

# THE SALVATION BOOKLET



**THE CALLING OF GOD**

*Part 1: Coming to Faith*

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## 1. How do I know that God is real?

Go outside at night and look up at the stars and ask God if he's really there. Go to the mountains and see the majesty of the towering peaks or go to the coast and see the mighty waves of the sea and in your spirit ask God if he's real. Hold a newborn baby and ask God if he is the giver of life. Watch little children that are filled with so much life and joy and ask God if he really has a plan and purpose for life.

How can you know that God is real? Just begin to look at this earth and the heavens above and ask him if he's really there. From your heart, begin to be still, and consider the detail and beauty of creation, and begin to seek the One who made all these marvelous things.

**"Be still and know that I am God:" - The LORD (Psalm 46:10a)**

**"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork:" - King David (Psalm 19:1)**

**"To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things," - The LORD (Isaiah 40:25-26a)**

Yes, you can know that God is real. You can know that he is alive and Almighty by just looking at his creation. Just be still and seek for him. He's not far from any one of us.

**"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:" - Paul the apostle (Romans 1:20)**

When we open our eyes to this amazing creation, we begin to realize within our hearts that there is a brilliant and powerful God! There is a God that is so much bigger and wiser and loving than we could ever imagine.

And as we begin to see and understand this truth, we begin to realize just how small we really are. We truly begin to realize that the world is so much bigger than us and our little sphere of influence. And yet, somehow we know that humanity is different than the rest of creation. Somehow we know that we are special. Somehow we sense there is more.

Yes, be still, and know that he is God. He will be exalted in this earth. All people will see his glory one day. But you can begin to see his glory now. You can begin to know him before it's too late. You can know him, if you start to seek for him...

**TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Do you believe in God? Why or why not?*
2. *Have you ever experienced God in nature? If so, how?*
3. *Have you ever personally experienced God's presence? When and how?*
4. *Do you still have any doubts that there is an all-powerful Creator?*
5. *If so, why? If not, why not?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** *Psalm 8*

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** *Psalm 104*

## 2. Why do I not feel connected to God?

Have you ever prayed to God for something but he didn't answer? Does it ever feel like you are all alone and nobody understands you?

Somehow we know that humanity is special and has a special design and purpose, but often we feel like we are not finding that purpose or living out what we were made for.

The reason why we sense these things is because God does have a special design and purpose for us! However, we have all fallen so far from his plans and purpose. Because of this, we are no longer connected to the living God and his source of life.

We have lost our way...

**"They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."**

*- King David (Quoted by Paul in Romans 3:12)*

**"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;" - Isaiah the prophet (Isaiah 53:6a)**

We don't feel connected to God because naturally we aren't connected to him. Mankind turned from God's light and turned to darkness instead. We've followed our own dreams and imaginations but not God's plan and will. We've chased after pleasures, lusts, and greed and have not chased after God and his glory. We have all fallen prey to the devil's seductions and to our own lusts. All of this is actually rebellion against the God who made us. Some of us knew we were rebelling and others didn't realize it. But either way, we have all from our hearts chosen to serve and please ourselves and not our Creator. But what we begin to realize eventually is that this is a path of misery, confusion, hurt, pain, and ultimately the end of it is death.

**"But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived it bringeth**

**forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."**

*- James, the half-brother of Jesus (James 1:14-15)*

God has a kingdom. He is a King. And he will not tolerate or accept rebellion in his kingdom. He will not join himself to sin. Our sin has caused a separation between us and God.

**"Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."**

*- Isaiah (Isaiah 59:1-2)*

It's not that he can't hear us or save us. But as long as we continue in pride and justifying ourselves in sin, we will never know him. He is pure light, and he doesn't join himself to darkness.

**"This then is the message... that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:"** - John the apostle  
(1 John 1:5-6)

So is there any hope? Or are we all doomed for destruction...

#### **TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Have you ever felt like God let you down? If so, how so?*
2. *Have you ever sinned and knew you were doing wrong?*
3. *How did that make you feel?*
4. *Do you currently feel connected to God? If so, how do you feel? If not, how do you feel?*
5. *Do you believe that God is light and not darkness? If so, what does this mean?*
6. *Do you believe that he truly is good with good plans for your life? If so, do you want to begin to find out his ways?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** Romans 3:9-19

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** Isaiah 59

### 3. What can I do to fix the problem?

We have all sinned against God. That is a fact. Some are deceived into thinking that it's okay, others know that they have done wrong. Some try to blame others, their upbringing, or their circumstances, while others realize they are responsible for their own decisions. But either way, whether you try to excuse yourself or realize that you are guilty, we have all sinned.

