

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY OF GOD

A Spiritual Guide for New Christians

When you welcome Jesus Christ into your life, you received a new identity

YOU HAVE A NEW FATHER

Regardless of how you were born, or what you have faced in Life, God Almighty is now your new father.

He is God to the world, but a father to you. And He is proud of you. *1 John 3:1-2a*

YOU HAVE A NEW NATURE.

Though you still have the same body (i.e. physically speaking nothing has changed) inside, you now have a completely new personality (i.e. a new spirit in Christ Jesus) created with the nature and Life of God {Gk Zoë} No matter what the worst sin is that you ever committed, the blood of Jesus has washed it all away. You are no longer the same. *II Corinthians 5:17*

YOU HAVE THE SPIRIT OF GOD

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. When you accepted Jesus Christ, He came to live in you. *John 14: 16-17*. The Holy Spirit is in you to enable you live your life for God.

YOU HAVE THE WORD OF GOD

The Bible is the Word of God. The Bible is the most important book you will ever read because the Bible is God speaking directly to you. One word from God's word can permanently change your life. To get the most out of your Bible, you must commit to reading it daily. Just like eating food daily, bible study helps you grow spiritually. *Matthew 4:4, John 15:7*.

YOU ARE FREE FROM SATAN'S POWER.

God sent Jesus to defeat Satan on the cross on your behalf. You are now free from his control. Did you know that? *Colossian 1:13*. God is not planning to deliver you. He has already done so. Many Christians remains Satan's Victim because they do not know that Jesus has already set them free. There is no reason to fear him anymore. *1 John 4:4*

The Holy Spirit in you, is greater than any Demonic Power. Boldly declare for example, greater is He that is in me than any evil or sickness, curses etc, targeted against me. *Luke 10:19*.

YOU NEED FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS

Your Life as a new Christian is like a hot piece of coal. If left by itself, it slowly grows cold. But when joined with other pieces of hot coal, it stays hot. In the same way, you too need to fellowship with other Christians to stay hot.

Fellowship means attending church services. You also need to make available yourself for service in church where you are and also to make Christian friends. As the return of Jesus draws nearer the need for fellowship is even greater. The Bible says, *Hebrew 10:25*.

HOW TO FIND A GOOD ASSEMBLY/CHURCH

Ask God to guide you to your church. When you find it, become a full member. Join a ministry or department. Support your church with all that you have: Time, Money, Talent, etc God will bless you for doing so. *Matthew 6:33*.

Remember there is no perfect Church, however all healthy churches have some things in common. They give God's word first place above traditions and doctrines of men. *Matthew 15:1-9; Colossians 1:9-10.*

HOW TO HANDLE PERSECUTION?

Your new life as a believer may not always be easy. You may be persecuted because you accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Some of this mistreatment may even come from your family members and close friends or may be at work.

The harassment may be so intense that you may be sent out of your home or even lose your job. Don't let this shock you. That is a normal part of the Christian life. *John 15:20.*

WHY PERSECUTION COMES

Your real persecutor is not the people you see. It is the Devil. *Ephesians 6:12.* He is persecuting you through people who must have yielded themselves to him. They are mere instruments in his hands. The reason is to discourage you and cause you to turn back to your former life. Do not be afraid. You are not alone (*1 John 4:4*) God is with you.

WHAT TO DO WHEN PERSECUTION COMES.

When persecution comes, refuse to hate those who persecute you. (*Matthew 5:43-46*). That is what Satan wants you to do. Always pray for them. Be kind to them. Ask God daily for wisdom on how to relate in love with your persecutors. Find a mature Christian to confide in or tell your pastor. *Matthew 5:11-12.*

Remember this promise: When you are persecuted, God will not let anything come your way beyond what you can handle. *1 Corinthians 10:13.*

Finally,

YOU HAVE TO BE PRAYERFUL.

Jesus usually got up very early in the morning to pray. You too need your quiet place at home to pray daily.

Set aside a specific time especially in the morning for this. Always ensure to pray the word of God. I.e. look for promise in the Bible that is relevant to your need and bring the same word to God in prayer. And always pray to God the father in the name of Jesus. *John 16:23-24*

When you see a contrary situation in your life, it is not time to pray to God because he is not the one bringing those situations. Remember, His thought towards you is of peace and not of evil, hence, simply exercise your authority against Satan and his cohorts. *Luke 10:19, John 14:13-14, Ephesians 6:12.*

And the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:7*

Please write to us and let us know about your new life in Christ Jesus.