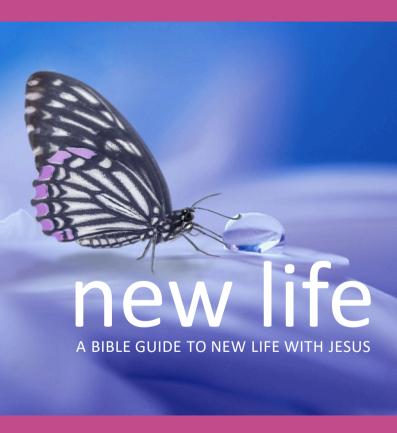
THE LIFE SERIES



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First edition 2020, reprinted 2023.

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KINGDOM | ACADEMY





If you've already read the book, **life**, and responded to its message, then this **new life** booklet is for you!

Discover some powerful truths about living your **new life** — with the help of Jesus.

new life

A BIBLE GUIDE TO NEW LIFE WITH JESUS

LOVE



FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. John 3:16

Wow, you've just read the most famous verse in the Bible! Its message is clear: God loves us and His invitation to eternal life is for everyone - whoever believes in Jesus.

Twice in the Bible God is simply described as *love*. It is His overwhelming characteristic. *God is love* (1 John 4:8 & 4:16). The sacrifice of Jesus was a demonstration of His love for us even while we were still messed up! (Romans 5:8). We live in a world where people are looking for love. They might just settle for a little romance or some affection. Know, today, that *GOD LOVES YOU* with an everlasting love, a love proven by sacrifice.

- A love that wipes the slate clean
- A love that allows for new beginnings
- A love that gives us direct access to God

JOY



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS. I WILL SAY IT AGAIN: REJOICE! Philippians 4:4

When the apostle Paul wrote those words he was actually in prison for his faith. In just four chapters he uses the related words joy, joyful and rejoice 14 times!

Christianity is joyful! We can see this in Luke 15 where Jesus shares three stories, all of which conclude with a party. The moment anyone opens their heart to Jesus, deciding to change their ways and follow Him, a party breaks out in heaven. Heaven is a joyful place and, when you become a Christian, that joy overflows into your heart. Paul put it like this:

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Note the last line – *overflowing with thankfulness* – such joy.

MEM



YOU ARE A NEW CREATION IN JESUS CHRIST. THE OLD HAS GONE, THE NEW HAS COME. 2 Corinthians 5:17

A new creation – that's how
the Bible describes a Christian.
Imagine the difference between a
caterpillar and a butterfly, that's quite an
extraordinary change. When you say "Yes" to Jesus,
the Creator of all things – re-creates you!

In Genesis 1, the world was formless and empty until God spoke. Every time God created something, He said that it was 'good', until He created humanity, which He said was 'very good'. Therefore, we can be assured that whatever God creates is either good or *very* good. No matter how we saw ourselves before, in Christ we're new.

What if you're not sure you've said "Yes" to Jesus, or what if you don't feel like God's created you anew? Don't worry, over the next two pages you'll get a chance to talk with God about these things.

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Now you're a butterfly, you can't live like a caterpillar.

If you've already made the decision to follow Jesus, and have welcomed Him into your life – then smile and tell Him how thankful you are.

Thank You Jesus for rescuing me.
Thank You for dying on the cross for me.
Thank You that I'm forgiven, accepted and loved.
Thank You, that You, and You alone, have the power
to break old habits, bring freedom to my life and
joy to my thoughts and actions.
Thank You Jesus!

If you haven't made that decision yet, or you're not sure, then why not talk to God about it now? You can open your heart to Jesus, or make a re-commitment. Use the words of the prayer opposite to help you find the right language.

A prayer for a new start with Jesus.

Lord Jesus, I recognise that I have sinned and done things that have hurt You and others.

I am willing to turn away from what is wrong in my life and follow You.

I believe You died on the cross for me so that my sins can be forgiven and we can become friends.

I ask You today, Jesus, come into my life.

I receive You as my Lord and Saviour.

Place Your Holy Spirit within me, clean me, mend me and help me to follow You all my days.

Please write my name in Your holy Book of Life and never delete it. Amen.

as seen by **COD**



JESUS SAID, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE." John 14:6

Being a Christian is walking in that new way. Experiencing that *new life* with God as we hear His truths spoken over us.

A philosopher from the Old Testament wrote, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue," Proverbs 18:21. We probably know from personal experience how damaging our words and the words of others can be. They have the power to hurt, belittle and discourage. Alternatively, God's words bring life, they celebrate His love for us. We need to embrace His truth about us, in order to see

ourselves *as God truly sees us*.

