS



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Peace With God

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STEP 2

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*"Then Jesus said to his disciples,
"If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny
himself, take up his cross, and follow me.
For whoever wants to save his
life will lose it, but whoever loses his life
because of me will find it."*

Matthew 16:24-25



Welcome to Path Discipleship!

As you begin this journey along the path God has for you, take your time, ask questions, seek scripture and enjoy God's Word.

There are many different ways you could approach this material as a guide through your spiritual walk.

Here is my advice...

- 1. Pray before each session.**
- 2. Go through the material with someone else.**
(a mentor or peer)
- 3. Find each verse in your bible.**
(maybe even highlight or underline them)
- 4. Keep up with your progress by checking the circles**
when you complete each of the twelve sessions.
- 5. Do one session per week.**
(earlier in the week allows you time to marinate on it)
- 6. Memorize one of the verses per session.**
- 7. Have fun, be encouraged and don't treat this time**
like class work.

I pray that God's Word will transform your life like it has mine!

~Ace Alexander

Where Do I Begin?

SALVATION | BAPTISM | SANCTIFICATION

Salvation: Beginning A Relationship with God

The journey to a relationship with God begins with a heartfelt prayer, often called the Sinner's Prayer, where you acknowledge your sins and seek God's forgiveness. By confessing your need for a Savior and inviting Jesus Christ to be the Lord of your life, you accept God's gift of salvation. This step is rooted in the belief that Jesus died for your sins and rose again, offering eternal life to all who trust in Him. Salvation is not earned by works but received through faith, as a free gift of God's grace, transforming your heart and giving you a new purpose in Christ.

If you would like to make Jesus Lord of your life you can pray a prayer like this...

"Father, I have sinned. I have not obeyed Your Word. I have tried to run my own life. I have ignored You and Your will for me. I have tried to decide for myself what is right and wrong. I deserve Your wrath and punishment. I am lost unless You save me. Thank You for sending Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to pay for my sin and guilt. Thank You for raising Him from the dead and giving Him authority over my life. I receive Him as my Savior and Lord. I receive Your gift of eternal life in Christ. I will turn from my sinful life to serve You. You are my Creator and Redeemer."

Baptism: A Step of Obedience

Following salvation, baptism is an important act of obedience that publicly declares your faith in Jesus. It symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, as well as your own spiritual rebirth—dying to your old self and rising as a new creation in Him. Baptism doesn't save you, but it's a powerful testimony to others and a meaningful step in your commitment to follow Jesus. By being immersed in water, you express your dedication to living a life aligned with God's will, supported by a community of believers.

Would you like to talk with someone about your first step of obedience – baptism?

Sanctification: Growing in Your Walk with God

Sanctification is the lifelong process of growing closer to God and becoming more like Jesus in your thoughts, actions, and character. After salvation and baptism, this journey involves daily seeking God through prayer, studying the Bible, and engaging in Christian community. It's about allowing the Holy Spirit to transform you from within, helping you overcome sin and live out God's purpose for your life. This material is designed to guide you in discipleship, offering practical steps to deepen your faith, build spiritual habits, and walk confidently in your new life with Christ.

Would you like to talk with someone about being discipled and growing in God's Word?

Sin

STEP 1A

Sin is a central theme in the Bible, affecting our relationship with God and others. Understanding what sin is helps us grasp the need for repentance and God's grace.

Let's examine key scriptures to define sin, explore its impact, and discuss how we can live in alignment with God's will.

1. Sin is Missing the Mark

Romans 3:23

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

2. Sin is Rebellion Against God

1 John 3:4

"Everyone who commits sin practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness."

3. Sin has Consequences

Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

4. Sin in the Heart

Matthew 15:18-19

"But what comes out of the mouth comes from the heart, and this defiles a person. For from the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual immoralities, thefts, false testimonies, slander."

5. God's Solution for Sin

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Sin can be defined as going your own way, trusting and acting on your own opinions and feelings instead of on God's truth.

James 4:17

"So it is sin to know the good and yet not do it."

The Bible teaches that every human being is infected at the core with a sinful nature.

Romans 3:10-12

"There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; all alike have become worthless. There is no one who does what is good, not even one."

Sin brings brokenness into our personal lives, our culture and the world.

James 1:14-15

"But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death."

