


COVENANT LIFE CHURCH

STARTING POINT

SEVEN DAYS OF DEVOTION





“Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation:
the old has gone, the new has come!”

2 Corinthians 5:17



Introduction

What is Starting Point?

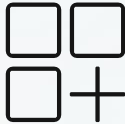
Starting Point is a seven-day devotional designed to help you understand salvation and how to develop a meaningful relationship with God. Each day you will have a short devotional and scriptures to read, along with reflection questions to record where you are in your life and relationship with God. Your reflections will help you on your journey.

What happens after I complete the Starting Point seven-day devotional series?

Upon completion of this devotional series, you will have an opportunity to learn about the Next Steps offered at Covenant Life Church. Connecting to the church community is vital for your spiritual growth and we would love to get to know you. We believe it's in the context of authentic relationships where life change happens and where we can all find true freedom in our salvation!

Ready to get Started?

Take time for the most significant change of your life. Every day set aside some time to read and reflect on the daily devotionals.



Email us at **info@clckilleen** and let us know that you began your journey, so we can help you through these next stages.

OR



Text a Christian friend and let them know you need a partner to walk you through this time.

DAY. 01

01



**WHAT JUST
HAPPENED
TO ME?**

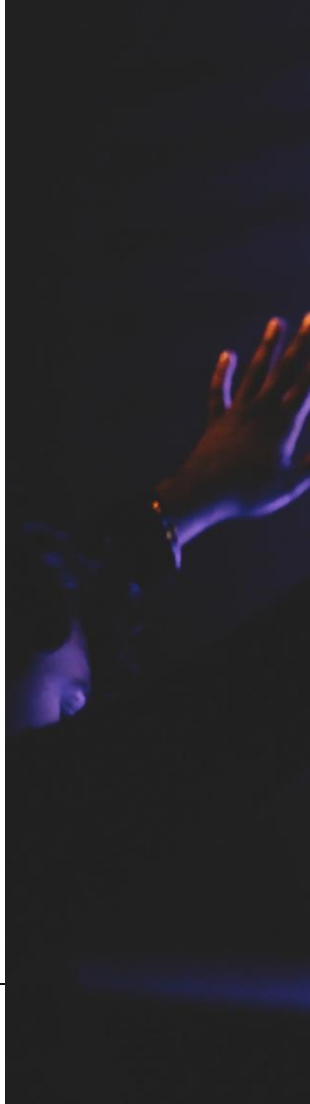
An Explanation
of Salvation

Congratulations on making the most important decision of your life: Joining the family of God!

We want to come alongside you for the next seven days to help you understand what just happened when you gave your heart to the Lord.

“If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” **Romans 10:9 (NIV)**

When you confessed with your words that Jesus is your Lord and Savior, God started a transformation in you. Because God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sins, when you received Him into your heart and outwardly stated that you believe in Him, God made you brand new! That means not only have your sins been forgiven, but your past is erased. God looks at you as a new creation and His righteousness is now placed in you. Rejoice, you have been given a fresh start!





“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”

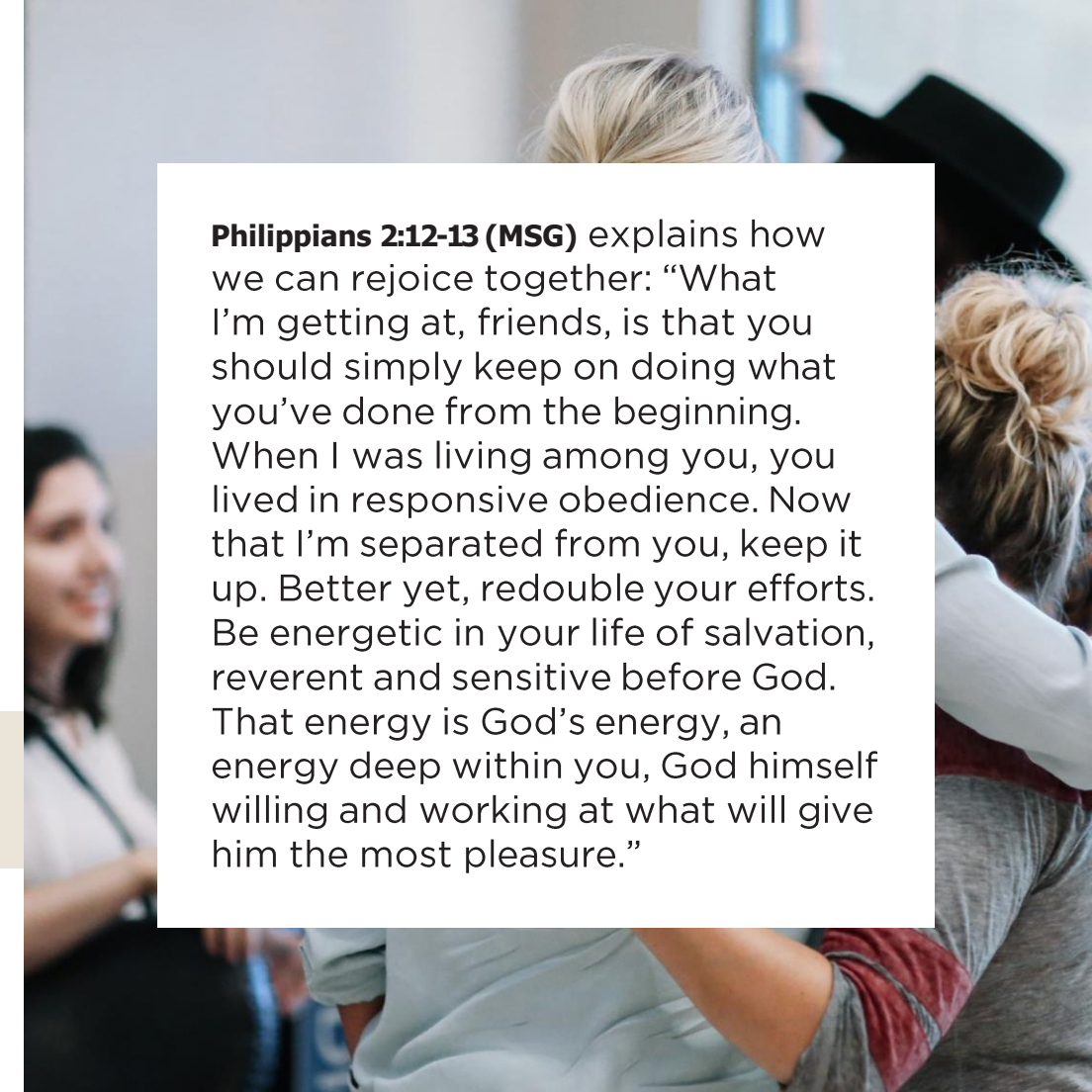
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

“Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:12 (NIV)

Jesus, the Son of God, lived on this Earth and sacrificed Himself on the cross so we could all experience salvation. What is simple for us, was not simple for Jesus. He did everything He could, including dying for us, to provide salvation. All we have to do is believe and say a simple prayer, and walk it out.

What does it mean to walk out your salvation daily?



Philippians 2:12-13 (MSG) explains how we can rejoice together: “What I’m getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you’ve done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I’m separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is God’s energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure.”



God loves us so much and was willing to pay the price for our sins. He explains His forgiveness as removing our sins, or our mistakes, as far away as the east is from the west. You can calculate the distance between the North Pole and the South Pole. However, you cannot calculate the distance from the east to the west. It is infinite. There is no beginning and no end. He removed our sins far away from us by an infinite distance!



