

# 是的我相信 YES I BELIEVE

YOUR GUIDE TO NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

为你在基督耶稣里获得新生命



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First Bilingual Edition - 2009  
中英文第一版 - 2009

Printed in China

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# SAYING “YES” TO GOD

*Yes* is a beautiful word. A joyful word. What young man when asking the question, “Will you marry me?”—has not wanted to hear the word, “Yes!?” *Yes* says, “I want to be in relationship, I want you to be part of my life.” When you say *yes* to God, you are inviting your Creator into your life. You are the only one that understands what has brought you to the place of saying *yes* to God.

It may be that other things you thought would satisfy have left you feeling empty inside. You may have seen joy and peace in the life of a friend that knows God. At times an accident, a broken relationship, or a near death experience will jolt us into thinking—hey, it’s time to turn to God. Whatever it is that has brought you to this point, be assured, God is ready to take over whatever you are willing to release to Him. It has been said, “where God finds space, He enters.”<sup>1</sup>

As you say, “Yes, God. I am ready for you to take over”—this act of willingness to receive from God is the starting point of a great change that will take place in your life.<sup>2</sup> A new relationship will begin, that will fill your life with a deep sense of joy and fulfillment that can only come through knowing God. God has made us in such a way that we long for His companionship.

A great church father, named Augustine once said, “in each of us there is a God-shaped vacuum”. We try to fill this hole, this emptiness, through the pursuit of many things, but only God can fill that space that He has designed and put within us. In saying *yes* you give God the invitation to come in and fill the “God-shaped vacuum” that Augustine talks about.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lain Matthew, *The Impact of God*

<sup>2</sup> “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:12

<sup>3</sup> “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.” Revelation 3:20

Saying *yes* to God is the beginning of a journey. A journey that leads to the discovery of life's most significant treasures. The Bible says, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"<sup>4</sup>. Saying *yes* to God, means you are in for the ride of your life.

Dear God and Heavenly Father,

I come to you today with the desire to say *yes*. *Yes* to Your love, *yes* to Your plan, *yes* to Your purpose in my life. I have been in control, but I now release that control to You. As my Creator, You alone know what I really need. I open the door to my life and say, come in God, take over. I pray the prayer of Jesus, "Not my will but Yours be done."

Amen.

# KNOWING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Most of us have experienced a time in life when we have broken a rule. It could have been a family rule, a school rule, or a government rule. God also has rules that we have broken. We desire to be good, attempt to be good, but there seems to be an inability on our part to obey all the rules. To not obey the rules or law of God completely is to sin. The Bible tells us,

*"No one can ever be made right in God's sight by doing what the law commands. For the more we know of God's laws, the clearer it becomes that we aren't obeying them; His laws serve only to make us see that we are sinners."*<sup>5</sup>

This can be a frustrating experience if we are attempting to be found right in God's sight by doing all the right things. We also read in scripture, *"He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."*<sup>6</sup>

Saying *yes* to God leads us to receive His forgiveness for our sin. The Bible says that, *"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*<sup>7</sup> We find in this verse from Paul's letter to the Romans some amazing things about God and forgiveness. Firstly, that we are sinners and that Christ died for our sin, and lastly that, Jesus was willing to die for our sin long before we were willing to accept Him.

For many of us there is a hesitancy to approach God because we are aware of just how messed up our lives are. We think, let me get past this or that, and then I will turn to God. The awareness of sin in our life is actually a good thing. It is not unlike pain. Without pain we

<sup>5</sup> Romans 3:20 (TLB)

<sup>6</sup> Proverbs 28:13

<sup>7</sup> Romans 5:8

would not draw away from the fire. Without guilt we would not understand our need for Jesus. A big part of saying *yes* to God is saying *yes* to the work of Jesus Christ upon the cross.