Galatians 5:19-21

"Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I am warning you about these things—as I warned you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

1. Based on Romans 3:23 and 1 John 3:4, how would you define sin in your own words, and what does it mean to "miss the mark" or practice "lawlessness" in the context of your relationship with God?
2. Romans 6:23 states that the "wages of sin is death." What are some practical ways you see the consequences of sin manifesting in personal lives or society, and how does the promise of "eternal life in Christ Jesus" offer hope?
3. Matthew 15:18-19 emphasizes that sin originates in the heart. How can we guard our hearts against sinful thoughts and desires, and what role does God's grace play in this process according to 1 John 1:9?
4. James 4:17 describes sin as failing to do what is good when you know it. Can you share an example from your life or observations where knowing the right thing to do but not doing it led to negative outcomes? How can we better align our actions with God's will?
5. Galatians 5:19-21 lists specific "works of the flesh" that are contrary to God's kingdom. Which of these do you see as most prevalent in today's culture, and how can individuals or communities counteract these behaviors to live in alignment with God's truth?

Jesus STEP 1B

Understanding who Jesus is, lies at the heart of the Christian faith. His identity as the Son of God, Savior, and Lord shapes our relationship with God and our purpose in life.

Let's explore key scriptures to reveal Jesus' nature, mission, and significance, encouraging us to reflect on how we respond to Him.

1. Jesus is the Son of God

John 1:1, 14

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

2. Jesus is the Savior

Luke 2:11

"Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

3. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

John 14:6

"Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

4. Jesus is the Good Shepherd

John 10:11

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

5. Jesus is the King of Kings

Revelation 19:16

"On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written: King of kings and Lord of lords."

Jesus is fully God and fully human, sent to reconcile humanity to God through His life, death, and resurrection.

Colossians 1:15-16

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the

invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for him."

His mission was to seek and save the lost, offering salvation to all who believe.

Luke 19:10

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost."

Through His sacrifice, Jesus provides forgiveness and eternal life.

1 Peter 2:24

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."

Jesus calls us to follow Him, trusting in His lordship and living according to His teachings.

Matthew 16:24

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.'"

1. Based on John 1:1, 14 and Colossians 1:15-16, how would you describe Jesus' divine and human nature in your own words? Why is it significant that He is both fully God and fully human?
2. Luke 2:11 and Luke 19:10 emphasize Jesus as the Savior. What does it mean to you personally that Jesus came to "seek and save the lost"? How does this shape your understanding of His love and purpose?
3. In John 14:6, Jesus declares He is the way, the truth, and the life. How does this statement challenge or encourage you in your daily life, especially in a world with many competing beliefs and philosophies?
4. John 10:11 and 1 Peter 2:24 describe Jesus as the Good Shepherd who lays down His life. How have you experienced or observed Jesus' sacrificial love in your life or others'? What does it mean to live for righteousness in response to His sacrifice?
5. Matthew 16:24 calls us to follow Jesus by denying ourselves and taking up our cross. What are some practical ways you can live out this call in your daily decisions and relationships? How does recognizing Jesus as the King of kings (Revelation 19:16) influence your commitment to follow Him?

Peace

STEP 1C

The Bible teaches that true peace comes from a right relationship with God, which is disrupted by sin but restored through Jesus Christ.

Let's explore how sin prevents peace, how God's grace offers forgiveness, and how we can live in the peace that surpasses understanding.

1. Sin Disrupts Our Peace

Isaiah 59:2

"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you so that he will not hear."

2. God Promises Peace Through Christ

John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

3. Peace Through Confession and Forgiveness

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

4. Peace Through Trusting God

Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

5. Living in Peace with Others

Romans 12:18

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Sin creates chaos and conflict, both within us and in our relationships.

The Bible describes peace as a gift from God, available through faith, repentance, and surrender to His will.

Psalm 29:11

"The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace."

Sinful behaviors, such as selfishness, anger, or pride, rob us of peace, while trusting in God's provision and forgiveness restores it.

Colossians 3:15

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

Romans 5:1

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Living in God's peace requires aligning our hearts with His truth and relying on His grace to overcome sin's chaos.

1. Based on Isaiah 59:2, how does sin create a barrier to experiencing God's peace in your life? Can you identify a time when unresolved sin caused you to feel distant from God or others?
2. John 16:33 promises peace in Christ despite worldly troubles. What are some practical challenges in your life that disrupt your peace, and how can Jesus' victory over the world encourage you to trust Him more?
3. According to 1 John 1:9 and Philippians 4:6-7, how do confession and prayer contribute to receiving God's peace? What steps can you take to incorporate these practices into your daily routine?
4. Romans 12:18 calls us to live at peace with others "as far as it depends on you." Can you share an example from your life where striving for peace with someone was challenging? How can God's grace help you pursue peace in difficult relationships?
5. Colossians 3:15 speaks of letting the peace of Christ "rule" in our hearts. What are some sinful attitudes or habits in today's culture that hinder peace, and how can you cultivate a heart ruled by Christ's peace in your personal life or community?