Psalm 103:11-12 (NIV) “For as high as the Heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.” (Read all of Psalm 103 to grasp how much God really loves us!)

Did You Know:

The distance between the North Pole and the South Pole is 12,430 miles? It would take 25 hours and 22 minutes to fly on a commercial aircraft to travel that distance.

God wants you to live your best, most purposeful life in His family. Giving your life to Jesus is the best choice you could ever make!

Reflection

What are some areas of your life where you are thankful God's love is so deep for you that He separates you from your sins?

Ask Him for forgiveness for all the times you've messed up. Ask Him to send His Spirit to guide you and give you an internal instinct to make choices aligned with His plan and purpose for your life.

Read John 1:12, Romans 10:9, Philippians 2:12-13 and Psalm 103:11-12. Use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you.

DAY. 02

02



**BECOMING
A NEW
CREATION**

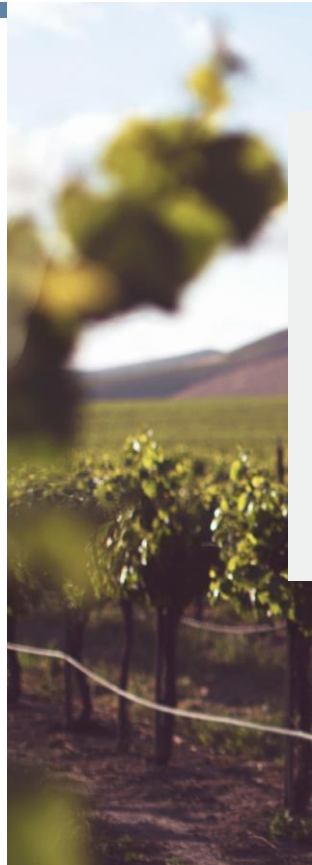
It Takes Time
to Produce Fruit

Jesus came to Earth as a human,

as flesh and blood, to live for you, die for you, and rise again on the third day for you. He lived a full life, from childhood to young adulthood on Earth. His ministry and miracles He performed did not mature overnight from birth, but through His own growing process.

It takes time to produce fruit. In the Bible, the word fruit is often used to describe a person's outward actions that result from the condition of the heart. So, when we talk about producing fruit, we are talking about the results of our actions.

Most times we talk about the good fruit, or the good results we want, from our hard work, our dedication, or our sacrifices made. But we must also be aware that we can produce bad fruit, or bad results from poor choices, or lack of preparation, etc. Understanding how our actions affect our results will help us understand the type of fruit we produce living a life with God.



Did You Know:

In the California vineyards, it takes three years for a vine to become viable, or able to produce grapes that can be harvested for wine. For the first three years, the farmers do not harvest grapes for wine. Instead, they dispose of them and clip, or dress, the vines each year so the new growth produces a new harvest of grapes. After three years, the roots of the vines have grown deep enough for the vine to be enriched by the nutrients in the soil and to produce grapes that are worthy to be harvested to make wine.



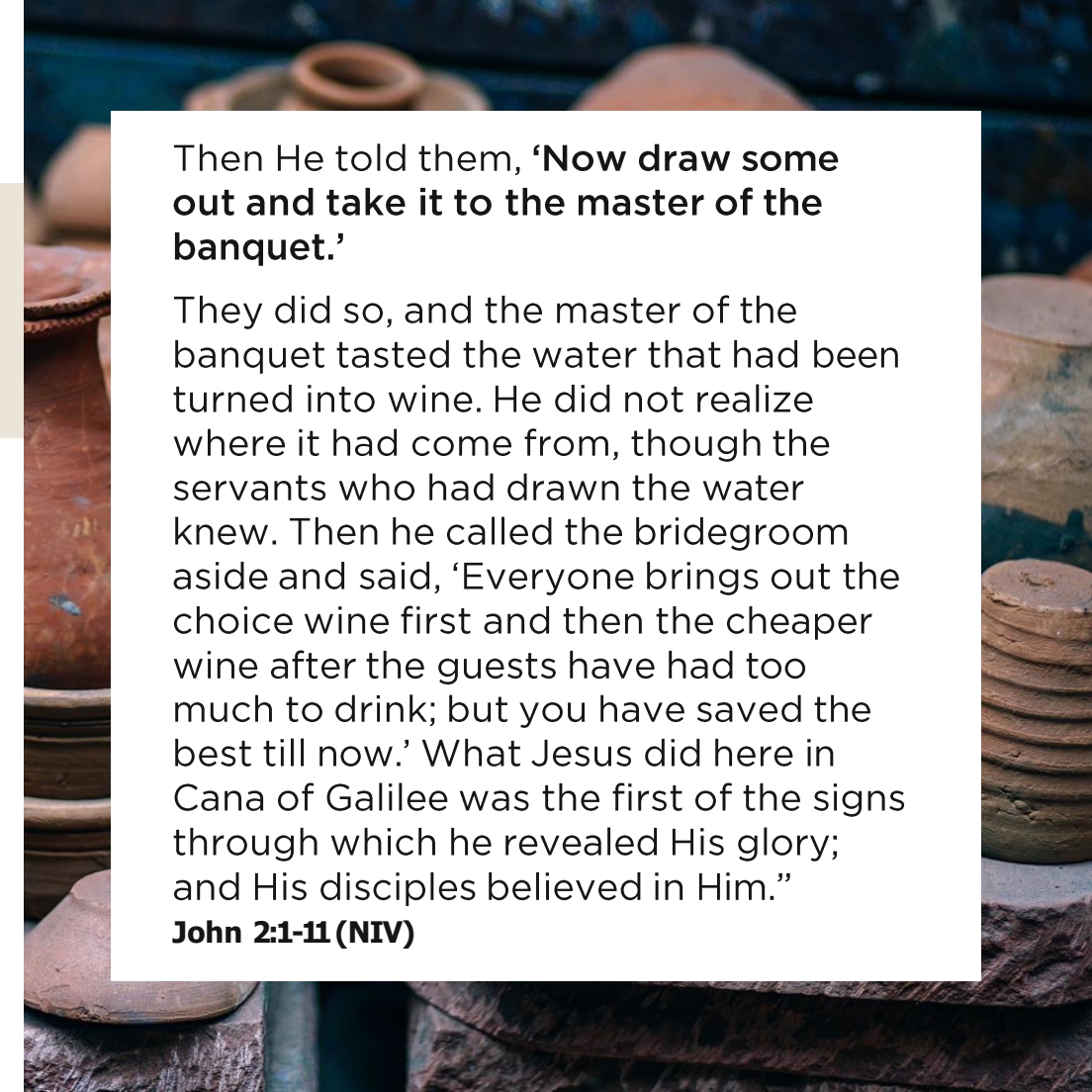
“On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, and Jesus and His disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to Him, ‘They have no more wine.’

‘Woman, why do you involve me?’ Jesus replied. ‘My hour has not yet come.’

His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever He tells you.’