**"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."**

- Paul (Romans 3:23)

But what can we do? Can we turn over a new leaf and change ourselves? Can we try really hard to stop doing wrong? Can we just change our environment and find ourselves being renewed?

While none of these things are wrong, and some of these things might be things you may want to do, none of these things will actually fix the real problem. The reason why is because the real problem is not between you and other people. The real problem is not just how you view and think about yourself. **The real problem is between you and your Creator.**

You see, God created us to be in HIS IMAGE, and in HIS LIKENESS. Mankind is to rule the earth under HIS AUTHORITY and do things in harmony with him. But there is a disconnect between us and him. We have all chosen our own way and lived our lives in ignorance of him and his will. We have actually been taken captive in Satan's dark kingdom with many of us being completely unaware of it. We have pursued our lusts and desires instead of God's will and desires. And so the first step to fixing this problem is for us to REPENT and turn to God. This is the only hope we have to come back into true harmony with God. In fact, God, as the Creator and King, commands ALL PEOPLE to repent:

**"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:"**

- Paul the apostle (Acts 17:30)

This is a divine command from God himself. All throughout history, God would raise up prophets that would plead with people to genuinely repent and turn back to God. And to this day, nothing has changed. This is man's only hope: to turn back to his Creator to be made right with him.

**"But showed unto them... that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." - Paul (Acts 26:20)**

Truly repenting to God is not just feeling bad about your situation or just feeling sorry for what you have done wrong. True repentance is a genuine change of heart and mind. It is when you truly want to turn to God and draw near to him. It's when you want to leave sin and darkness behind and come to God and his will. Sometimes it involves weeping over things you have done. Sometimes it involves anger and destroying things that have gained power over you. There are many different ways repentance can look. But in the end, true repentance is a genuine change of heart to where we are willing to take action no matter what the cost. Repentance always requires humility and ultimately, brings peace in the end. **God desires for us to turn back to him! It is not his will that anyone would be destroyed.**

**"The Lord is... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." - Peter the apostle (2 Peter 3:9)**

#### **TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Are you willing to take personal responsibility for your sins?*
2. *Are you sick of darkness and want to come back to God? Why or why not?*
3. *What do you think true repentance is?*
4. *Have you ever repented to the Lord? If so, over what?*
5. *What was the result of your decision?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** James 4:1-10

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** Psalm 51



## 4. Understanding the problem a little deeper

To truly turn back to God is a wonderful thing. It is something that we can't force but something that we can desire and pray for. And when we finally come to him for forgiveness, cleansing, and healing, we find out that he is so wonderful! God can and will forgive us, cleanse us, and give us a new heart and a new spirit.

However, one of the things that we must understand and realize is that this great forgiveness and reconciliation God can give us is something that came at a great cost.

You see, God has laws and has decreed things, and he cannot just go back on his word. So even though us turning back to God is a great thing, that in and of itself cannot save us or change us. And God can't just blink his eyes and make all our sins go away. God has declared that sin has a penalty:

**"For the wages of sin is death."** - Paul (*Romans 6:23a*)

**"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."** - The LORD (*Ezekiel 18:4c*)

This law is absolute. All of us deserve this worthy penalty. The Lord is clear. He does not accept disobedience and rebellion in his kingdom. He will put an end to it. And death is the end that he has appointed to all men; however, this is not just death of the body, but the death of the soul itself.

**"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which hath power to destroy both soul and body in hell."** - Jesus Christ (*Matthew 10:28*)

**"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire... the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."** - The LORD (*Revelation 20:15; 21:8*)

No matter how hard we try, we have all fallen under this curse. We cannot fix this problem; but praise God, he has made the way for us to be forgiven and free so that we can be his.

**TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Have you ever been close to death? If so, what happened?*
2. *If so, what thoughts did you experience afterward?*
3. *Do you believe that there is a literal burning hell?*
4. *Why or why not?*
5. *If so, what kind of people do you think God sends to hell?*
6. *Do you believe that you deserve to go to hell? Why or why not?*
7. *Are you afraid to die? Why or why not?*
8. *Do you think God can save you from this fear?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** *Matthew 7:13-23*

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** *Psalms 39*

## 5. The hope of man: the Christ

Throughout the ages man has been under the bondage of suffering and pain, and headed for sure death. Somehow, we can sense that this is not how it was supposed to be. We can sense that this was not the original design. But we can see clearly that God has given man the gift and responsibility to make his own choices. This power yields great and long-lasting consequences for both good and evil. As time has progressed throughout history, all cultures (after appearing to flourish for a while) seem to deteriorate and get worse and worse. At times, it has seemed that there was no hope for mankind. However, God promised man that one day an Anointed One (the “Messiah” or the “Christ”) would be sent that would deliver man from his sins and pain, and even give man ultimate victory over death itself. This Christ that would come was promised to be the chosen One of the Father himself that would rule the entire earth as absolute King. He was promised to crush all his enemies. **And it was prophesied that he would be the Son of God himself.**