The Bible

STEP 2A

Studying the Bible is essential for growing in faith, understanding God's will, and living a life that honors Him. The Bible is God's inspired Word, offering guidance, wisdom, and truth for every aspect of life.

Let's explore why and how we should engage with Scripture, emphasizing its transformative power.

1. The Bible is God's Inspired Word

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

2. The Bible Reveals God's Truth

Psalms 119:105

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

3. The Bible Transforms Us

Hebrews 4:12

"For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

4. The Bible Requires Diligent Study

2 Timothy 2:15

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly handling the word of truth."

5. The Bible Calls for Application

James 1:22

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

The Bible is more than a book; it is God's revelation to humanity, guiding us to know Him and live according to His purpose.

John 17:17

"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."

Through consistent study, prayer, and application, the Bible shapes our character and aligns our lives with God's will.

Psalm 119:11

"I have treasured your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you."

The Bible equips us to navigate life's challenges and grow in faith.

Joshua 1:8

"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

1. Based on 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and John 17:17, how would you describe the purpose and authority of the Bible in your own words? Why is it important to view Scripture as God's inspired Word?
2. Psalm 119:105 compares God's Word to a lamp and light. How has studying the Bible provided guidance or clarity in a specific situation in your life?
3. Hebrews 4:12 describes the Bible as "living and effective" and able to judge our thoughts. Can you share a time when a Scripture passage challenged or changed your perspective? How can we stay open to this transformative power?
4. According to 2 Timothy 2:15, we are to "correctly handle" the word of truth. What are some practical ways to study the Bible diligently, and what challenges do you face in maintaining consistent Bible study?
5. James 1:22 emphasizes being "doers of the word." Can you identify an area in your life where you've struggled to apply a biblical teaching? How can you take steps to live out God's Word more fully in that area?



Bible Study

STEP 2B

Preparing to study the Bible requires intentional steps to align your heart, mind, and body with God's truth. A clear and focused approach enhances your ability to receive and apply God's Word effectively.

Let's explore key scriptures to understand how to prepare physically and mentally for Bible study and discuss practical ways to create a conducive environment for spiritual growth.

1. Clear Your Mind for God's Truth

Psalm 46:10

"Be still, and know that I am God; I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

2. Prepare Your Heart with Humility

James 4:8

"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

3. Create a Physical Space for Study

Matthew 6:6

"But when you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

4. Renew Your Mind Through God's Word

Romans 12:2

"Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God."

5. Rely on the Holy Spirit for Guidance

John 16:13

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

6. Guard Against Distractions

Luke 10:40-42

"But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, and she came up and asked, 'Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to serve alone? So

tell her to give me a hand.' The Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has made the right choice, and it will not be taken away from her.'"

7. Approach with Faith and Expectation

Hebrews 4:12

"For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Studying the Bible is more than reading words; it's an encounter with God's living truth that transforms us when we approach it with the right heart, mind, and environment.

1. Based on Psalm 46:10 and Luke 10:40-42, what are some practical ways you can "be still" and minimize distractions to focus on God's Word? How do you balance life's demands with the need to prioritize Bible study?
2. James 4:8 calls us to purify our hearts and draw near to God. What attitudes or emotions (e.g., pride, doubt, or bitterness) might hinder your ability to study the Bible, and how can you address them before beginning?
3. According to Matthew 6:6, having a dedicated space can enhance your focus. What physical preparations (e.g., a quiet place, removing devices, or setting a specific time) have helped you engage more deeply with Scripture?
4. Romans 12:2 emphasizes renewing the mind. How can regular Bible study transform your perspective on daily challenges, and what mental habits (e.g., prayer, memorization) can help you internalize God's truth?
5. John 16:13 highlights the Holy Spirit's role in guiding us. How can you invite the Holy Spirit into your study time, and what difference have you noticed when you rely on His guidance versus studying on your own?



Trusting The Bible

STEP 2C

The Bible is the foundation of Christian faith, claimed to be God's inspired Word. Understanding why we can trust the Bible is essential for building a strong relationship with God and living according to His truth.

Let's explore the reliability, authority, and transformative power of Scripture.

