

New Believer's Study Course



*Anchored
Fellowship*

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NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 1

SOMETHING TO GROW BY

Asking Jesus Christ into your heart is only the beginning of the Christian life. There is more, **much more** as Romans 5:10 tells us.

You have been born again, but, when you were first born into the world, you didn't start life with a full-grown body. You were just a baby. Well, the Bible tells us that you begin your new spiritual life in exactly the same way. From the time you receive Jesus, you too begin to grow spiritually.

Listed below are four helps to Christian growth. This lesson and those to follow will help you grow in each of these four ways.

1) **BIBLE STUDY**

As your body could not grow big and strong without nourishment, as a Christian you must also have food of the spiritual kind, the Word of God.

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4)

2) **PRAYER LIFE**

Many people don't understand what prayer is all about. It's really just talking to God and letting God talk to you. Prayer builds confidence, hope and a joy in every situation of life. Prayer develops your relationship to Jesus.

"Be careful (anxious) for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6-7)

3) **CHURCH**

When you received Christ you became one of God's children (John 1:12). You need to attend church and have fellowship in the same way a child needs the love and support of his family. That's why God says,

"let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;

but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Heb. 10:25)

4) **WITNESSING**

Witnessing means to tell other people what has happened to you. Now that you’re a Christian and have had your sins forgiven you can tell others the “Good News” of Jesus and what He will do for those who turn their life over to Him! Many verses in these lessons will help you point others to Christ and make you a better witness.

READY TO GO!

Start each study time in prayer. Only God the Holy Spirit is able to “lead you into all truth” (John 16:13). Conversion is the beginning of the new life in Christ. God’s purpose in creating living things is that they grow and develop according to His plan. The new life is described in the Bible as a new creation (II Cor. 5:17). As you follow Jesus your life will become real and exciting for you.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU?

Before beginning your study please read: Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 9:57-62; John 12:16-26; Galatians 5:16-26; Philippians 3:1-11.

Please answer in your words.
Use extra paper if necessary.

- 1) What kind of life does Jesus give to those who trust Him? (John 10:10; 10:28)
- 2) How did Jesus save you? (Romans 8:3)
- 3) How do I confirm my own salvation? (Romans 10:9-10)
- 4) What has happened to my old desires? (Romans 6:6-14)
- 5) What must happen for a person to both “see” and be able to “enter” the kingdom of heaven? (John 3:3,5,7)
- 6) How can I show the Lord that I love Him? (John 14:21-24)
- 7) What are some ways I can show others God’s love? (I John 3:16-18)

- 8) If the Holy Spirit has full control in my life, what can I expect to see? (Galatians 5:22-23)
- 9) Is there any way to heaven besides Jesus? (John 14:6) Why?
- 10) What will separate you from the love of God? (Romans 8:38-39)

Write out the following scriptures
just as they are in your Bible!

- 11) John 3:16
- 12) I John 4:4
- 13) Romans 5:8
- 14) Ephesians 1:13
- 15) Something has happened to you. How do you feel that your life has been changed?

MEMORY VERSE

“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 4:6-7)

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 2

GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS

All Christian growth is the direct result of a right relationship to God. Bible study, prayer life, church attendance, and witnessing all play a major part in our growing into maturity. As we are obedient and seek to know God's will, we will grow in our faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

READY TO GO!

Begin with prayer. Ask God to give you wisdom as you study through this lesson (James 1:5). Remember that the Holy Spirit will lead you and guide you into all truth (John 16:13). This study is designed to help you develop your faith as a believer in Jesus Christ.

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO YOU?

Before beginning your study please read: John 15:1-11; John 16:1-14; Romans 12:1-12; Ephesians 4:11-32; Philippians 3:12-21; Colossians 3:1-17.

Please answer in your own words:

- 1) What kind of life can I have as a born-again Christian?
- 2) What is the Bible's definition of faith? (Heb. 11:1-13)
- 3) How can I grow in my faith? (Rom. 10:17)
- 4) What two facts must I believe for my faith to be pleasing to God? (Heb. 11:6)
- 5) What do the following verses tell you in regards to living a victorious Christian life?

