



GOD & ME

Steps to Everyday Faith

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What does it mean to make Jesus Lord of Your Life?

How can I be confident that God cares?

One of the most important things God has given us is His word, the Bible. It contains a myriad of books, scriptures, information, prophecies, stories, and promises from God to you. One such promise to you is in Psalms 91:14 *"Because He has set His love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him: I will set him on high because he has known My name. He will call upon Me and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him My salvation."* This scripture is a promise that means you can call upon God and believe in Him and He will answer you, because He promised He would!

Pretty exciting! Not only does He promise, but His words also tell you He desires to protect those who love Him. So now you can have confidence and believe Him when He says He has good thoughts towards you. Jeremiah 29:11 says, *"For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me when you seek me with all your heart."*

How do I know God will help me?

You can rest assured God will help you, because he promises to help you. *"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you"*, (Hebrews 13:5). The Lord has always been faithful to his people: *"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future,'"* (Jeremiah 29:11).

You can put your faith and hope in Gods Promises. His Word is His Bond *"So is my word that goes from my mouth: it will not return to me empty,"* (Isaiah 55:11).

You learn God's character through reading the Bible. His perfect love and commitment to you is revealed through His son Jesus. *"I am the way the truth and the life no one comes to the Father except through me,"* (John 14:6).

Why trust God and not psychics?

Only God holds your future; only God can change it. We may throw the dice but the Lord determines how they will fall. Psychics may guess your future but they cannot intervene to make it better. *"Because he loves me," says the Lord. "He will call upon me, and I will answer him;" "I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him,"* Psalm 91:14 -15. You don't need to go anywhere except directly to God, He cares for you and your future.

What does it mean to have a personal relationship with Jesus?

To have a personal relationship with God through Jesus is the most wonderful thing you will ever discover! Through a simple, heartfelt prayer you express your sincere desire to believe Jesus is God's own Son and ask to receive him as your Lord and Savior. By faith you trust him with every area of your life. Knowing his love and care are always there, you have hope and confidence that according to Romans 8:28, *"all things are working together for your good."* This is called being "born again" because you now have a new life through Jesus. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

What does it mean to be a born again Christian?

- Believe that Jesus was crucified on the cross and rose again, and that when He shed His blood, He paid the price of punishment for your sins.
- Admit that you are a sinner and repent, asking Jesus to save you.
- By faith in Jesus and in what He did, you receive the gift of salvation. Not through your own good works, but through the grace of God's mercy.
- You become His child and are set free from the penalty of sin and death.
- You now have access to God's throne of grace through Jesus (Hebrews 4:16) and receive unconditional love. You walk in confidence, knowing that you are a child of God and that He will never leave you or forsake you. You are written on the palm of His hand and have the promise of eternal life.
- Say a prayer to ask Jesus to be Your Savior. Believe that He whom God raised from the dead is Lord of all.
- If you are interested in personal relationship with Jesus, say the prayer with me. (on the next page)

Do I need to have a commitment to God through Jesus?

God's word says we must believe in Jesus if we want forgiveness of sin and eternal life with Him. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son [Jesus] that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life,"* John 3:16. Jesus says *"I am the way the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except through me,"* (John 14:6).

Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we have forgiveness of sins, healing to our bodies, and eternal life for our souls. *"I [Jesus] have come that they may have life and have it to the full,"* (John 10:10). And Jesus said, *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* (John 14:6).

How can I have this personal relationship through Jesus?

To have a personal relationship with Jesus means He is your Lord and Savior. Through faith you look to Him to supply all your needs. Knowing His love and care are always there. Then you can have hope and confidence that according to Romans 8:28, all things are working together for your good. Say this prayer to ask Jesus to be Your Savior. Ask Him to help you believe He is God's son who was crucified, died, buried, and raised from the dead for your sins. With a repentant heart, say:

Heavenly Father,

I want to have a personal relationship with Jesus. I confess Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I believe He shed His blood and He died for me. I believe You raised Him from the dead and He is seated with you in heaven. I want to begin a new life walking in victory through faith in Jesus. Send your Spirit, Lord, to dwell in me counseling and guiding me in truth. Thank you for providing the way to you through your son Jesus. Thank you for the forgiveness of my sins and providing eternal life with you through faith and trust in Jesus. I receive it now by faith. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

You now have access to God's throne of grace through Jesus. Receive His unconditional love. Walk in confidence, knowing that you are a child of God and have the promise of eternal life. It's that simple. Just believe and receive His grace. Grace is unmerited favor, which is exactly what God bestows on all His children—a free gift given from God's heart, just as any loving parent would grant their children.

I said the prayer to receive Jesus,

Now what should I do?