1. The Bible is God's Inspired Word

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

2. The Bible is Authoritative and True

Psalms 119:160

"The entirety of Your word is truth, and all Your righteous judgments endure forever."

3. The Bible is Historically Reliable

Luke 1:1-4

"Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative about the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as the original eyewitnesses and servants of the word handed them down to us, it seemed good to me also, having carefully investigated everything from the very first, to write to you in an orderly sequence... so that you may know the certainty of the things about which you have been instructed."

4. The Bible is Preserved Through Time

Isaiah 40:8

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God remains forever."

5. The Bible Transforms Lives

Hebrews 4:12

"For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

The Bible claims to be God's revelation to humanity, guiding us in truth and righteousness.

John 17:17

"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."

The Bible's consistency, fulfilled prophecies, and historical accuracy support its reliability.

2 Peter 1:21

"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

The Bible addresses human needs, offering hope, guidance, and restoration through God's promises.

Romans 15:4

"For whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that we may have hope through endurance and through the encouragement from the Scriptures."

1. Based on 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and John 17:17, how would you explain the Bible's inspiration and truth to someone who questions its reliability? Why do you think its divine inspiration matters for our faith?

2. Psalm 119:160 and Isaiah 40:8 describe the enduring nature of God's Word. How does knowing the Bible has been preserved through time strengthen your trust in it, and how can this assurance influence your daily decisions?

3. Luke 1:1-4 highlights the careful investigation behind the Gospel accounts. What are some examples of historical or archaeological evidence that support the Bible's accuracy, and how do these findings impact your confidence in Scripture?

4. According to Hebrews 4:12 and Romans 15:4, the Bible is living and transformative. Can you share a personal experience where a specific scripture changed your perspective or guided your actions? How can we make engaging with Scripture a regular part of our lives?

5. 2 Peter 1:21 emphasizes that the Bible's prophecies came through God's Spirit, not human will. How do fulfilled prophecies (e.g., Jesus' birth in Micah 5:2 or His suffering in Isaiah 53) strengthen your trust in the Bible? What steps can you take to study and apply its teachings more deeply?



Honoring God

STEP 3A

Honoring God is at the heart of a life rooted in faith. It involves aligning our thoughts, actions, and desires with His will, reflecting His character in all we do.

Let's explore what it means to honor God, the challenges we face, and how we can live lives that glorify Him.

1. Honoring God Through Obedience

1 Samuel 15:22

"Does the Lord take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams."

2. Honoring God with Our Worship

John 4:23-24

"But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth."

3. Honoring God in Our Speech

Colossians 4:6

"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer each person."

4. Honoring God with Our Lives

1 Corinthians 10:31

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

5. Honoring God Through Love

1 John 4:7-8

"Dear friends, let us love one another, because love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Honoring God means living in a way that reflects His glory, prioritizes His will, and demonstrates His love to others.

Psalm 29:2

"Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness."

The Bible teaches that honoring God requires intentionality, as our natural inclinations can lead us away from His purposes.

Romans 12:1-2

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Honoring God impacts every area of our lives, from our choices to our relationships, shaping us to reflect His character.

Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

1. Based on 1 Samuel 15:22 and Romans 12:1-2, what does it mean to honor God through obedience, and how does this differ from simply following religious rituals or traditions?
2. John 4:23-24 emphasizes worshiping God "in Spirit and truth." What are some practical ways you can cultivate authentic worship in your daily life, and what challenges do you face in doing so?
3. According to Colossians 4:6, our speech should reflect God's grace. Can you think of a time when your words either honored or dishonored God? How can we ensure our speech consistently glorifies Him?
4. 1 Corinthians 10:31 calls us to do everything for God's glory. Share an example of a mundane or everyday activity in your life where you could intentionally honor God. What steps can you take to make this a habit?
5. 1 John 4:7-8 and Matthew 5:16 highlight love and good works as ways to honor God. What are some specific ways you see a lack of love or good works in today's world, and how can Christians actively demonstrate God's love to bring Him glory?



The Old & New

STEP 3B

The Bible presents a contrast between the "old self" (our sinful nature) and the "new self" (the transformed life in Christ). This battle between the old and new shapes our spiritual journey, as we seek to live in alignment with God's will through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Let's explore key scriptures to understand this struggle, its implications, and how we can walk in the newness of life.

1. The Old Self: Bound to Sin

Romans 6:6

"We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin."

2. The New Self: Created in Christ

Ephesians 4:22-24

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

3. The Battle Within

Galatians 5:16-17

"So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want."