Throughout history man has attempted to approach God in many ways. Men have built towers that reach towards the heavens. Men have created elaborate religious rites and codes of morality. Some have thought if they just do enough good, God will accept them into His heaven. The truth is, the whole of the human race is born into sin. We are all in need of God's forgiveness.<sup>8</sup> We read in the Bible the words, "*If we confess our sins to him (God), he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.*"<sup>9</sup> Human nature is to try and hide our sin or justify our behavior. When God reaches out to us in love—He simply says, "*I will take your sin and in its place give you everything you need to be clean, forgiven, and whole.*" Our sin has been placed upon Jesus.<sup>10</sup>

The Bible tells us that there is no forgiveness of sin without the shedding of blood.<sup>11</sup> It is through Jesus' blood, and only through His blood, that the stain of our sin can be washed away.<sup>12</sup> In Jesus every sin has been fully paid for. In her book, *Life with God*, Helen Johns writes;

*"It doesn't matter what you've done or failed to do before. You now are forgiven. Your sins are erased when you accept Christ; they don't have to haunt you anymore. You can be rid of the guilt and*

<sup>8</sup>"... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."  
Romans 3:23

<sup>9</sup>1 John 1:9, 10

<sup>10</sup>"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."  
2 Corinthians 5:21

<sup>11</sup>Hebrews 9:22

<sup>12</sup>"The blood of bulls and goats was not enough. Only the blood of Jesus could wash away man's sin."  
Hebrews 9:14, 28

<sup>13</sup>Helen Johns,  
*Life With God*, pg. 8

<sup>14</sup>True repentance is to turn and walk away from sin. Some are sorry they are caught in sin and keep living in it. When we understand the price that was paid to wash our sin away, we are abhorred at the thought of crucifying Christ again by continuing in our sin.

<sup>15</sup>John 16:8

*of the sick, angry feelings. You are saved by faith and are free to begin again. New Life! It means a brand new start.”<sup>13</sup>*

As we pray to God and confess our sins, we understand and accept that it was our sin that put Christ upon the cross, and it is our sorrow for our sin that leads to repentance.<sup>14</sup> The Holy Spirit shines light into the dark areas of our life and reveals our sin.<sup>15</sup> As we see ourselves as we really are; naked, filthy and guilty, our heart cries out—“God, forgive me!” Knowing and experiencing God’s forgiveness for our sin, as Helen Johns writes, brings “new life.” As we put our trust in God’s power to forgive and cleanse us through the blood of Jesus, a spiritual birth takes place.<sup>16</sup>

Heavenly Father,

I come to you now knowing that it was my sin that put your son Jesus upon the cross. Forgive me God. I am guilty of pride, rebellion, and wanting to do things my own way. Forgive me for\_\_\_\_\_.

I confess these sins to You today. Your word, the Bible, says if I confess my sins You will be faithful to forgive me and to wash away all my sin. As You have placed my sin upon Jesus, I now receive forgiveness for all my sin. In Christ I am forgiven. In Christ I am clean. Thank you Lord.

In Jesus’ name.

Amen.

<sup>16</sup> Jesus refers to this spiritual birth as being born again.

## Chapter III

# THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

In our prayer for forgiveness, we closed with the words, “In Jesus’ name”<sup>17</sup>. Knowing the person of Jesus Christ and having knowledge of Him, is of great importance as you say *yes* to God. We have a wonderful promise given to us that through our knowledge of Jesus we can receive everything we need for life.<sup>18</sup> Wow, that is a big promise. Jesus Himself said that He came to give us life and then qualified His statement, not just any ordinary life, but life to the full.<sup>19</sup>

In Paul’s letter to the Corinthians we read; “*For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*”<sup>20</sup> As we are able to see the face of Jesus Christ, the light and glory of God shines into our hearts. The Bible tells us that we are to “. . . *fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.*”<sup>21</sup> In these words we see that we should not only, “*fix our eyes on Jesus*” but we are also to recognize that it is He that is the, “*author and perfecter of our faith.*” As we say *yes* to God and become a part of His family, it will be easy for us to begin to fix our eyes on others. We may admire how other Christians pray, sing, or worship. Here we are encouraged to keep our eyes on the person of Jesus Christ. Men and women will disappoint, but the person of Jesus Christ will never fail you.

<sup>17</sup>The name “Jesus Christ” is comprised of the name “Jesus”, meaning Savior, and the title “Christ”, meaning “anointed”.

<sup>18</sup> 2 Peter 1:3

<sup>19</sup> John 10:10

<sup>20</sup> 2 Corinthians 4:6

<sup>21</sup> Hebrews 12:2

<sup>22</sup>“*anno domini*” means “in the year of our Lord.”