Luke 9:23

I John 2:6

I John 2:15-17

- 6) How often should we pray? (Phil. 4:6-7)
- 7) Prayer is like oxygen, it will keep us from fainting spiritually. What is the lesson Jesus is trying to teach us from Luke 18:1-8?
- 8) What else can I do to pray effectively? (Mark 11:25)
- 9) Will my prayers always be answered immediately? (Heb. 10:35-36) Why not?
- 10) What are some things I should pray for? (Matt. 6:11-13)

Write out the following scriptures just as they are in your Bible!

- 11) Matthew 26:41
- 12) I John 3:22
- 13) Matthew 7:7
- 14) I John 5:14-15
- 15) Why do you need to talk with God every day in prayer? Does He talk back? How?

MEMORY VERSE

“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

(James 5:16)

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 3

KNOWING GOD'S WORD

The Bible is God's inspired love letter to you. In it He reveals to man His nature and His ways. God chose certain men to write the Bible as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit. It speaks as the final authority on all matters of living. The Bible's main message is the hope of mankind through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It provides for every believer guidance in daily life. Therefore, its contents are to be studied and its promises and precepts adhered to.

READY TO GO!

Begin this lesson in prayer. Remember the bible says that *"Faith will come by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God"* (Rom. 10:17). As you pursue the Lord in your studies you will grow in faith and trust of your Savior, Jesus.

WHAT THE BIBLE HOLDS FOR YOU!

Before answering the questions to follow please read: Deut. 4:1-9; Deut. 6:4-9; Psalms 19:7-14; Psalms 119:11; II Tim. 3:10-17; Hebrews 4:12.

Please answer in your own words

- 1) How has God transmitted His written Word to man? (II Timothy 3:16)
- 2) What did the Lord tell the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah to do?

Isaiah 30:8 _____

Jeremiah 30:2 _____

- 3) Who is the Bible written about? (John 5:39; Luke 24:25-27)
- 4) What did Jesus say about His Word? (John 6:63)
- 5) Why do I need to know the Word of God? (I Peter 2:2)
- 6) Who is sent by God to teach me the truth? (John 14:26)
- 7) What should I do once I've read the Word? (James 1:22; Luke 11:28)
- 8) How are we to approach our study of God's Word? (Proverbs 2:1-5)

9) What are some things that will happen if I obey His Word?

John 8:31-32_____

Psalms 119:11_____

Acts 20:32_____

10) Why did the Apostle John say he wrote the Gospel of John? (John 20:31)

Write the following scriptures just as they are in your Bible

11) Matthew 24:25

12) Psalm 119:18

13) II Timothy 3:16

14) Luke 21:33

15) What are some reasons why I need to study the Scriptures?

MEMORY VERSE

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (Romans 10:17)

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 4

CALLED TO BE A DISCIPLE

When are we disciples? The “disciple” comes from the same root as the word “discipline”, which has as one of its meanings “training that develops both self-control and character”.

What, then, is Christian discipleship? Perhaps the best definition is this: Self training on the part of a believer in the Lord Jesus; A training that develops self-control, love, and Christian character.”

Every believer – every Christian – has the obligation to become a disciple, constantly learning about the ways of the Lord and continually putting into practice those things which he/she has learned.

READY TO GO!

Begin today by praying for God’s guidance. I Cor. 2:13 tells us that godly wisdom is learned through the words of the Holy Spirit: The Bible. Through prayer we can assure ourselves of profitable study as the Holy Spirit gives us godly wisdom.

WHAT THE BIBLE HOLDS FOR YOU!

Before answering the questions to follow, please study and read the following verses: Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 1:14-17; Ephesians 4:11-31; John 12:21-50.