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

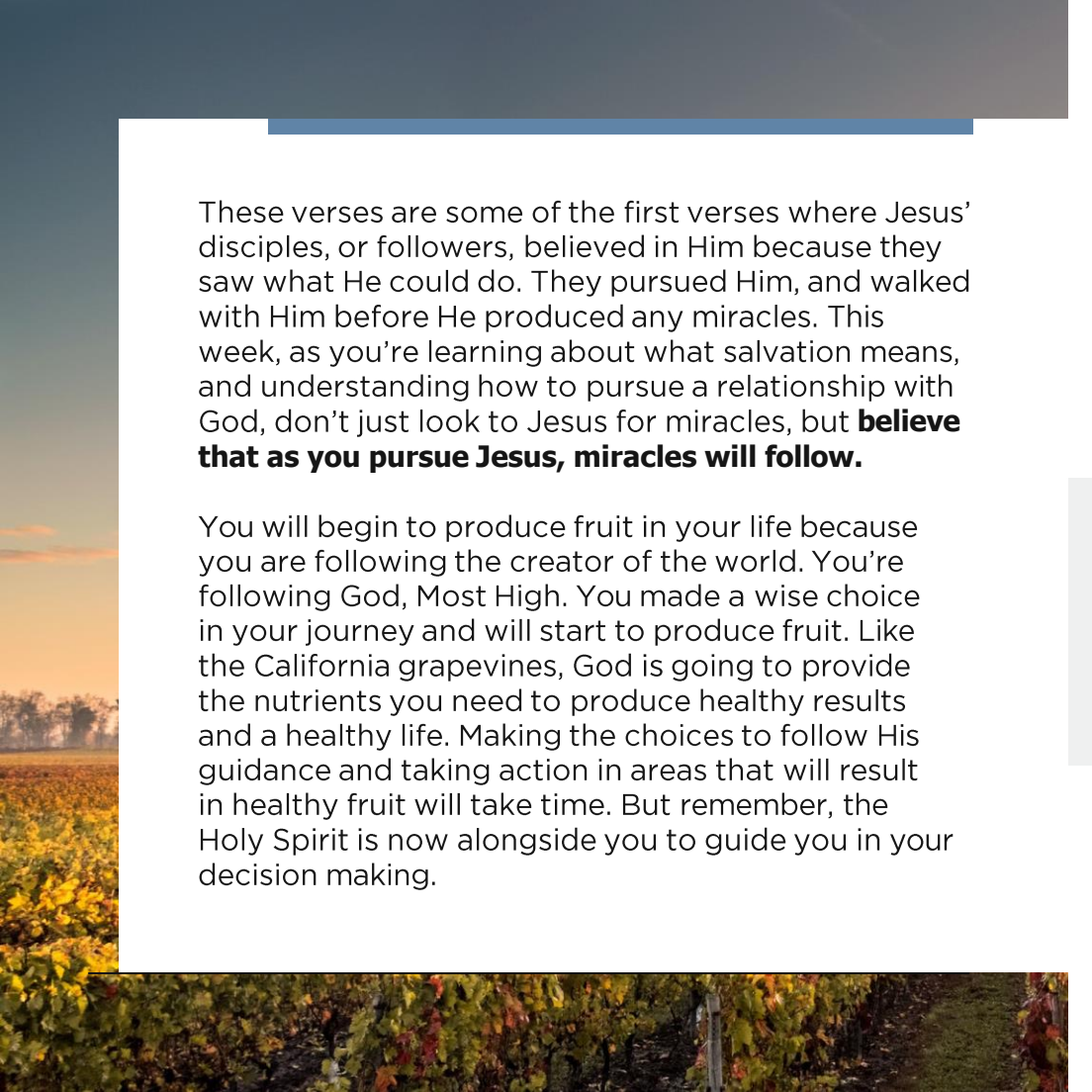
Jesus said to the servants, **‘Fill the jars with water;’** so they filled them to the brim.



Then He told them, ‘**Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.**’


They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, ‘Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.’ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.”

John 2:1-11 (NIV)



These verses are some of the first verses where Jesus' disciples, or followers, believed in Him because they saw what He could do. They pursued Him, and walked with Him before He produced any miracles. This week, as you're learning about what salvation means, and understanding how to pursue a relationship with God, don't just look to Jesus for miracles, but **believe that as you pursue Jesus, miracles will follow.**

You will begin to produce fruit in your life because you are following the creator of the world. You're following God, Most High. You made a wise choice in your journey and will start to produce fruit. Like the California grapevines, God is going to provide the nutrients you need to produce healthy results and a healthy life. Making the choices to follow His guidance and taking action in areas that will result in healthy fruit will take time. But remember, the Holy Spirit is now alongside you to guide you in your decision making.



Every year the vineyard owner dresses, or prunes, the vines. Jesus said God is the land owner. He is the vine dresser and we are the vine. He prunes that which produces fruit. As you begin to produce fruit, God will manage, direct, and guide you by pruning you. God sometimes says, “Hey good job, you’re doing great!” Clip! And He prunes you, which is good news because He’s guiding you to produce fruit.

As you begin to produce fruit know that:

1. You’re on the right team.
2. You’re following the right word, the Word of God, which is an instruction manual for life.
3. You will produce fruit. You are a new creation in life.

What is the Key to Bearing Good Fruit as a Christian? Good fruit is that which is produced by the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:22 (NIV) gives us a starting place: the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control**. The more you allow the Holy Spirit free rein in your life, the more this fruit is evident!

Reflection

Read the story in John 2:1-11, Jesus Changes Water into Wine.

Jesus attended a wedding in Cana where He performed His first miracle. The servants had run out of wine, which was an important part of weddings in that culture. The result, or fruit, of this miracle was that the servants had plenty of wine for the festivities. Even though Jesus performed the miracle, He gave the servants an opportunity to be a part of it. They were a part of what He was doing; they were a part of His miracle! Because of the faithful obedience of the servants, an entire group of people were blessed with a miracle.

Jesus doesn't want to just perform miracles in your life- He wants you to be a part of them! Have you ever felt like you were waiting on God? You feel as though you have been patient and just don't know when God will come through. Maybe God is waiting on you.

What next step of obedience do you feel God is calling you to take? Use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you.

DAY. 03

03



WHO IS TALKING TO ME?

Learning to Identify
God's Voice

The voice of God is active! Only on a few occasions God spoke audibly to His servants in the Old Testament.

“And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, ‘Jacob! Jacob! Here I am,’ he replied.”

Genesis 46:2 (NIV)

“As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and the voice of God answered Him.”

Exodus 19:19 (NIV)

God audibly spoke in Jesus’ life in scripture, in the New Testament a handful of times.

“And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.’”

Matthew 3:17 (NIV)

“Father, glorify your name! Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.’ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.”

John 12:28-29 (NIV)

“While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!’”

Matthew 17:5 (NIV)

We have occurrences in scripture when God spoke audibly, but God also spoke through His Son and His servants on Earth. He continues to speak through the living Word, the Bible, which is alive and can speak to you today.

A Christian evangelist, Billy Graham, was asked, *in Biblical times, did God speak to people in a voice they could hear? If so, why doesn't He do it today?* He answered, "Yes, on occasion God did speak audibly to some of His servants in the Bible — but only rarely. More often, God gave them an inner conviction of His truth, or made His will clear to them through circumstances. Most often, He made His will clear through the written messages He had given in the past — in other words, through the Bible."

Graham, B. (2010, April 28). Answers.
billygraham.org ©2017 BGEA



God does speak to you in your life! His active voice is a conviction, through prayer, the Bible and circumstances. God sent the Holy Spirit, also known as the Comforter, the One to come alongside you, to direct you, to comfort you, to heal you, and to guide you. He is the active voice of God in our daily lives.

“But when the Father sends the Comforter [in my name]—and by the Comforter I mean the Holy Spirit—he will teach you much, as well as remind you of everything I myself have told you.