It has been said that, “history is *His* story”—referring to Jesus. So great has been the impact of the person of Jesus Christ on history that we divide historical time by His birth, BC (before Christ) and AD (anno domini).<sup>22</sup> We read, “the birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Christ are the “turning points” in world history. It

is fitting, therefore, that Jesus Christ be the separation of the “old” and the “new.” BC was “before Christ” and since His birth, we have been living “in the year of our Lord” (anno domini).<sup>23</sup>

The Bible tells us that Jesus was with God in the beginning.<sup>24</sup> He is called the Alpha (beginning) and the Omega (end).<sup>25</sup> We read in Paul’s letter to the Colossians;

*“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.”<sup>26</sup>*

Those last seven words, “...so that in everything he might have the supremacy,” are really important. Jesus is the *Gentle Shepherd*, our *Counselor*, and the *Friend of sinners*. He is our *Great High Priest*, our *Advocate*, and our *Savior*. He is the *Bread of Life*, the *Vine*, and our *Living Water*. These things are good and wonderful, but He also has won the right to be supreme in all things. In the person of Jesus Christ we find the Creator of the universe, the firstborn from among the dead, and one who holds all power and authority. The keys to death, hell, and the grave have been given to Jesus Christ.<sup>27</sup> That is why he could say, “*I am the resurrection and the life.*”<sup>28</sup> When

<sup>23</sup>From [www.gotquestions.org/BC-AD.html](http://www.gotquestions.org/BC-AD.html)

<sup>24</sup>John 1:1

<sup>25</sup>Revelation 1:17; 2:8

<sup>26</sup>Colossians 1:15-18

<sup>27</sup>Revelation 1:18

<sup>28</sup>John 1:29

we pray in Jesus' name, we pray in the name of the one who has authority over all things.

As you begin to learn more and more about Jesus you will discover the importance of His virgin birth, His humanity, and His divinity. You will come to know how Jesus has fulfilled the prophecies recorded in the Bible.<sup>29</sup> Each time you learn about the character and nature of Jesus, your faith will grow. Jesus as the "*lamb of God*"<sup>30</sup> will become more real to you as you study the Old Testament and see how the Lamb was used as a sacrifice for sin. From the first book in the Bible, Genesis, to the last book of the Bible, Revelation, we see Jesus. In Genesis He is "*Abraham's seed*,"<sup>31</sup> In Exodus He is the "*Passover lamb*,"<sup>32</sup> in Isaiah He is our "*Immanuel*."<sup>33</sup> Some have called this the "red thread" of Jesus Christ to be found in every book of the Bible.

As history is divided by BC and AD, it is also divided by the "Old" and "New" covenants. A covenant is much like a contract. In the Old Testament, God made a covenant with His people saying, "*If you keep and obey my law I will bless you.*"<sup>34</sup> The trouble with this contract was that the people were not able to keep the Law. The Law only increased our guilt showing clearly where we failed to obey.<sup>35</sup> Jesus came to establish a "new" covenant, a new contract between God and man. When He holds up the cup at the Last Supper He says, "*This is (represents) the new covenant in my blood.*"<sup>36</sup> We are no longer bound to the old covenant of keeping the Law but are set free from the Law as we receive Christ Jesus' sacrifice for our sin.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>29</sup> Jesus Christ fulfilled more than 60 prophecies found in the Old Testament. Details so clear that one can only be amazed at how accurate and wonderful is the message of the Bible.

<sup>30</sup> John 1:29

<sup>31</sup> Genesis 22:18; Galatians 3:16

<sup>32</sup> Exodus 12:1-12

<sup>33</sup> Isaiah 7:14

<sup>34</sup> Exodus 5:29, 33

<sup>35</sup> Romans 7:7-13

<sup>36</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>37</sup> Romans 8:1-4

<sup>38</sup> 2 Corinthians 5:21

The person of Jesus Christ represents a *covenant of grace*. In Jesus we hear God say, “*I put the penalty for your sin upon my son Jesus and I now take his righteousness and put it upon you.*”<sup>38</sup> When God looks down from heaven He does not see you in your sin, He sees the righteousness of His son Jesus. This is good news!