Please answer in your own words

- 1) What did Christian discipleship mean to Paul? (Rom. 1:14-16)
- 2) What are some evidences of being a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Matthew 16:24 _____

Luke 14:26 _____

Luke 14:33 _____

John 8:31 _____

John 15:8 _____

- 3) How should you treat your enemies? (Luke 6:35)
- 4) What is the secret of Christian kindness and forgiveness? (Eph. 4:32)

- 5) As Christians, what has God promised us in regards to our spiritual growth? (Eph. 1:17)
- 6) Can you be a “secret” disciple of Jesus? Is that what God desires of you? (John 12:42; 19:38)
- 7) What things should we watch out for and stay away from?

Eph. 5:3 _____

Eph. 5:4 _____

Eph. 5:5 _____

- 8) What level of maturity does God want from us in our spiritual lives? (I Cor. 14:20)
- 9) How can we grow in maturity? What are some causes for not maturing? (Heb. 5:12-14)
- 10) How important of a priority is knowing Jesus and being His disciple? (Phil. 3:7-11)

Write the following scriptures just as they are in your Bible

- 11) Hosea 6:3
- 12) John 8:12
- 13) John 12:26
- 14) I Peter 2:21
- 15) What does Christian discipleship mean today? What is the best way to becoming spiritually mature?

MEMORY VERSE

“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.” (Matthew 16:24)

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 5

SHARING YOUR FAITH

As Christians our motivation for service is based solely upon our love for God. *"We love Him because He first loved us."* (I John 4:19)

Our witnessing for Jesus begins in the world in which we live; in our immediate surroundings. We must look around us and pray for God's direction and leading in sharing the gospel with our friends, loved ones, and associates. As we shall see in the scriptures, witnessing involves more than just speaking of the Lord. To be an ambassador for Christ requires a life-style compatible with our confession of faith.

READY TO GO!

Be sure to pray for God to use this study in your growth as a believer. As we study the Word of God we can be assured that we will be drawn closer to our Lord and prepared for things to come. (II Tim. 3:15-17)

WHAT THE BIBLE HOLDS FOR YOU!

Before beginning the questions, please read the following passages of scriptures: Luke 10:1-12; Acts 9:1-22; Romans 10:1-13; II Cor. 9:1-15; Luke 24:44-53; Acts 4:1-37.

Please answer in your own words

- 1) What is a Christian Witness?

Acts 22:14-15 _____

I John 1:3 _____

- 2) What does Jesus say I will be for Him? (Acts 1:8)
- 3) What must a person do before they can turn from their sins and be saved? (Romans 10:13)
- 4) What must we do before we can call on the Lord to be our Savior? (Romans 10:14)
- 5) If I follow Jesus as He told me to, what has He promised to do? (Matthew 4:19)

- 6) If I tell them about Jesus, whom can I trust to convict them in their hearts? (John 16:7-11)
- 7) What is God's will for every person? (II Peter 3:9)
- 8) Will God use me to answer questions about Him to those who are seeking to know the truth? (I Peter 3:15)
- 9) What facts from the following verses could you point out while witnessing to an unsaved person?

Romans 3:23 _____

Romans 5:8 _____

Romans 6:23 _____

Romans 10:13 _____

- 10) A witness shares what they have seen and heard. What facts about his life did Paul give in his testimony?

Acts 22:3-5 (life before) _____

Acts 22:6-13 (receiving Christ) _____

Acts 22:14-15 _____

Write out the following scriptures just as they are in your Bible

- 11) Matthew 9:36
- 12) Titus 2:15
- 13) Jeremiah 20:9
- 14) I Timothy 4:12
- 15) What can I pray for in getting myself ready to be a witness? What am I going to do right away in my witnessing? Who particularly do you have a burden to share with?

MEMORY VERSE

“Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”

(James 5:20)

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 6

FELLOWSHIP: ONE TO ANOTHER

Real love and real fellowship go hand in hand. One is dependent upon the other. As God loved us in a practical way, so we must love one another. I John 3:18 tells us to love one another not only with words, but with action and truth. Fellowship means sharing something with another person in a deep way. This study will help you to see both the importance of fellowship to our spiritual lives as well as our responsibilities in Christian fellowship.