John 14:26 (TLB)

KEYS TO HEARING GOD'S VOICE:

1) Give permission for God to speak. Early in the morning, like an exercise to build “muscle memory,” say, **“Holy Spirit, I give you permission, speak to me today. My ears are open to hear you.”**

In **1 Samuel 3**, we read about a boy, Samuel, who was trained in a Tabernacle, which is like the local church of that community. Even though Samuel was trained, when God called out to him at night, Samuel thought it was the High Priest speaking to him. The High Priest realized God was calling out to Samuel and instructed him to go back to sleep and if he heard the voice again to say, **“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”**

Find a quiet place, and give Him permission to speak to you.

2) God speaks life and love. God speaks to convict you, not condemn you. Remember the previous day we talked about how He'll clip, or dress, areas of your life to guide you?

“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.” **John 3:17 (NIV)**

Condemnation, or bad thoughts and negative feelings is not God speaking. He came to redeem with convicting thoughts. When you are in the midst of making a choice, and can feel, or have an inner conviction, what would be right versus wrong, that is the Spirit of God urging you to make the right choice. That is a convicting spirit! There is a difference between God’s voice and other voices, or man’s voice. God speaks life! He speaks love!

3) Go to the Word of God. Be open and ready. He can speak to you directly by speaking through His Word. The Word of God is the expressed breath and voice of God in scripture. It is ordained and amazing! It is the manual for life, or the instruction guide for our life.

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)**

God may also speak to you through another person, prophetically, which is someone sharing something to you. Anytime anything is spoken to you, or you read something online, you can verify it with the scriptures. If it doesn't line up with scripture, take caution about following that direction. Ask God for His conviction and His direction in your life.



Anything prophetic, or a word from God, should line up in these 3 ways:

1. The word should be scriptural declarations that apply to you personally, or your personal life circumstances.
2. Align with scripture.
3. Have an anointing: you may feel something in your heart!

Reflection

Do you already have a daily routine of making time for God to speak? If so, when is it? If you do not, consider setting a reminder on your phone. Make a plan to set aside time every day to ask God to speak to you and tell Him you are open to hearing what He has to say.

How does understanding God's convicting voice, not a condemning voice, sit with you? Have you felt condemned, or guilty of something from your past? Tell God about those feelings. Ask Him for His peace, and conviction to preside over any other thoughts, or voices, you may hear and feel.

Read the following verses and use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you: Genesis 46:2, Exodus 19:19, Matthew 3:17, John 12:28-29, Matthew 17:5, 1 Samuel 3, and John 3:17.



DAY. 04

04



THE WORD BECAME LIFE

How to Read & Apply
the Scriptures

Following up from Day 3's discussion about hearing from God, Day 4 is about practical application. We want to encourage you to make reading God's Word, the Bible, a priority in your everyday life. God gave us the Bible to be the guide and instruction manual on how we should live. As discussed on Day 3, this is also how He can speak to you.

Reading the Word is the best way to know more about who God is and what He says about you and your life.

The Bible is the living word of God and it applies to our daily lives!

“For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)



Quote:

“The Hebrew language is not a precise mathematical language. It is alive. It desires to be known. It dares you to chase after it, pursue it and immerse yourself within it. So do not take it lightly. Spend time with it. Get to know it. It is complex and mysterious and deserves your time.

What does the word *living* really mean? Christopher Abel answered it like this, ‘Like most living things, it wants deeply to be known. When you read God’s Word, what is taking place is more than just a one-way “study” from person to object. Instead, God’s Word is indeed living as God moves it to work in your life—and make you more like Him.’”

relevantmagazine.com ©2015 RELEVANT Media Group

Are you starting to sense a pattern from what you've read so far? Make time, make space, be patient, engage! God desires you to be in a relationship with Him, to spend time with Him, and to know Him. Just as we plan meetings, appointments, and daily tasks, plan time in your day to read your Bible.

Ultimately, we give time to the things that we love. So pray and ask God that you would have a love for His Word, that would then create in you a desire to make time for it. You'll be amazed what you discover about God and about yourself!

Make time to read your Bible by making time in your schedule.



Tips for reading the Bible:

Read a daily devotional that provides some context and guidance for scriptures to read that day. There are hundreds of published devotionals you can buy at your local bookstore from Christine Caine, Joyce Meyer, John Maxwell, Sarah Young, Max Lucado, and many more.

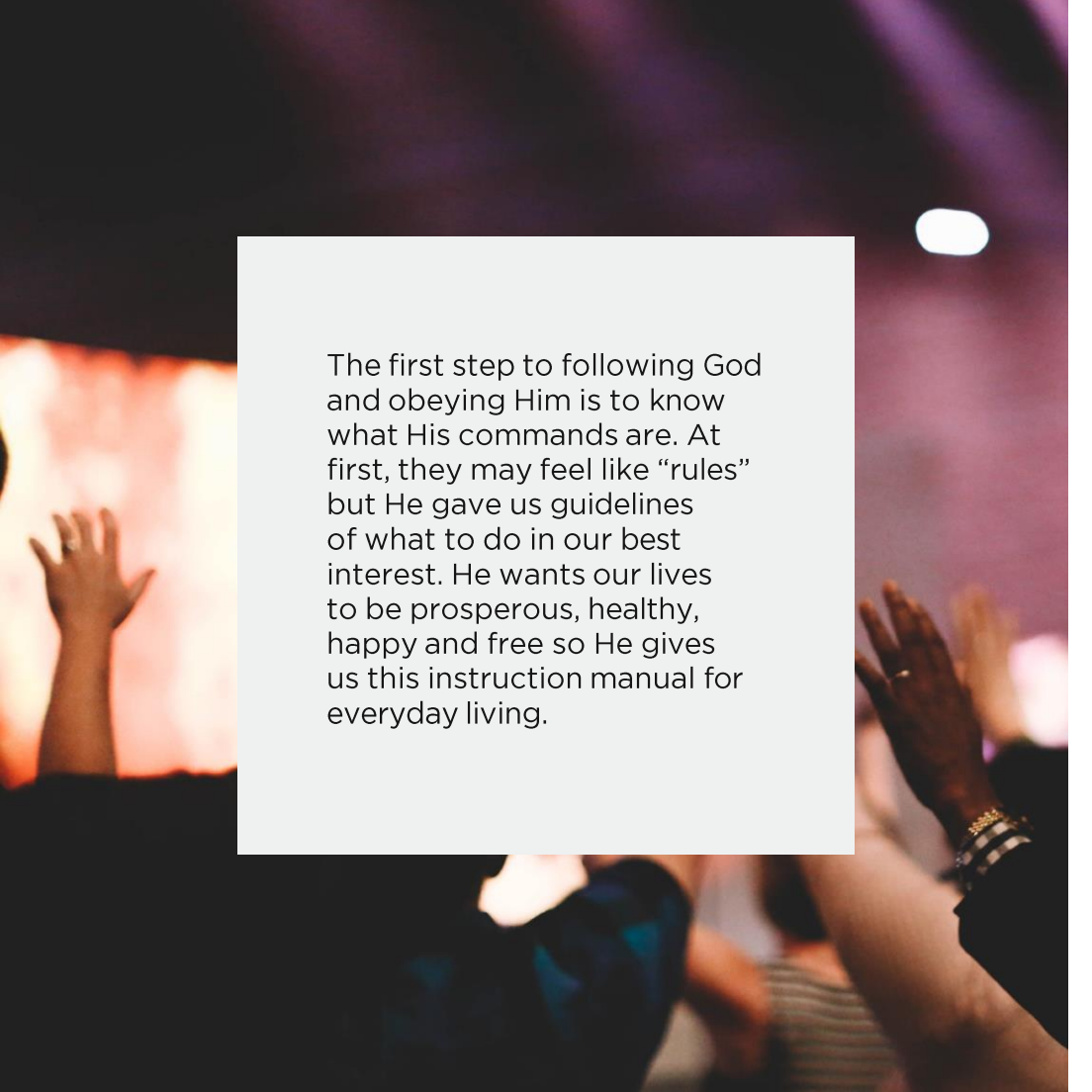
Download a Bible app on your smartphone, or tablet. We recommend YouVersion, which includes the full text in over 1,400 versions and over 1,000 languages. The YouVersion app also includes thousands of devotionals that are updated daily. They are organized by categories such as: new to faith, marriage, prayer, forgiveness, fasting, leadership, work, etc.