Dear Lord Jesus,

I recognize You today as Christ, the Son of God, the one sent into the world to reveal to man the love of the Father. You were with the Father in the beginning and through You all things have been created. You are the Alpha (beginning) and the Omega (end), the Way, the truth, and the Life. You alone were able to provide the perfect sacrifice that could wash away my sin. Thank you Lord for making a way for me to become “the righteousness of God.” In saying *yes* to God, I know I am saying *yes* to you. I give You my life and receive You as my Lord, my God, and my Salvation.

Amen.



## Chapter IV

# PRAYER

Perhaps you have never prayed before, at least not a lot or frequently. Or maybe you have wanted to pray, but just weren't sure where to begin. Prayer is much like breathing. It puts oxygen into our spiritual blood stream. Our physical bodies cannot survive apart from fresh air. This is even more true of our spiritual being. As we pray we breathe in life, His Life. Prayer is an invitation we give to God to fill us with His Life.

Like a drink on a hot summer day, prayer refreshes. There is a lifting away of heaviness, worry, confusion, and impurity as we pray. It has been said, "...prayer brings truth to our mind, goodness to our will, and beauty to our hearts." We are different when we pray. Prayer will change you. Prayer will change those around you. Life is amazingly different in so many ways when we pray.

# THE BIBLE

It has been said that when we pray, we talk to God. But when we read the Bible, God talks to us. As you read the Bible you will soon discover for yourself that it is not just any ordinary book. The Holy Spirit has inspired the words of the Bible.<sup>39</sup> Men have written the words on paper but the message has come from God. There will be days when you read the Bible that you feel like the words are jumping right off the page and God is speaking directly to you. The promises of God found in the Bible will comfort you. As you read about the life of Abraham, Moses, Gideon, King David, Peter, and Paul, you will see yourself and relate to their defeats and their victories. God's word will give you guidance and role models to follow in navigating through life's difficulties.

The Bible tells us that faith comes by hearing and hearing, by the Word of God.<sup>40</sup> If you want to increase your faith, read the Bible. The Bible contains sixty-six books, and is divided into two main parts, the Old Testament<sup>41</sup> and the New Testament<sup>42</sup>. The books of the Bible include history, law, poetry, proverbs, prophecy, the gospels and letters. There is actually very little that the Bible does not talk about. You can pick just about any topic; the single life, relationships, parenting, money, fear, love, marriage, and find it in the Bible. No wonder that some of the greatest songs ever sung, the greatest literature ever written, the greatest governments ever in power, were inspired by the Bible.

The Bible is a very special manual for life and living that God has made available to us. When you first hold a Bible in your hand it feels so big. You think, wow, will I ever get through all this? But as

<sup>39</sup> 2 Peter 1:20-21

<sup>40</sup> Romans 10:17

<sup>41</sup> The Old Testament contains the books of the Bible written before the birth of Jesus. They were written in the Hebrew language.

<sup>42</sup> The New Testament includes the gospels and was written primarily in the Greek language.

you read the Bible and begin to discover how rich it is, you will find yourself thanking God for every single page. Reading the Bible will change the way you think. It will also change the way you live. It has a way of redirecting our passions and giving us a new sense of purpose in our life.

I once asked my father, how much time each day I should spend reading and studying the Bible? He said, “You should spend at least as much time in the Bible as you spend in reading the newspaper.” Well we don’t read the newspaper much anymore, but I think his point was that we should read and study the Bible every day. In the back of this booklet we have included a suggested reading schedule for those reading the Bible for the very first time. Many choose to read a chapter a day. Some like reading through the whole of the Bible once a year. You need to do what you feel comfortable with. The important thing is that we don’t read hurriedly but rather that we read in such a way as to absorb the truth and light of God’s word. There are many helpful books on reading the Bible that can explain difficult passages, teach us how to discover the context in which the passage was written, and on how to effectively memorize scripture.<sup>43</sup>

If not you’re not following a regular reading plan I would suggest you begin your reading with the book of John. Starting at the first book of the Bible, Genesis, and going straight on through the

<sup>43</sup> One of the best scripture memorizing systems is put out by the Navigators organization [www.navpress.com](http://www.navpress.com)

<sup>44</sup> John 8:31

Old Testament is generally not advised. As you come to get more comfortable with the Bible you will find yourself developing your own personal style of Bible reading, study, and application. Jesus said, *“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.”*<sup>44</sup> For sincere followers of Jesus reading the Bible is the best way to “hold” to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Heavenly Father,