READY TO GO!

Let's begin by asking God to really teach us through this study. Luke tells us in his Gospel (24:45) that Jesus will open our understanding to comprehend the Scriptures.

WHAT DOES THE WORD TELL US?

Before proceeding to the questions below, please read the following passages of Scripture: I Cor. 12:12-27; Acts 2:41-47; Romans 14:1-11; Romans 15:1-7; Ephesians 2:14-22; I John 3-4.

Please answer in your own words

- 1) The Bible is filled with instructions about our relationship with other believers. Below is a list of scriptures relating to our actions "*one to another.*" Read each verse and then write out the instruction given on the space provided.

Romans 12:10 _____

Romans 12:16 _____

Romans 13:8 _____

Romans 14:13 _____

Romans 14:19 _____

Romans 15:5 _____

Romans 15:7 _____

Romans 15:14 _____

I Cor. 12:25 _____

Gal. 5:13 _____

Gal. 6:2 _____

Eph. 4:1-2 _____

Eph. 4:32 _____

Eph. 5:18-21 _____

Col. 3:9 _____

Col. 3:12-13 _____

Col. 3:16 _____

I Thess. 3:12 _____

I Thess. 4:18 _____

Heb. 3:13 _____

Heb. 10:23-25 _____

James 4:11 _____

James 5:9 _____

James 5:16 _____

I Pet. 4:9 _____

I Pet. 1:22 _____

I Pet. 5:5 _____

I John 3:11 _____

I John 3:23 _____

I John 4:7 _____

I John 4:11 _____

- 2) Would these verses be best obeyed in a large or small group? What can you do to become the Christian described in the verses you have read?

MEMORY VERSE

"In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother." I John 3:10

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 7

WATER BAPTISM AND COMMUNION

The topics for this lesson deal with two sacraments that Jesus gave to the church. All believers are called to be baptized as a testimony of their faith in Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:19-20). In like manner, Paul in I Cor. 11:23-26 tells us that Jesus instituted communion as one way that believers can continually remember the sacrifice made for them upon Calvary and also look forward to the Lord's return.

READY TO GO!

Let's pray that God will reveal more of himself to us through this bible study. Jesus said in John 5:39 that if we search the Scriptures we will learn of Him, for they bear witness of Him.

WHAT DOES THE WORD SAY?

Please read the following passages before proceeding to the questions: For baptism – Acts 8:26-39; I Cor. 1:13-18; Exodus 14; I Cor. 10:1-2. For communion – Matt. 26:26-30; John 6; I Cor. 10:16, 11:23-34.

Please answer in your own words

BAPTISM

- 1) Is baptism necessary for salvation? (Rom. 10:9-10; Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8-9)
- 2) What is the emphasis upon in Mark 16:16? What does it tell us is the reason for a person being damned?
- 3) In Acts 8:12, were those that were baptized already believers or did the act of baptism make them believers?
- 4) In Acts 8:36-37, what do you suppose could have hindered the eunuch from being baptized by Philip?
- 5) In being baptized, we are outwardly identifying with Christ's death and resurrection. What does it tell us about this in Romans 6:1-7 and Gal. 3:27?
- 6) Does baptism please the Lord? Should all believers be baptized? (Matt. 28:18-20)

(Go to I Corinthians 11:23-26)

COMMUNION

- 7) When did Jesus institute communion? (vs 23)
- 8) What does the bread and wine represent? (vs 24-25)
- 9) Of what else does this feast of remembrance remind us? (vs 26)

(Go to John 6:48-63)

- 10) What does Jesus mean in verse 53 when He says, except we eat His flesh and drink His blood we have no life in us?
- 11) Was this a literal statement or a spiritual one? (vs 52 & 63)

Both baptism and communion were instituted by Jesus himself. Although baptism is not needed for salvation, Jesus desires all believers to be baptized as an outward confession of our faith in Him. Communion was given to us as a place to come and remember the cost of our new life, the sacrifice of Jesus upon the cross. As Christians, communion should be an active part of our fellowship with God and baptism a time of testimony of our belief in Jesus Christ.