2,000 years ago, a woman received a word from the Lord that she would become pregnant without ever being with a man. She was told that the child that would be born would be conceived by the Holy Ghost, and that this child would be called the Son of the Highest. **She was told that he would save his people from their sins, and to call his name, “JESUS” (“Jehovah is salvation”).**

It wasn’t long before it became clear that this boy Jesus was not like any other child that ever walked the earth. Wise men came far from the east to worship him and offer him treasures. A king tried to kill him but ended up dead himself within a year. In his youth, the priests found him to be years beyond themselves in wisdom and understanding of spiritual things. And when he was 30 years old, he left his family, job, and hometown to begin traveling his country (Israel) to preach, teach, heal, cast out devils, and call others to follow him and serve the living God.

**He had a power and authority that no one had ever witnessed before.** In only 3 years there was such a move of the people that many of the leaders feared that he would take over the whole nation and they would lose their power. In their fears, they began to devise how they might arrest him and have him killed. Many of the common people loved Jesus' power and healing and wanted him to take over as the king. They wanted him to free Israel from the Roman occupation, and they wanted him to be the king so they could have outward peace and prosperity.

However, Jesus was not here to accomplish the will of the people. He was here to do the will of his Father. He wasn't here to fix all of man's outward problems so that our lives could be comfortable, convenient, and blessed. **No, he was here to save man from his real problem.** He was here to conquer man's true enemies, the enemies that lurk deep within the heart of man. He was here to destroy pride, lust, greed, lies, fornication, idolatry, blasphemy, adultery, witchcrafts, rebellion, stubbornness, iniquity, foolishness, fear, sin, and death itself. He was here to break the stronghold that Satan and his dark kingdom had held over man ever since we disobeyed God back in the garden. He was here to truly deliver us, so that we might finally be rejoined to our God and be free to become his sons and daughters! What a hope! However, the path to this freedom was not easy, and it was not cheap. But this was his mission, and only he could do it.

#### **TALKING POINTS:**

1. *What does "Christ" mean?*
2. *What did most people think the Christ would do?*
3. *Why do you think the religious leaders saw Jesus as a threat?*
4. *What did Jesus come to really save us from the first time?*
5. *Do you think Jesus really is the Christ? Why or why not?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** Psalm 2

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** Luke 1 & 2

## 6. The great price of our sin

Jesus was the Christ. He was the one prophesied of to rule the earth. He is the only one truly worthy to rule in justice and peace.

However, it was also prophesied that ***Christ would be despised and rejected of men.*** It was prophesied that the Christ would be “wounded for our transgressions” and “bruised for our iniquities.” It was prophesied that he would have to “pour out his soul unto death” and “bare the sin of many.” It was promised that he would do this so that he could “justify many” and offer life and “an everlasting covenant” to all who come to him (see *Isaiah 53 & 55*).

He was prophesied to be brought as a lamb before the slaughter. One day when John the Baptist saw Jesus coming, he said: “Behold, the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.”

God made death to be the penalty of sin. But God loved man, and from the beginning he had a plan on how he could save us and change us from being sinners into pure sons and daughters!

And so **God provided the atonement of sacrifice** to preserve mankind from receiving the instant punishment he deserved. God allowed the blood of animals to be shed on altars in the temporary place of man’s blood. This is why throughout history in nearly all ancient civilizations they approached God (or their gods) with offerings and sacrifices. They understood that the only way to put away sin was through blood. Blood is the life of the flesh. And only the blood could pay the price needed to be paid.

**However, an animal’s soul is not equal to a human soul.** And so the blood of lambs and goats could never really take away sin. This is why the sacrifices in history had to be repeated over and over again. This is because they were only temporary coverings and not the permanent solution. And so that is why the Christ had to come to this earth as a man. That is why he had to become flesh and blood. It was the only way that the price for mankind’s sins could ever truly be paid!

**"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death... that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man." - Paul (Hebrews 2:9)**

**"Who did no sin... who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree..." - Peter the apostle (1 Peter 2:22a, 24a)**

**"By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." - Paul (Hebrews 10:10)**

**"Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood." - John the apostle (Revelation 1:5b)**

**"Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures."  
- Paul (1 Corinthians 15:3b)**

Judas did betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. The Pharisees and the chief priests did arrest him and falsely accuse him. They did even pressure Pilate the governor to condemn him to death against Pilate's own wishes. The Roman soldiers did beat and mock him and hang him on a cross. Yes, this all happened. But the amazing thing is that they didn't do this against Jesus' will. Actually, this was all part of God's plan to save us from our sin. Jesus willingly laid down his life for you and me.