I thank you today for the sixty-six books we call the Bible. Let me say with the Psalmist that I have hid Your words in my heart that I might not sin against You. May I find delight and joy in Your word and not neglect the diligent study of scripture. Open my eyes to see the value of Your instruction and let me read not only as one who listens but as one who also applies the truth in daily life. I have said *yes* to You God, and I now say *yes* to the truth of your word. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

## Chapter VI

# CHURCH THINGS

In saying *yes* to God we become part of a global family that is referred to as the “church” or “body of Christ.”<sup>45</sup> All who have expressed faith in Jesus are understood to be part of the *global* or *universal* church. The church or “body of Christ” also has a local context. This is not so much a physical building as much as it is a coming together of God’s people in relationship to worship and have fellowship with one another<sup>46</sup>. We sometimes call this a “community of faith.” In the local church you will find expressions of *worship*, *fellowship*, the ordinances of *communion* and *baptism*<sup>47</sup>, and expectations concerning *membership* and *giving*. Let us look at each of these briefly below.

<sup>45</sup> The body of Christ is a concept found in the New Testament that uses the analogy of the human body to describe how followers of Jesus are to work together.

<sup>46</sup> Acts 2:42, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

<sup>47</sup> Church “ordinances” are established church traditions that come from practices of the early church that followers of Christ believe to be essential to the Christian faith. Baptism and Communion are two of the key ordinances of the Church.

<sup>48</sup> Judson Cornwall, Let Us Worship, pg. 14

<sup>49</sup> John 4:20-24

<sup>50</sup> Psalm 103:1

<sup>51</sup> Judson Cornwall, Let Us Worship, pg. 66

*Worship* has been explained as “*love responding to love.*”<sup>48</sup> You may have heard the phrase concerning two lovers, “He worships the ground she walks on.” That is a little over the top but it does capture the essence of worship. When you said *yes* to God, you responded to His desire to have a relationship with you. Worship is drawing near to God. Jesus said those that worship must worship in spirit and in truth.<sup>49</sup> As you begin to know the truth about God, His love, His majesty and His awesomeness, worship will begin to flow from your lips. David, in thinking about the greatness of God sang, “*Praise the Lord, Oh my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.*”<sup>50</sup> Worship is giving God praise. Worship is God’s creation exalting Him.

It has been said, “(*worship*) *It is an attitude of heart, a reaching toward God, a pouring out of our total self in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, and love to the God who created us and to Whom we owe everything we have and are.*”<sup>51</sup> Worship can take place just about anywhere. At home listening to worship music, during our prayer time and at

church when we are with others that have said *yes* to God.

*Fellowship* is being together with others for strength and encouragement. As we say *yes* to God we discover that we enjoy being with others that have also invited God into their life. As we grow in God our interests and values begin to change. We begin to desire closer relationships with those that have similar experiences. These closer relationships can develop into a small group gathering, mentoring relationship, or in a church activity. Fellowship, as found in the Bible, includes eating together, singing together, praying together, and studying together. I believe we could say even playing together is “fellowship” when it is with a group that shares our common interests. Regular times of fellowship are important. Don’t be surprised if your close friends insist on you being with them “in fellowship” every week.

*Communion* is the remembrance of Jesus’ death upon the cross. During the last meal Christ had with His disciples (before His crucifixion) known as *The Last Supper* or *The Lord’s Supper*,<sup>52</sup> Jesus took bread and after giving thanks said, “Take and eat; this is my body.”<sup>53</sup> Then He took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them saying, “*Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.*”<sup>54</sup> From this time onward the broken bread has been used to represent Christ’s broken Body and the cup of wine (or grape juice) to represent His shed Blood. We read in another passage of the Bible the words of Jesus concerning communion; “*do this in remembrance of me.*”<sup>55</sup>

<sup>52</sup>The Last Supper is the subject of Leonardo da Vinci’s famous painting found in the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie (Refectory), Milan