These two pages cover three key aspects of our new life in Christ, we are *accepted*, *secure* and *significant*. Many people chase after these things, yet in Christ – they're automatically part of our 'salvation bundle'. We need to embrace what God says about us as truth, as Jesus said:

JOHN 8:32
You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.

Keep the following truths close by you, read them often, believe them always.

The following words are based on the 'IN CHRIST POSTCARD' from Freedom in Christ (@Neil Anderson)

Accepted:

I reject the lie that I am worthless, unloved, dirty, or shameful — because in Jesus I am completely ACCEPTED.

God says that:

- 1. I am Jesus's friend (see John 15:15)
- 2. I have direct access to God through the Holy Spirit (see Ephesians 2:18)
- I have been forgiven of all my sins (see Colossians 1:14)
- 4. I am God's child (see John 1:12)

Secure:

I reject the lie that I am guilty, unprotected, alone, or abandoned — *because in Jesus I am totally SECURE*.

God says that:

- I am free forever from condemnation (see Romans 8:1-2)
- 2. I cannot be separated from the love of God (see Romans 8:35-39)
- I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind (see 2 Timothy 1:7)
- 4. I am born of God and the Evil One cannot touch me (see 1 John 5:18)

Significant:

I reject the lie that I am worthless, inadequate, helpless, or hopeless because in Jesus I am deeply SIGNIFICANT.

God says that:

- I am the salt and light of the world (see Matthew 5:13-14)
- 2. I am a person, empowered by the Spirit of God to witness about Christ (see Acts 1:8)
- 3. I am a temple of God's presence (see 1 Corinthians 3:16)
- 4. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me! (see Philippians 4:13)

GOD'S presence



The simplest way to be in God's Presence is through prayer. Prayer allows us to engage with God wherever we are – to both speak and listen to Him.

Being in God's Presence is all about increasing our awareness of Him in everyday events.

- Giving Thanks for a parking slot, for food, for friendships...
- Conversational Prayers learn to talk with God. In those 'between moments' such as walking upstairs, waiting for the kettle to boil, leaving your car/bike and walking to the house or shop.
- God Moments set the alarm on your phone to have 10 minutes with God during the day, or set multiple vibrate alarms to remind your head & heart to praise Him for 20 seconds! Go on – it will be fun!

However you choose to spend time with God – *just don't be boring!*

GOD'S family



GOD SETS THE LONELY IN FAMILIES Psalm 68:6

From the opening chapters of the Bible God designed us to be in community – just like Him and the mystery of the Trinity. From Adam and Eve to God establishing the twelve tribes of Israel; from Jesus and His disciples to the ever expanding church – God's heart is for community.

What do you think of when someone says, "Church"?

A building? An old building? Childhood memories? Bad memories? Perhaps painful memories?

The word *church* literally means *gathering*, therefore church is the people, not the building. We gather around Jesus. Jesus is the focus in prayer, praise and teaching. We call this fellowship, which is just a technical word for *friendship*. So church is about people, hopefully friends, that have Jesus in common; and like Jesus, church ought to be a safe and healing place — a place of love and support.

I encourage you to find and meet other believers.



library

THE GOSPELS



YOUR WORD IS A LAMP FOR MY FEET. A LIGHT ON MY PATH, Psalm 119:105

"God has a library?" Yes, the word bible is the Latin word for books or library. When we talk about the words of God, we're talking about the Bible - a collection of 66 books, arranged like a library, with different writers but inspired by the same Author.

We could liken the Bible to a user's handbook. Though it's not actually set out like a textbook. Oh, and don't worry that you might not understand it all. There are obvious bits and less obvious bits, but that's part of its purpose. It's designed to encourage the reader to engage with the Author – when you open the Bible, both pray and read. God is still relational, engage with His Presence.

The Bible is there to teach us about God, the beauty of our salvation and how we ought to behave. Why not download a Bible App, checkout some different translations and then get a hard copy for yourself so you can underline bits and make it your own! Try starting

with *James* (only 5 chapters) and then *Mark* (Jesus's earthly ministry).



What's next? This booklet was deliberately designed with 7-sections so that the material can be accessed again (and again...) over a 7-day period, in order for these key biblical truths to nurture our Christian character. If you choose to read the booklet again, include the additional Bible readings suggested below under each section heading.







John 4:1-42



AS SEEN BY GOD

Just return to pages 13 & 14 - there's already plenty of truths listed there.



Exodus 33



Acts 2:42-47



Psalm 19.7-11



Find more resources for your Christian development at the Kingdom Academy.

www.kingdomacademy.info

There are also books by **Simon Rennie**.



LIFE SERIES



Discover true life for yourself and for others with this little booklet.

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