**"Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again."- Jesus Christ (John 10:17)**

#### **TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Why do you think God made death to be the penalty of sin?*
2. *Why do you think God takes sin so seriously?*
3. *How do you think Jesus felt being rejected by his own?*
4. *Why do you think Christ didn't come and take over the world the first time he visited this earth?*
5. *What do you think about God's plan to save us from our sins?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY: Isaiah 53**

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING: Hebrews 2:9-18; 9:14-28; 10:1-25**

## 7. The greatest news ever!

Jesus Christ took our curse, so we could be blessed. He took our sins, so we can be pure. He died for us so we can be free!

But how do we know that it's all true? How do we know that Jesus' death really was the acceptable sacrifice to make us right with God? How do we know that we can have complete forgiveness of sins and a new heart and new life in Christ?

**We can know because Jesus didn't stay dead; he came back to life after three days never to die again! Jesus Christ literally conquered death and offers eternal life to all who come to him.**

He rose from the dead in his body and went back to heaven in his body! There is a man with a body sitting in heaven right now!

**"But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, 'Why are ye troubled?... Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.' And when he had thus spoken he showed them his hands and his feet."** - *Luke retelling the resurrection appearance of Jesus to his disciples (Luke 24:37-40)*

This may seem hard to believe. But think of the caterpillar and butterfly. What an amazing reality! A creepy-crawly caterpillar goes into a cocoon and then comes out a transformed new creature that can fly! If I described this to you and you had never seen it, you would think it sounds like a fairy tale. But it's not. That earth-bound creature actually transforms into a beautiful creature that can fly freely. This is a picture of the resurrection!

**"And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins... But now is Christ risen from the dead!"**  
- *Paul the apostle (1 Corinthians 15:17,20a)*

**Jesus Christ is ALIVE!!!** List all the "greats" of history: Siddhartha Gautama (known as the "Buddha"), Confucius, Mohammed, Nelson

Mandela, etc and guess what they all have in common? They are all DEAD! They were just regular flesh-and-blood men with no power to save themselves or save any one else.

But Jesus Christ had power to conquer death by himself, and he has the power to give eternal life to whomever he wants to.

**"No man taketh [my life] from me, but I have power to lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again."** - *Jesus Christ (John 10:18)*

**"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore... and have the keys of hell and of death."**

- *Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:18)*

**"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."**

- *Jesus Christ (John 10:27-28)*

Jesus Christ is the only real hope of man for life beyond the grave. Jesus is the resurrection and life! It was not possible for death to hold him. His holiness and power were unable to be held down by death and hell. And he has promised that whoever comes to him in faith and follows him will be given the same eternal life that he has. We are promised to be raised at the last day and live for ever with him in transformed eternal bodies just like his!

#### **TALKING POINTS:**

1. *What separates Jesus from all other men in history?*
2. *Do you believe in the resurrection of Christ? Why or why not?*
3. *What example in nature did God give us to help us believe?*
4. *Why does Christ's resurrection give us hope?*
5. *Do you believe that you will resurrect? Why or why not?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** *John 5:19-29*

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** *1 Corinthians 15*



## 8. What is required of me?

When it comes down to it, Jesus Christ has done all the work that was needed for us to be cleansed from all our sin and made new in him. He has finished the work. On the cross, just before he died, he said: "It is finished!" (*John 19:30*) There is really nothing that we can add to his work. All he really wants from us is to come to him, and believe in him with all our heart. He wants us to finally **trust him and desire to walk with him, love him, and follow him.**

Imagine I did all the research and work and finally found the cure for cancer. If I was a loving person that desired others to be cured from cancer, and if you had cancer, all you would need to do is really believe that I had the cure. If you really believed, then you would come to me to receive the cure.

Our sin is the cancer! It's eating us from the inside. All Jesus wants is for us to come to him to be cured. And he is not only the cure for sin and death, but he is also the Lord of life. He's the King of a better kingdom. He's the King of righteousness and peace. All who come to him in faith become part of his kingdom and can finally have love, joy, and peace. Jesus Christ really just wants you to come to him so that you can be transformed into a new person. He wants you to be taken out of darkness and put into HIS light. But this is not something he forces anybody to do. The choice is yours. However, he will not let you in, unless you really desire him from your heart. He wants you to truly believe in HIM.