Read something, even if it's just a daily verse every day, and think about how it can apply to your life!

It is so important to God that we are communicating with Him. Prayer is telling Him what we need and want; what is on our heart and mind. Reading the Bible is hearing from Him: what we need for our lives, what we should do, and how we should act, speak and live. **Reading the Bible also allows Him to tell you how much He loves you!**

“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

John 14:15-21 (NIV)

The background of the image is a blurred photograph of a church service. Several people's hands are visible, raised in prayer or praise. The lighting is warm and soft, with a mix of purple and orange tones. A bright, circular light source is visible in the upper right corner. The overall atmosphere is one of spiritual devotion and community.


The first step to following God and obeying Him is to know what His commands are. At first, they may feel like “rules” but He gave us guidelines of what to do in our best interest. He wants our lives to be prosperous, healthy, happy and free so He gives us this instruction manual for everyday living.

When we live by God's will,
we will be blessed.



God will feel loved by us,
and His love will pour out on us.

Reflection



How do you approach the Bible? Do you approach it with fear or intimidation? Do you analyze it like a textbook? Do you read it like a storybook? Do you speak of it with flowery affection? Do you tiptoe to it like the burning bush, barefoot and humble? However you approach the Bible, is it alive to you? What does that mean to you?

When do you read the Bible? What time of the day works for you? If you haven't set aside time, try setting a daily reminder on your phone. Then take a few moments to stop what you are doing and read the Bible; even if it's reading only one verse at a time on your smartphone!

Read Hebrews 4:12 and John 14:15-23. Use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you.

DAY. 05

05



PRAYER

How, When &
Where to Pray

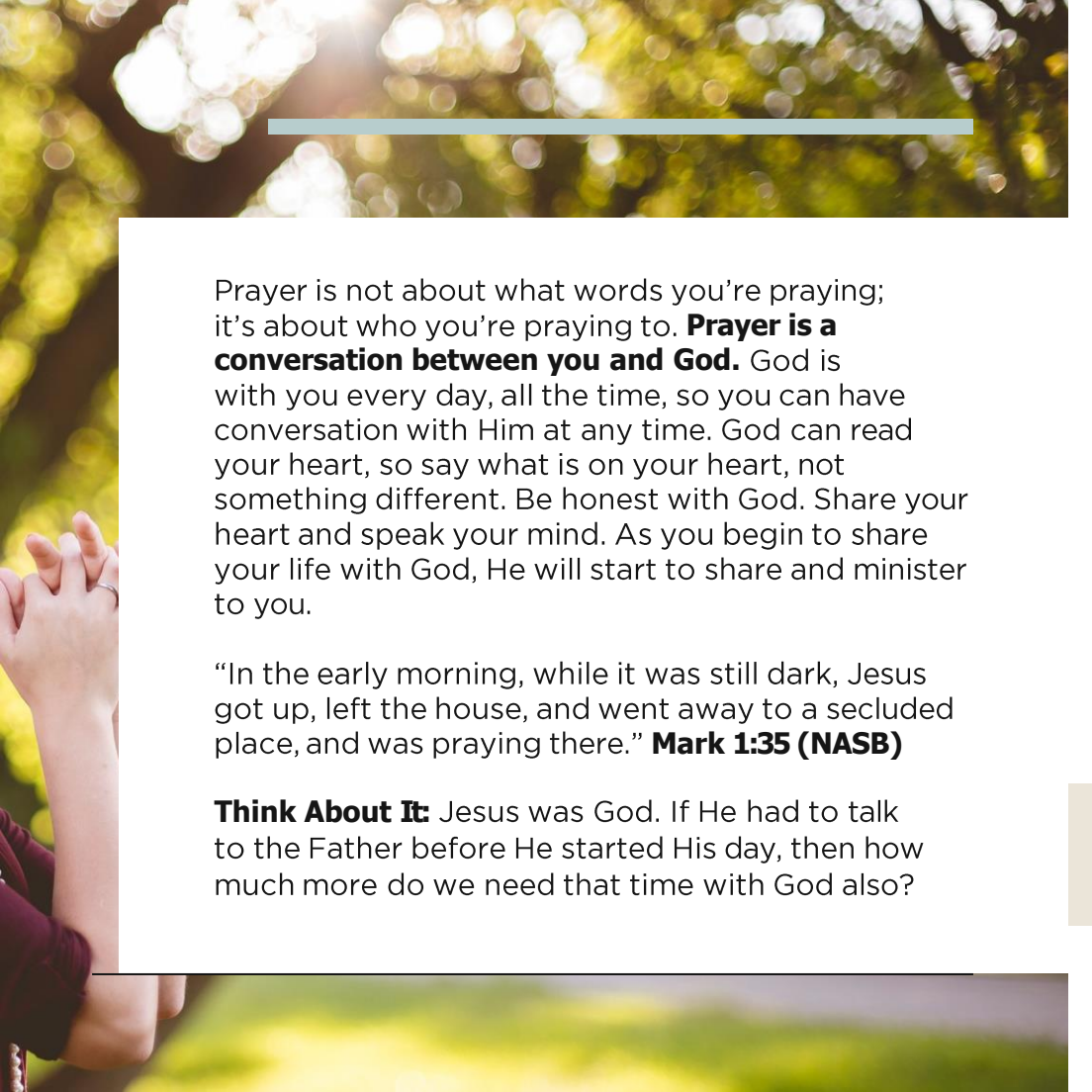
Prayer is an essential element to the Christian walk and relationship with God. Praying in groups is effective and beneficial, but praying on your own is tremendous! Please understand, prayer does not have a set form; nor does it have an exact script.

In John 11, we read one of Jesus' most powerful prayers in scripture. Before He raised Lazarus from the dead, He looked up to the Heavens and said, "Father, I know you hear my prayers, hear me now as evidence to these people." He looked at the tomb and said, "Lazarus, come forth." This is the shortest prayer in scripture and it was so powerful that Lazarus came back from the dead!

“Then Jesus looked up and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.’

When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.”

John 11:41-43 (NIV)



Prayer is not about what words you're praying; it's about who you're praying to. **Prayer is a conversation between you and God.** God is with you every day, all the time, so you can have conversation with Him at any time. God can read your heart, so say what is on your heart, not something different. Be honest with God. Share your heart and speak your mind. As you begin to share your life with God, He will start to share and minister to you.

“In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there.” **Mark 1:35 (NASB)**

Think About It: Jesus was God. If He had to talk to the Father before He started His day, then how much more do we need that time with God also?

How to Pray:

1. Set aside a time to pray and to talk to God.

This can be during your drive to work, while you're cooking breakfast, at the dinner table, or lying in bed at night. It's important to set aside time to be with God every day, no matter what time of the day it is.