- 12) List below some reasons for baptism and communion that you see as important.

MEMORY VERSE

"But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

James 1:22

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 8

BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

When we received Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit came to dwell within us (John 14:17). This was God's promise of the new relationship between God and man through Jesus Christ (Ezek. 36:27). We then became "*temples of God*" (I Cor. 3:16). However, for the Christian there is also an additional experience known as the baptism of the Holy Spirit; where the Holy Spirit comes upon a believer's life to empower them for service. This separate experience from salvation is what we want to study in this lesson.

READY TO GO

Before you begin today, stop and pray for God's guidance and wisdom in your efforts to know Him better. The Bible is a spiritual book for spiritual people. Jesus said that the Word of God gives life (John 6:63)! As we are diligent in our studies we will grow in the ways of the Lord.

THE BIBLE SAYS!

Before endeavoring to do the questions below, please read carefully the following portions of scripture: John 20:19-25 with Luke 24:33-53 (Both accounts of resurrection day): Matt. 3:11; John 16:8-12; John 1:32; Acts 2, 9, 10, 19; Luke 11:9-13.

Please answer in your own words

- 1) Who is the Holy Spirit? (John 14:16-18)
- 2) Who is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit? (John 1:33-34)
- 3) Why be baptized with the Holy Spirit? (Acts 1:8; Luke 24:49)
- 4) What must we do to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit? (John 7:37-39; Luke 11:9-13)
- 5) List some of the things the apostles experienced in Acts 2 in receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. What about Peter?

- 6) What was the evidence of receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit in the following verses:

Acts 2:4 _____

Acts 4:31 _____

Acts 9:17-18 _____

Acts 13:52 _____

- 7) What are some other manifestations of a Spirit-filled life? (I Cor. 1:2-7, 10)
- 8) How must we use the gifts of the Holy Spirit? (Gal. 5:22-23; I Cor. 13)
- 9) List the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (Gal 5:22-23)
- 10) Do you need to be baptized in the Holy Spirit?
If your answer isn't yes, read Luke 11:9-13 again! Here's what you can expect!
- A) Greater power and boldness to witness. (Acts 1:8)
 - B) A more powerful prayer life. (Ephesians 6:18)
 - C) Gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow through you for others. (I Cor. 12:7-13)
 - D) Growth in the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (Gal. 5:16-25)

MEMORY VERSE

"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 9

BODY MINISTRY

The Church is the body of Christ. To help us to understand our need to work together, the Lord often compares the church to a physical body. A healthy body is composed of two hands, two feet, etc. and so the body of Christ, though having many members (or parts) yet is one body. Each Christian is placed into the body at a place God desires. Some are called to preach, some to really pray, some to be aware of the different areas of involvement, but, also to encourage you to know where God is calling you.

READY TO GO!

Let's pray and ask God to make His way clear to us. As we seek the Lord we know that He will teach us all things. (Jeremiah 29:13)

THE WORD SAYS!

Before you answer the following questions, please read carefully these portions of scriptures: Romans 12:1-8; I Cor. 12:12-27; Ephesians 1:22-23; Ephesians 4:11-16.

Please answer in your own words

- 1) The body of Christ is one and yet those within the body have different gifts. List below some of the gifts that God gives to His body.