**"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."**

- *Paul the apostle (Acts 16:31)*

**"If thou believest with all thine heart..." "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."** - *Philip and an Ethiopian (Acts 8:37)*

**"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."** - *Paul the apostle (Romans 10:9)*

Do you see? **God just wants you to believe with all your heart in Jesus Christ! God wants you to turn back to him and trust him with all your heart!** He wants you to be 100% convinced that Jesus is the Christ, that he is the only way back to the Father, and that he is the Lord of all! He wants you to choose to follow Jesus and serve him. He wants you to realize that there is nothing that you can do to save yourself, but that Jesus is your only hope!

This faith is the key that unlocks everything good with God. This is your only hope of forgiveness of sins and eternal life. It's not in you trying to be a good person to prove yourself to God. It's not by being super religious or devoted to a certain church. It's not in your culture or way of life. **The key is real faith in Jesus Christ!**

**"He that believeth on me... believeth on him that sent me (the Father). And he that seeth me, seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness."** - *Jesus Christ (John 12:44-46)*

**"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name."** - *John the apostle (John 20:31)*

**"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."**  
- *Paul (Galatians 3:26)*

The only way that we can become acceptable to God is by faith in Jesus. The only way we can become the children of God is by faith in Jesus Christ. **Faith from a genuine heart is the only way...**

#### **TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Why do you think God has chosen faith to be the key?*
2. *What does it mean to truly believe in Jesus?*
3. *Is it possible to have real faith in Christ and stay the same?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** *John 6:35-47*

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** *Romans 3:19-31; Galatians 3*

## 9. Some important things to understand

However, here is one last thing that we must understand. You cannot make yourself believe something. You cannot force your heart to believe in someone. But God requires faith to enter his kingdom. So what can you do if you are not 100% convinced?

**I will give you a key that has brought me and millions of others to faith in Jesus Christ.** Thousands of atheists, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, and people who thought they were “Christians” but didn’t really know Jesus have ALL come to faith this same way. This is so important and it is the key to having real faith in Jesus:

**Pray to God to show you the way. And then read the Bible.**

This is so key. You can’t make yourself believe. But if you read God’s word (the Bible) and continue in it with an honest heart, God will convince you that Jesus Christ is the hope of mankind.

Many skeptics have come to the Bible to disprove it and and have come out believers in the end. God does not want you to pretend to believe something you don’t. And he doesn’t want you to have a faith that is based on people and their beliefs or in your culture and upbringing. **God wants you to KNOW HIM and believe with YOUR OWN HEART!** And the only way that can really happen is if you continue in his word until HE convinces you of the truth:

**“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD.”**

- *The LORD (Isaiah 1:18)*

**“Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”**

- *Paul the apostle (Romans 10:17)*

**“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**

- *Jesus Christ (John 8:31-32)*

Many think they belong to Jesus because they go to church, but they don’t really believe in Christ with all their heart. They don’t want his holiness and truth. And so God pleads with us to come and

reason with him. Come and hear his word. Continue in his word. You will see that there is no one like God and that there was never a man like Jesus Christ. You will see how true his word is. **Your heart will be convinced, and then you will be his child.**

And once you believe in Jesus Christ, he will give you his Holy Spirit! This is the very same Spirit that he had and that raised him from the dead! And this Spirit will walk with you through life and lead you into all truth so that you can know Jesus and the Father. This Spirit will give you the power to overcome sin that you never had power to overcome before. **This Spirit will teach you how to be a child of God, and you will learn how to walk in purity and holiness.** He will give you love and joy so you can love God and truly love others. He will teach you how to obey your Father so that you can live in peace and blessing.

This walk will not always be easy. Many will misunderstand you and misjudge you. Many will turn from you and think you are no fun anymore. And you will lose many things from your old life. However, everything you lose for Christ will be replaced with something better and eternal by God himself. And you will learn that there is NOTHING like the joy and peace of knowing the true God as your Father and Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

**"And this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ... And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life..."** - John (1 John 3:23 & 5:10-11a)

**"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ... For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord... For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father..."** - Paul (Romans 5:1 & 6:23 & 8:14-15)

**TALKING POINTS:**

1. *Do you feel like you believe in Jesus with all your heart? Why or why not?*
2. *Do you want to know God and do his will? Why or why not?*
3. *How much time have you spent in the Bible?*
4. *What do you think about the Bible?*
5. *Do you think you have the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?*
6. *Do you want to learn more about Jesus and the Bible?*

**GROUP BIBLE DISCOVERY:** John 8:23-32

**PERSONAL BIBLE READING:** Romans 8