4. Victory Through Christ

Romans 7:24-25

"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

5. Living as the New Self

Colossians 3:9-10

"Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator."

6. The Role of the Holy Spirit

John 16:13

"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."

7. The Call to Persevere

Philippians 3:12-14

"Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

The battle between the old and new is a daily reality for believers. The "old self" represents our sinful nature, prone to rebellion against God, while the "new self" reflects the transformed life made possible through Christ's sacrifice and the indwelling Holy Spirit. Though the struggle is real, God equips us to overcome through His grace, truth, and power.

1. Based on Romans 6:6 and Ephesians 4:22-24, what does it mean to "put off" the old self and "put on" the new self? How can you practically apply this in your daily life?
2. Galatians 5:16-17 describes the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. What are some specific areas in your life where you feel this battle most strongly, and how can walking by the Spirit help you overcome these struggles?
3. Romans 7:24-25 expresses Paul's desperation and hope in Christ's deliverance. Can you share a time when you felt overwhelmed by your "old self" but experienced God's rescue? How does this give you hope for ongoing battles?
4. Colossians 3:9-10 emphasizes that the new self is "being renewed" in God's image. What role does growing in knowledge of God (through Scripture, prayer, etc.) play in this renewal process? How can you prioritize this in your spiritual walk?
5. According to Philippians 3:12-14, perseverance is key in the journey toward the new self. What are some practical steps you can take to "press on" and leave behind the patterns of the old self, especially when you face setbacks or temptation?

Prayer

STEP 3C

Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life, a direct line of communication with God. Yet, many struggle with understanding how to pray effectively or feel intimidated by it.

Let's explore what the Bible says about prayer, its purpose, and how we can approach it with simplicity and confidence.

1. Prayer is Relational Communication with God

Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Prayer is an Expression of Faith

James 5:15

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven."

3. Prayer Aligns Us with God's Will

1 John 5:14-15

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him."

4. Prayer is Persistent and Humble

Luke 18:1-8

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up..." (The Parable of the Persistent Widow).

5. Jesus Models Prayer for Us

Matthew 6:9-13

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...'"

Prayer is simply talking to God, bringing our hearts, needs, and desires before Him while trusting His goodness and sovereignty.

Hebrews 4:16

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

The Bible teaches that prayer is not about complex rituals or perfect words but about a sincere heart seeking God.

Psalms 145:18

"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Prayer transforms us, deepens our relationship with God, and invites His power into our lives.

Colossians 4:2

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

1. Based on Philippians 4:6-7 and Hebrews 4:16, how would you describe the role of prayer in building a relationship with God? What does it mean to approach God with confidence and thanksgiving in your own prayer life?
2. James 5:15 connects prayer with faith and forgiveness. How have you seen faith shape your prayers or the prayers of others? What role does trusting God play when prayers seem unanswered?
3. According to 1 John 5:14-15, praying according to God's will is key. How can we discern God's will when we pray, and what are some practical ways to align our prayers with His purposes?
4. The Parable of the Persistent Widow in Luke 18:1-8 encourages persistence in prayer. Can you share a time when you persisted in prayer? How did it affect your faith or perspective, even if the outcome wasn't what you expected?
5. In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus provides a model for prayer. Which part of the Lord's Prayer resonates most with you, and how can it guide your daily prayer life? What steps can you take to make prayer a more consistent and meaningful practice?



Live On Purpose

STEP 4A

Living on purpose means aligning our lives with God's will, pursuing His calling, and reflecting His love and truth in all we do. The Bible emphasizes that God has a unique plan for each of us, and living intentionally allows us to fulfill His purpose and bring glory to Him.

Let's explore key scriptures to understand how to live on purpose, the barriers we face, and how to walk in God's plan for our lives.

1. God's Purpose for You

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Called to Glorify God

1 Corinthians 10:31

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

3. Equipped for Good Works

Ephesians 2:10

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

4. Overcoming Distractions

Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

5. Living by the Spirit

Galatians 5:16

"So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."

Living on purpose involves trusting God's plan, seeking His guidance, and intentionally choosing actions that align with His truth.

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

The Bible teaches that God created us with intention, but sin, distractions, and self-reliance can pull us away from His purpose.

Philippians 3:13-14

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Distractions and sinful desires can derail us from God's purpose, but His Spirit empowers us to stay focused.