Romans 12:6-9 _____

I Cor. 12:7-11 _____

I Cor. 12:28 _____

Ephesians 4:11-12 _____

- 2) Who decides who gets what gifts? (Romans 12:6; I Cor. 12:4)
- 3) Do our gifts have anything to do with our learned abilities? Can we take credit for the gifts we have? (I Cor. 4:7)
- 4) What purposes do these gifts serve? (Ephesians 4:12)

- 5) What is needed, according to I Corinthians 13:1-3, if our service to one another through various gifts is to be blessed by God?
- 6) Every one of us is called by God to perform certain areas of service within the body of Christ. What does Paul show us about his willingness to do his part? (Acts 20:24)
- 7) What was Jesus' example of doing that which He was called to do? (John 4:34; 17:4; 19:30)
- 8) What is God's promise to those that labor for Him? (Haggai 2:4; Mark 16:20; II Cor. 6:1)
- 9) Read the following verses and pick out the one word which is common to all of them! (Judges 5:2; Nehemiah 11:2; Psalm 110:3; Isaiah 1:19; I Thess. 2:8)
- 10) Do you know what your gifts from the Lord are? Often times God will begin to lead us towards the place He wants us, through our desires (Psalm 37:4-5). What would you like to do in the Kingdom of God?

MEMORY VERSE

"But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased Him."

Corinthians 12:18

NEW BELIEVER'S STUDY COURSE

LESSON 10

THE HOPE OF HIS COMING

One of the greatest promises Jesus gave to His church was the promise to one day return for them. Paul describes the rapture of the church in I Thessalonians 4 and concludes with verse 18 which says: "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." The rapture, tribulation and second coming of Jesus can obviously not all be covered in one lesson. However, throughout the scriptures, we as Christians are given directions regarding our attitude towards God's promise of coming for His church (Matt. 26:64). It is that which we seek to give you in this study. Truly the hope of His coming.

READY TO GO!

Let's pray for wisdom as we study the Scriptures today that we might benefit by the Word and be drawn closer to Jesus in our lives (John 1:1,14).

THE BIBLE SAYS!

Before doing the study below, please read carefully the following passages of Scripture: Matthew 24-26; I Thessalonians 4-5; Revelations 3; Luke 12:31-36.

- 1) Can we know the exact time of Jesus' coming? (Matthew 24:27-36)
- 2) Even though we don't know the exact time of Jesus' return, what do the following Scriptures tell us we ought to be doing in anticipation of His soon return?

Revelation 16:15 _____

James 5:8 _____

Philippians 4:5 _____

Luke 12:40 _____

Revelation 3:11 _____

- 3) What are some of the purposes for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?
(Matthew 16:27; Jude 14, 15)
- 4) In regards to our waiting on the Lord, what are we to do with the time we have each day? (Luke 19:13)
- 5) What type of life ought we to be living knowing that the return of the Lord could be at any time?

I Thessalonians 5:23 _____

I Timothy 6:14 _____

I John 2:28 _____

- 6) What will Jesus bring with Him at His Second Coming?

Colossians 3:4 _____

I Peter 5:4 _____

I John 3:2 _____

- 7) What then should our attitude be as we wait? (Titus 2:12-13)
- 8) Seeing then the times in which we live, list below some of the things you can do for the Kingdom of God in these last days. (II Peter 3:10-16)

This is the last study in our “New Believer” series and we hope that you have grown in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We want to encourage you to continue in Bible study, fellowship, prayer, and witnessing.

Bonus Lesson: MORE ABOUT THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

"Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?" - Acts 19:2

In all of the Christian life there is nothing more wonderful than discovering the abundant Spirit-filled life...

STEP ONE:

IS KNOWING GOD'S PROMISE

God loves His children and promises to pour out upon each of them the gift of His Holy Spirit in fulness so that they may have power to enjoy an abundant fruitful life for Him.

THE BIBLE SAYS:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh... for the promise (of the Holy Spirit) is to you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." - Acts 2:17

"But you shall receive power after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to me, both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and to the uttermost part of the earth." - Acts 1:8

STEP TWO:

IS ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR NEED

As with all the promises of God, so it is with the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Although it is a free gift which can never be earned or deserved, there are, however, conditions for receiving. It is given to those who are **hungry** and **thirsty** for righteousness, to those who have **felt** and acknowledged their need and sincerely desire that which God promises them.