2. Say what's on your heart. Remember, there's no perfect script. The only way to truly connect with God is when we are willing to be honest about the areas of our heart that we often avoid.

3. Be still and listen. Prayer is intimacy with God—and that requires that we listen to what's on God's heart in addition to expressing what's on our own.

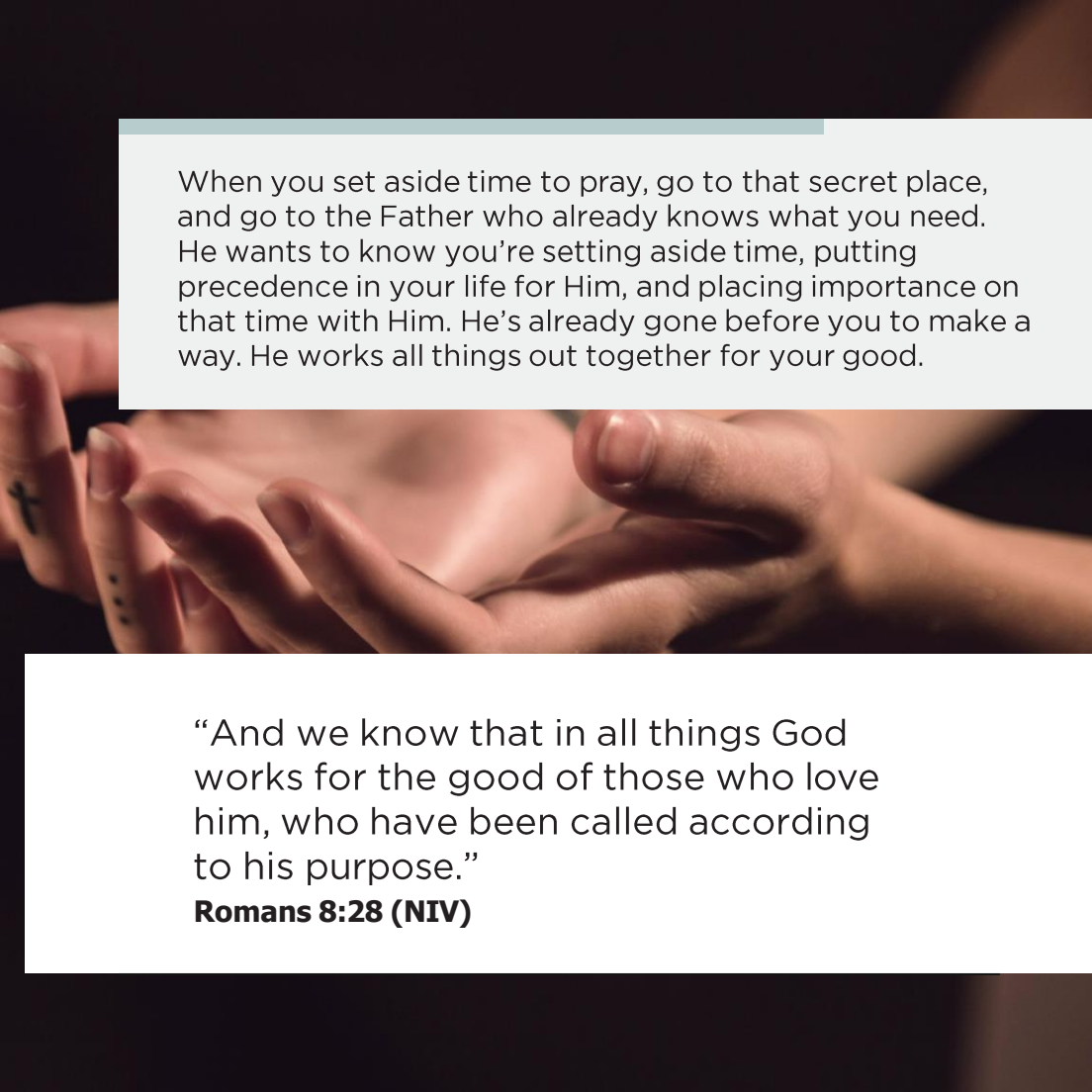
Jesus shares a great example of a prayer called The Lord's Prayer, or The Disciples Prayer, to teach them (and us) how to pray.

The Lord's Prayer

“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.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’”

Matthew 6:9-14 (NIV)



When you set aside time to pray, go to that secret place, and go to the Father who already knows what you need. He wants to know you're setting aside time, putting precedence in your life for Him, and placing importance on that time with Him. He's already gone before you to make a way. He works all things out together for your good.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Reflection

What is on your heart that you are praying for, or need to start praying for? Write down your thoughts, your needs, your prayers. Pray over them. Every once in awhile reflect back on your list of prayers, and thank God for how He has answered them, changed circumstances, or even changed your prayers to be aligned with His will for you!

Try to write your own prayer, using this line-by-line guide to help you construct your words to Him.

Here is the Lord's Prayer, explained line-by-line:

Our Father in Heaven, (Start your prayer off praying to God)
hallowed be Your name, (Holy is God, you're addressing that God is Almighty)

Your kingdom come,

Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. (You are asking for God's ways to be done)

Give us today our daily bread. (You're asking God to provide what you need for today)

And forgive us our debts, (You're asking for forgiveness for your mistakes)

as we also have forgiven our debtors. (If we forgive others, God will forgive us. Sometimes we need help forgiving those who have hurt us.)

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. (Ask God for help to do the right thing and protect us from evil).

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. (Heaven will last forever and we will always be God's! God has all the power and glory!)


Read John 11:41-43, Matthew 6:9-14, and Romans 8:28. Use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you.

DAY. 06

06



**OLD FRIENDS
&
NEW FRIENDS**



When you become a new member of God's family, things in your life may change, or shift. Some things may be new to you. This is completely normal, healthy, and all within God's plan for you. We've discussed a lot so far about the time it takes to see results, to experience miracles, and to grow your relationship with God.


When you accepted salvation, God began to work in you. In fact, His convicting Spirit may have already persuaded you to make some different choices, break some habits or behaviors that you've grown accustomed to, or even to make some friend changes. But don't worry, changes can be good. While you may feel lonely, or even afraid, trust that God will place relationships in your life for your personal growth and best interest. As you grow in Him, you will begin to make new friends who are like-minded, who can encourage you and build you up when you need it.



Have you heard the phrase, “*Show me your friends and I’ll show you your future?*” This is actually a biblical concept.

“Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.”

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)



Chaplain Ronnie Melancon states, “An old Jewish proverb says: ‘A friend is one who warns you.’ Fools don’t do that. They’re caught up in themselves, but a true friend is caught up in YOU. Again, a true friend is one who warns you.

Friendship is on the decline.

We are more connected and yet more isolated than at any other time in history.