- Make it official. Tell someone right away and confirm your new life in Jesus. Call us if you have more questions. **877-800-7729**
- Write it down in your journal and tell more people. They may want to know about the saving grace of Jesus too!
- Find a good Bible believing Christian Church that can teach you more.
- Go to church functions to meet other Christians to encourage you.

- Get a Bible and start reading the book of John to learn of God's love. When you read the Bible, it is like reading a loving letter from your Father. You will learn valuable lessons about your relationship with God and about how to live a happy and productive life. The Bible will guide your way to God in fellowship and teach you about your eternal life with Him through His Son Jesus Christ.

Do I have to belong to a church?

God tells us in His Word to not forsake the assembling of yourselves together (Hebrews 10:25). A church is not just a pretty building. It's a group of people gathered together in Jesus' name to worship Him and study the promises in His Word. They form a community of people who love and encourage one another. Sharing God's Word, praising Him, taking care of one another; that is the formula for God's family. People congregated together in God's name become like a fence, and together they stand strong. One man alone is like a stick in the ground; it's vulnerable to anything. One stick does not make a fence. But a fence provides a fortress of protection. Through commitment we enter into a covenant to love and receive God's love. He promises in His word to care for His children in covenant with Him.

How do I find a church?

Be sure to go to church weekly if you already have a church family. If you do not have a bible believing church family your next step is to find one right away.

One way to find a church is to call and ask friends. Look for churches that teach only the Word of God from the Bible. Ask to see their statement of faith. Do they believe that the Bible is the only inspired Word of God? Do they believe in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Do they believe in all of God's promises? Do they believe that God's Word is true and that He is a loving Father?

Meet the Pastor personally and let him know you are looking for a church. When you attend a church, watch for loving interaction among the congregation. Observe how the people greet you. Are they open and friendly? Are there ministries or programs you could get involved in like Bible studies or other groups? Be sure to visit at least 3 or 4 times to evaluate the church before you make a final decision.

Key Steps to Answered Prayer

Trusting God with a sincere heart is the key to prayer. Prayer incorporates a proclamation of the love of God for you, your love for Him, and speaking His promises pertaining to the topic you choose.

Before starting your prayer you should humbly ask God to forgive you of your sins.

Sin separates us from God. No one is perfect but everyone can be truly sorry and repent. God will forgive you no matter what you have done or how many times. His word says, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins."* (1 John 1:9). He does not hold a grudge, so repent of your sin. You will feel so relieved.

Forgive those who have harmed you.

That is also a condition for your forgiveness. *"Forgive and you will be forgiven,"* (Luke 6:37). It may be hard, but all that is required is that you choose to forgive. Then ask God to help you. He will. Grudges make you sick and stop you from being blessed abundantly. So set your heart on God's blessing instead.

Guard your words.

When speaking of your current situation, state the facts. Don't speculate negatively about the future. When others speculate negatively about your circumstance, declare your faith and state: "I have prayed and I know God is in control and He has our best interest in mind." Your faith and confidence pleases God and opens the door for more blessings as well as the blessing of inner strength and peace that follows.

Your answer may not always be what you want.

Like a loving parent, God may need to protect you from something harmful. Don't get discouraged, but trust God's plans. His love and timing are perfect. *"God works for the good of those who love Him,"* (Romans 8:28)

Thank Him in advance.

Thank Him in advance for hearing your prayer and for the victory in Jesus.

Pray verses from the Bible.

Read the Bible daily, maybe start with the Gospel of John or the Psalms. Choose scripture verses that are meaningful to you and use them in your prayers. You can say "God I trust You because Your Word says The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." (Psalm 23:1)

Ten points to remember:**1. You are saved by Faith.**

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9).

2. You are saved by grace.

It is a free gift of Love — regardless of feelings. *“We live by faith, not by sight.”* (2 Corinthians 5:7).

3. You may experience doubts.

Remind yourself what God’s word says *“If you confess 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).

4. You are forgiven of all your past sins.

If you sin again in the future brush yourself off and ask Jesus to forgive you, and then get back up with full assurance that He loves you. *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9).

5. You are now guaranteed eternal life with Him.

“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).

6. Pray every day.

“Pray continually!” That means to pray faithfully every day, rejoicing in your fellowship with God (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

7. Read the Bible.

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.” (Psalm 119:105).

8. Go to church.

Find a Bible-believing church and attend regularly. *“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another...”* (Hebrews 10:25).

9. Get baptized at your church.

You are now brand new in Christ, so make it official! *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). *"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ"* (Galatians 3:27).

10. Live for Jesus every day.

You are not going to be perfect, but if you follow these power points you will be rooted in him like a branch is in the vine, and you will bear fruit. *"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in me bears much fruit."* John 15:5.

Helpful Scriptures you can memorize and use:

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

Romans 5:8

Romans 10:9,13

Revelation 3:20

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Contact information: www.prayerandcrisisreferral.org

For prayer call: 877-800-7729