Romans 12:2

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

1. Based on Jeremiah 29:11 and Ephesians 2:10, how does knowing God has a specific plan for your life encourage you to live on purpose? What steps can you take to discover or align with His plan for you?
2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 calls us to do everything for God's glory. What are some practical ways you can live out this principle in your daily routines, relationships, or work?
3. Hebrews 12:1-2 mentions hindrances and sin that can entangle us. What are some common distractions or sins that keep you from living on purpose, and how can focusing on Jesus help you overcome them?
4. Proverbs 3:5-6 emphasizes trusting God over our own understanding. Can you share a time when relying on your own plans led you astray? How can submitting to God's guidance help you live more purposefully?
5. Galatians 5:16 and Romans 12:2 highlight the role of the Holy Spirit and a renewed mind in living purposefully. What practices (e.g., prayer, Bible study, community) can help you walk by the Spirit and avoid conforming to the world's patterns? How have these practices impacted your life?



Disciple Making

STEP 4B

Disciple making is a central calling for every Christian, reflecting Jesus' command to spread His teachings and help others grow in faith. Understanding disciple making equips us to live out the Great Commission and build God's kingdom.

Let's explore key scriptures to define disciple making, its importance, and how we can actively participate in it.

1. The Call to Make Disciples

Matthew 28:18-20

"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

2. Disciples Follow and Imitate Christ

Luke 9:23

"Then he said to them all: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.'"

3. Disciples Bear Fruit

John 15:8

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

4. Disciples Love One Another

John 13:34-35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

5. Disciples Equip Others

2 Timothy 2:2

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

Disciple making involves intentionally guiding others to follow Jesus, grow in faith, and replicate this process in others' lives. It requires personal commitment, teaching, and modeling Christlike character.

Ephesians 4:11-12

"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

The Bible teaches that disciple making is not optional but a core part of the Christian life, impacting individuals and communities for eternity.

Acts 1:8

"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."

Disciple making transforms lives by spreading the gospel and fostering spiritual growth.

Colossians 1:28-29

"He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me."

1. Based on Matthew 28:18-20, what does the Great Commission reveal about the scope and purpose of disciple making? How can you apply this call in your daily life?
2. Luke 9:23 describes the cost of discipleship as denying oneself and taking up the cross daily. What are some practical ways you can model this in your own life to inspire others to follow Christ?
3. According to John 15:8, bearing fruit glorifies God and proves discipleship. What types of "fruit" have you seen in your life or others' lives that reflect a growing relationship with Jesus? How can you encourage this in those you disciple?
4. John 13:34-35 emphasizes that love identifies disciples. Share an example where love (or lack of it) impacted a relationship or community. How can showing Christlike love strengthen your efforts in disciple making?
5. 2 Timothy 2:2 highlights the importance of equipping others to teach. What steps can you take to mentor or train someone in their faith journey? How can you identify "reliable people" to pass on what you've learned, as Paul instructed Timothy?



Be The Church

STEP 4C

The call to "Be The Church" is a challenge to live out our faith actively, reflecting Christ's love, truth, and mission in our daily lives. The Church is not merely a building but the body of believers united in purpose to glorify God and serve others.

Let's explore what it means to embody the Church through our actions, relationships, and devotion to God's mission.

1. The Church as the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:27

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

2. Called to Love and Serve

John 13:34-35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

3. Equipped for Good Works

Ephesians 2:10

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

4. Proclaiming the Gospel

Matthew 28:19-20

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

5. Living in Unity

Ephesians 4:3-6

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

Being the Church means living as a community of believers who actively demonstrate Christ's love, share the Gospel, and work together to fulfill God's purposes.

Acts 2:42-47

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

The early Church modeled devotion, generosity, and community, showing us how to live as the Church today.

Colossians 3:16-17

"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

1. Based on 1 Corinthians 12:27 and Ephesians 4:3-6, what does it mean to you to be part of the "body of Christ"? How can you contribute to the unity and mission of the Church in your daily life?
2. John 13:34-35 emphasizes that love is the defining mark of Christ's disciples. In what practical ways can you show Christ-like love to others, and how does this reflect the Church's identity to the world?
3. According to Ephesians 2:10, God has prepared good works for us to do. Can you share an example of a time when you felt called to serve or help someone? How can we better recognize and act on the opportunities God provides to "be the Church"?
4. Matthew 28:19-20 gives the Great Commission to make disciples. What are some challenges you face in sharing your faith, and how can the Church (as a community) support one another in fulfilling this mission?
5. Matthew 5:14-16 and Acts 2:42-47 describe the Church as a visible, active community that draws others to God. What are some ways your local church or small group can shine as a "light" in your community? How can you personally contribute to this effort?