We’ve traded:

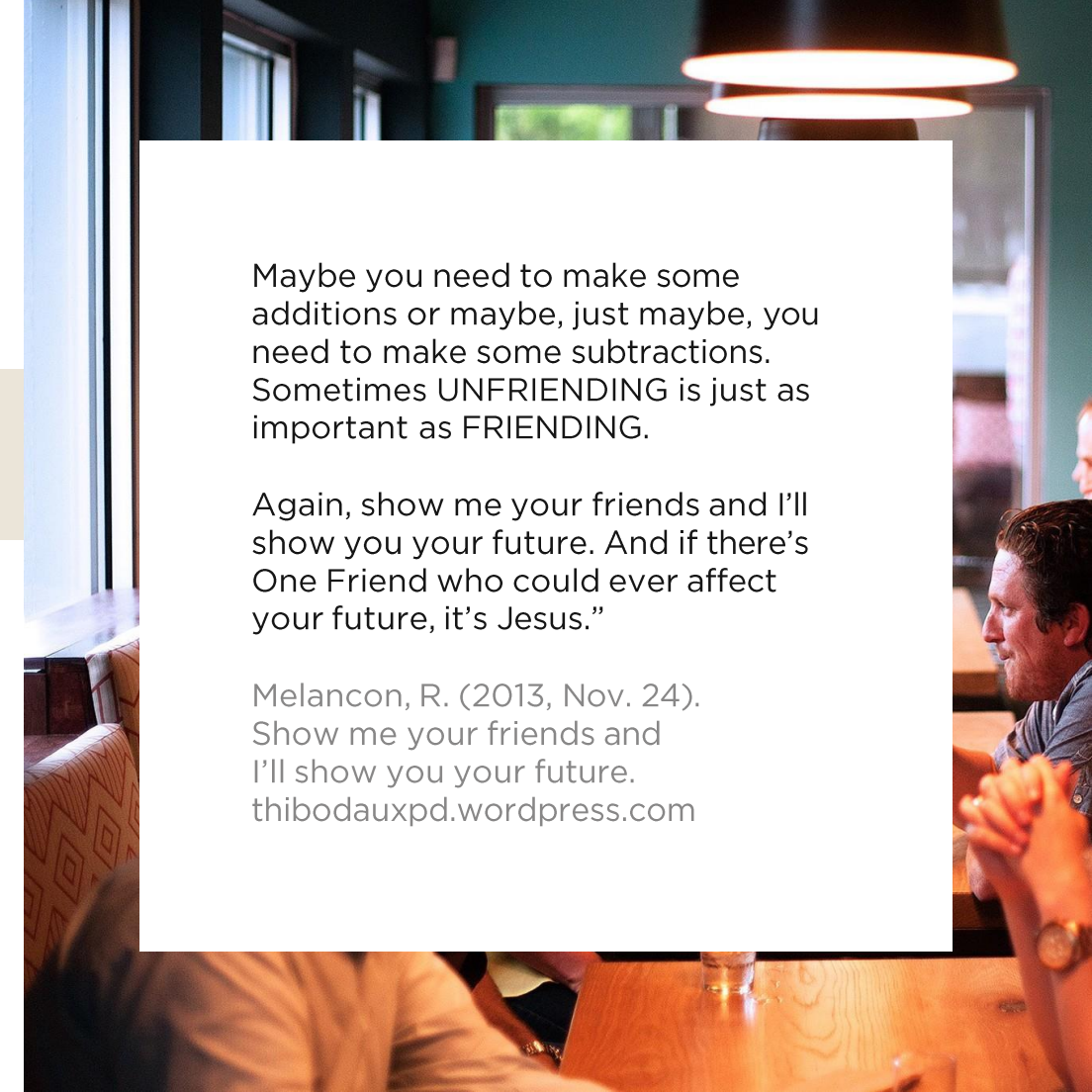
Trust for ‘Tweets’

Smiles for ‘Statuses’

Love for ‘Likes’

Conversations for ‘Comments.’

‘A friend loveth at all times.’ You can have 1,000 people on your newsfeed and have none of them be a true friend. Why? Because ‘a friend loveth at all times.’



Maybe you need to make some additions or maybe, just maybe, you need to make some subtractions. Sometimes UNFRIENDING is just as important as FRIENDING.

Again, show me your friends and I'll show you your future. And if there's One Friend who could ever affect your future, it's Jesus."

Melancon, R. (2013, Nov. 24).
Show me your friends and
I'll show you your future.
thibodauxpd.wordpress.com



There may be some people in your life you just don't want to leave behind, just because they don't think or believe the way that you do. And that's ok. But look at those relationships now with purpose. Begin to encourage them, to bless them, and help them get to the place where you are now.

But there will be people God may remove from your life, and that's ok too. Don't be discouraged! Sometimes God removes people to protect us, to keep us focused, or for His own reasons. But trust that it's all part of His plan and process. In the meantime, encourage those around you and just be yourself. **Be who God has called YOU to be.**




“I have given them the glory that You gave me, that they may be one as we are one - I in them and You in me - so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that You sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

John 17:22-23 (NIV)

As this week is starting to come to an end, we encourage you to stay committed and become engaged and involved in your local church! It's through attending, serving, and being a part of a community of believers that God will work through others and work through you!

We're here for you! We invite you to be a part of our community!

Reflection



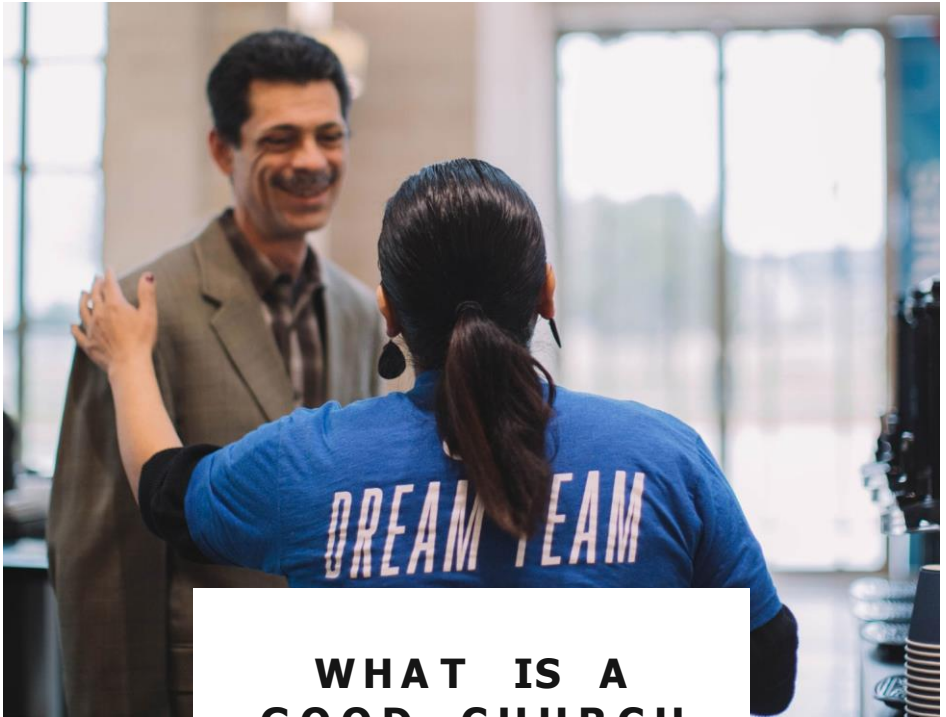
Who has God placed in your life and in your heart to pray for? Make a list. Is there anyone on that list that you need God's help to forgive because they have hurt you, or treated you poorly? Is there anyone on that list that does not know God, or Jesus as their personal savior? Is there anyone on that list that needs encouragement or a true friend? Ask God to show you how to forgive, how to love those who need a touch from Him, and how to encourage those who need it today.

How are you feeling? The first week after salvation can be an emotional roller coaster. We have discussed so many topics this week, yet only scratched the surface of growing and understanding God's love for you! It's with others who want the best for you, who will point you to Jesus, and who will encourage that you continue to grow deeper in your relationship with God.

Read Proverbs 13:20 and John 17:22-23. Use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you.