THE BIBLE SAYS:

*"Jesus stood and cried, saying, if any man **thirst**, let him come to me and drink. He that believes on me as the scripture has said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. But this he said of the Spirit..." - John 7:37-39*

*"And I say to you, **Ask**, and it shall be given you; **seek**, and you shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened to you...how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" - Luke 11:9, 13*

STEP THREE:

IS RECOGNIZING GOD'S WAY

Jesus Christ, God's Son, is not only the One who gives salvation. He is also the One who baptizes and fills with the Holy Spirit. Jesus came not only to give life, but to give life more abundantly. The same Jesus who gives eternal life through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit also gives abundant life through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

THE BIBLE SAYS:

"And I (John the Baptist) knew him not; but he (God) that sent me to baptize with water, the same said to me, upon whom you shall see the Spirit descending and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizes with the Holy Spirit. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God." - John 1:33, 34

*"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance...therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit **he (Jesus)** has poured out this which you now see and hear."* - Acts 2:4, 33

STEP FOUR:

IS PERSONALLY RECEIVING GOD'S GIFT

As with the gift of salvation, so it is with the gift of the Holy Spirit's fulness. It must be **personally** received by asking in faith. God gives to those who sincerely ask and are open to receive.

THE BIBLE SAYS:

"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law...that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." - Galatians 3:13, 14

*"For everyone that **asks** receives...how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that **ask** him?"* - Luke 11:10, 13

In the words of the Apostle Paul:

"Have you received the Holy Spirit since (when) you believed?" (Acts 19:2). Is there any good reason why you cannot receive the gift of the Holy Spirit right now?

What you must do:

1. Become a child of God, if not already, by repenting of sin and asking Jesus Christ into your life as Lord and Savior. (See John 1:12, 13)
2. Turn away from any sin in your life. (See Psalm 66:18)
3. Believe Jesus Christ is the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit.
4. In faith ask your heavenly Father through Jesus to baptize and fill you with the Holy Spirit.

**Although not required, the laying on of hands by another believer can be most helpful as in Acts 8, 9, & 19. (See II Timothy 1:6)

What to pray:

Dear heavenly Father, I am your child. I have received Jesus Christ into my life as my own Lord and Savior. I confess my need and thirst for your gift of the Holy Spirit and His fulness in my life. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit. I repent of sin in my life and surrender my entire being to You. I now ask you, heavenly Father through Jesus Christ, to baptize and fill me with the Holy Spirit. I believe. I receive. Thank you, heavenly Father, for hearing my prayer. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for filling my life. Amen.

How to respond:

Praise the Lord audibly, letting the spirit give you the words. Freely respond in worship and thanksgiving to God. (Note the result of the Spirit's filling in Numbers 11:25; I Samuel 10:10; Joel 2:28; Luke 1:67; Acts 2:4, 10:46, 19:6)

Your Assurance – God's Word

*"And I say to you, Ask and it **shall** be given you...for **everyone** that asks receives...If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone?...If you then, being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?"*
Luke 11:9-13

What to expect:

1. Greater power and boldness to witness (See Acts 1:8)
2. Greater desire and power to pray constantly and effectively in the Spirit. (Ephesians 6:18)
3. Greater desire and ability to praise God. (See Ephesians 5:18-20)
4. Gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow through you for others. (See I Corinthians 12:7-13)
5. Growth in the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (See Galatians 5:16-25)
6. Temptation from Satan, but authority and victory over him. (Luke 4:1-13)

This is but the beginning of the abundant Spirit-filled walk with the Lord. NOW...

1. Spend time every day studying God's Word.
2. Spend time alone every day praying and praising God.
3. Regularly fellowship with other Spirit-filled believers.
4. Be faithful in your church and pray for spiritual renewal.
5. Trust the Holy Spirit to use you every day to be a witness for Jesus by word and deed.