

Congratulations!!! You have just made the best decision of your life, to wholeheartedly follow Jesus Christ. May this letter confirm that something very real and momentous has just happened to you. You are saved by your acknowledgment of faith in and confession that Jesus died on the cross for your sins, has risen from the grave, and currently resides in Heaven as Lord of all!

Due to your decision to repent by receiving God's gift of salvation, you are forgiven of all your sins and granted the grace needed to continually honor your decision. As a follower of Jesus Christ, you should progressively take steps closer to God starting now. There is no longer anything holding you back. You are free and forgiven, so celebrate!

Another nugget of truth that will assist you in the coming days is knowing that when we are saved, we are also born-again. A literal, yet spiritual change happens within us. God makes our spirits new (2 Corinthians 5:17) as we are born from His Spirit. Hence, we are called the children of God (John 1:12). Much like a baby born into our world, you have been born into God's spiritual family. Once a natural baby is born everyone anticipates watching him or her mature into a toddler and develop further through other stages of life. God is anticipating our growth as well. Solid teaching, daily devotional time, healthy relationships, and proper response to God's leading will help you grow. The most critical key is you allowing the Lord full access to your heart, thoughts, and dealings in life (Matthew 22:36-29). Do these things and your Christian life will be fruitful (John 15:8-9).

#### What the Bible says about salvation and giving your life to Jesus Christ:

# You're saved from the power of sin, and the penalty of Hell through your faith in Jesus Christ. Romans 10:9-10

<sup>9</sup>that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (NKJV)

When we put our belief and trust in Jesus as Lord, then express this belief by a firm verbal expression, something dynamic happens to us. We are saved from the power over sin and death that has been governing our lives. We can now have confidence that we are forgiven of our sins, brought into a relationship with God, and are official citizens of God's Kingdom.

## You're born-again. It is the birth of your new spirit. John 3:3

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (NKJV)

You were born once as a baby from your mother's womb. However, God requires everyone to be bornagain through a spiritual birth before becoming citizens of the Kingdom of God. This new birth happens to everyone that authentically believes and therefore accepts Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.



## You are a new person. 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ™Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, (NKJV)

You are not the same person. This reality will become more and more pronounced as time goes on. You may notice your desires to do things for God increase, while experiencing a lesser desire to do other ungodly things. As time goes on and as you mature, the Holy Spirit will continue to help you use your God-given strength to do the Father's will and resist temptations to sin.

#### A Few Key Pointers To Help You Begin Taking Step Closer To God:

- Set apart at least 5 minutes daily to pray. (Matt 6:6-15)
- Start reading the Bible. Daily devotionals or Bible plans are a great place to start. (Luke 4:4, I Peter 2:2)
- Find a church home. You are welcome at C3! (Acts 2:46, Hebrews 10:25)
- Get water baptized. Baptism opportunities are monthly at C3. (Mark 16:16, Acts 8:36-37)
- Seek the Lord for the baptism of the Spirit. See a C3 leader or Members Hub on the C3 website for more information. (Acts 1:6-8, Acts 19:6)
- Trust God as you experience your desires change for the better, and your life begins to reshape. (Proverb 3:5-6, Isaiah 64:8, Ephesians 4:23-24)

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