DAY. 07

07



**WHAT IS A
GOOD CHURCH
LIKE?**

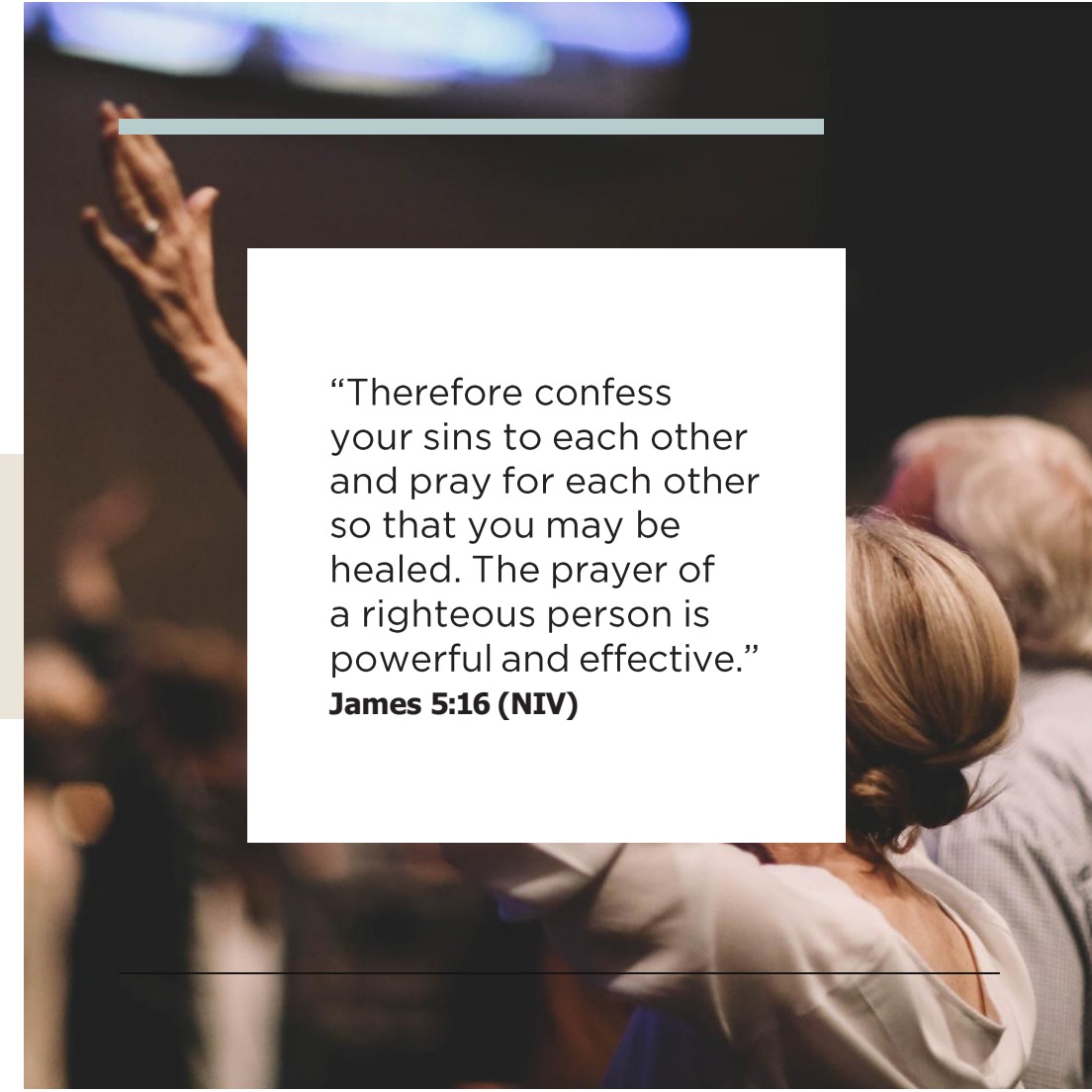
Next Steps

Welcome to the Family! When you are born into Christ, you are born into the Church, a family of believers. The Church is a greater body than the building of your local church. Jesus is the head and we are the body. All those who believe are collectively working together and are a part of the Church. The building is not the Church, it is simply a place believers come together and is a part of the body of Christ.

“Righteous Father, though the world does not know You, I know You, and they know that You have sent me. I have made You known to them, and will continue to make You known in order that the love You have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

John 17:25-26 (NIV)

God desires us to be together. It is essential to surround yourself with like-minded people in order to grow. There will be times when you need a community of believers to believe with you, to pray for you, and to remind you that you are not alone. When we lean on each other for help, there is hope, freedom, breakthrough and healing.



“Therefore confess
your sins to each other
and pray for each other
so that you may be
healed. The prayer of
a righteous person is
powerful and effective.”

James 5:16 (NIV)

Let us help you connect with other believers at Covenant Life Church. We want to help you grow in your spiritual development and equip you to make a difference. God has a plan, a place and a purpose for you in His Church.



Get
Involved!

Our vision at Covenant Life Church is simple: **Know God, Find Freedom, Discover Purpose, and Make a Difference.** Now that you've completed the Starting Point seven-day devotional series, we want to help you find your Next Step on your path of developing your relationship with God.

Know God: Sign up for a Baptism

Baptism is a symbol of your new life as a Christian: to bury the old life and rise up in a new life. This act of faith is meant to show the world that you love, trust and have put your hope in Christ. Baptisms take place throughout the year during services.

Find Freedom: Join a Small Group

As you continue to seek God and walk in His ways, we believe that finding a community is essential to your spiritual journey. It's in the context of authentic relationships where life change happens and where we can all find true freedom in our salvation.

Discover Purpose: Sign up to volunteer

Discover your purpose and live the life God created for you. You will explore the ministry of Covenant Life Church, discover your strengths, develop your personal leadership and prepare to use your God-given gifts. You can volunteer every other week on Sundays.

Make a Difference: Participate in Serving in your community.

No matter where you live, you can have an impact on your community. Get involved in local efforts to share the love and goodness of God with everyone you encounter and be excited about making a difference.

If you would like to get involved, visit a team member at the info desk on Sunday, or email us at info@clckilleen.com to learn more.

Reflection

What is your Next Step in your walk with God? What is your Next Step to get connected to the local church, and in community with other believers?

Write a personal action step (i.e. I am going to set aside 15 minutes at 7:00am every morning to read the Bible on my tablet). Then write a community action step (i.e. I am going to search for a Small Group to join.)

Did You Know: Setting S.M.A.R.T. goals enables you to be successful in obtaining those goals!

S: Specific

M: Measurable

A: Attainable

R: Realistic

T: Timely

S.M.A.R.T. Goal Example: I will connect with someone this Sunday and take the next steps necessary to serve with the First Impressions Team in the lobby!

Read John 17:25-26 and James 5:16. Use the provided space to reflect on what God is speaking to you.

WHICH IT COME BACK



CK TO LIFE



Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day.

Psalm 96:2 (NIV)

NEXT STEPS



BAPTISM

Would you like to be water baptized? Get more information or register for our next Water Baptism.



Get connected with community of like-minded people.
Join a Life Group.

VOLUNTEER

We're never more like the Church than when we are serving.
Get connected with one of our serving teams.

LOCAL MISSION

We're never more like Jesus when we are giving. Look for an area to give of your time and serve to make a difference

For any information in any of these areas contact us
at info@clckilleen.com

STAY CONNECTED WITH COVENANT LIFE CHURCH



CLCKilleen.com



[instagram.com/covlifechurch](https://www.instagram.com/covlifechurch)



[facebook.com/CLCKilleen](https://www.facebook.com/CLCKilleen)



COVENANT LIFE
CHURCH | KILLEEN