<sup>53</sup>Matthew 26:26

<sup>54</sup>Matthew 26:28

<sup>55</sup>1 Corinthians 11:24

In some church traditions communion is taken every Sunday and in others once a month. Some churches only permit *baptized* members to take communion. When in a church during communion time the pastor or church elder will give instruction as to who is to take communion. The scriptures tell us that we must examine our hearts before we take communion and not come to the “Lord’s Table” lightly but with a solemn understanding of what Christ has done for us.<sup>56</sup>

*Baptism* is the way we show the rest of the world that we are serious about saying *yes* to God. Being baptized in water is a very public event. Jesus himself was baptized in water and it was at this time that He was publicly recognized as God’s son.<sup>57</sup> When one is placed under the water one is saying publicly, “I want to die to my old way of doing things and be alive to a new life in Jesus Christ”. Baptism screams to the world—“I want to live for Jesus.” The word, *baptize*, means to be immersed or to be placed wholly into something else. As we say *yes* to God and *yes* to Jesus Christ, we are *baptized* (placed) into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit.<sup>58</sup> Most churches require some basic study of the Christian life before baptizing.

*Membership* is about one’s commitment to a local fellowship or church. From a pastor or elder’s perspective, *membership* enables the church to know who “belongs” as compared to those that are just passing through. A pastor expects more from a *church member* and a *church member* expects more from a pastor. Membership brings a higher level of accountability. Membership is often based on a “covenant of fellowship.”<sup>59</sup> The covenant of fellowship outlines the

<sup>56</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:27, 28

<sup>57</sup> John 1:32, 33

<sup>58</sup> 1 Corinthians 12: 13 “For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body. . .”, also, Acts 2: 38 (NKJ) “Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.””

<sup>59</sup> A “Covenant of Fellowship” is a pledge to uphold the guidelines of what the local church feels are minimum standards to be kept in order to be in good standing with the church.

basic beliefs of the church, its core values and the expectations of its members. One can be a follower of Jesus without being a formal member of a church—but if we are part of Christ’s body, we have an obligation to be in relationship with others in community.

*Giving* of our talents, gifts, and financial resources to God is a wonderful privilege. When we say *yes* to God we at some point say, “Yes God, everything I have belongs to You.” We begin to see ourselves as *managers* of what God has given us rather than *owners*. As heaven becomes more real to us, we begin to see this earth less and less as our home. The more we see ourselves as pilgrims, the greater our interest in investing in our final destination will be. When you said *yes* to God and Jesus, your eternal destination changes. The encouragement of scripture is for us to be thinking about the life that is to come. Jesus said to “*Lay up for yourselves treasure in heaven,*”<sup>60</sup> He also told His followers that “*It is better to give than to receive.*”<sup>61</sup> When we give our talents, our time, our financial resources to God, we are sending ahead of us treasure. The Bible brings out a principle of giving back to God one tenth of all that He has blessed us with. This principle is called *tithing* (giving a tenth). I share this with you not to say if you have said *yes* to God that you now must give a tenth of your income to God, but only to say giving becomes part of our life as we turn our hearts towards God.<sup>62</sup>

You will discover in the local church that relationships that may have been missed outside God’s family can be fulfilled in God’s family. You may discover that sister that you never had, that older

<sup>60</sup> Matthew 6:19

<sup>61</sup> Acts 20:35

<sup>62</sup> See Crown Ministries at [www.crown.org](http://www.crown.org) for more information on the Christian and finances.

brother that you wanted growing up to take care of you, that father or mother figure that seemed to be missing. God can give you these special relationships that will help you grow as a person. Being a part of God's family is one of the great things about saying yes to God.

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for inviting me into the family of God. I realize that being in relationship with You means also being in fellowship with others who have put their trust in You. Worship, communion, baptism and giving are all new to me but I am willing to learn. Teach me what it means to follow You. In Jesus name.

Amen

# A NEW SPIRIT

In closing, on our thoughts to saying *yes* to God, I would like to talk about a new Spirit that is available to you. Saying *yes* to God and inviting Him into your life enables you to enjoy the guidance and presence of the Holy Spirit. Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as our *Counselor* and *Comforter*.<sup>63</sup> He is constantly with us to help us live the new life that God has given us in Jesus Christ. As you confessed your sins to God and invited Jesus into your life, the Holy Spirit has come to live within you.

He (Holy Spirit) lets us know when we are doing the right thing and when we are doing the wrong thing. You may find that you are no longer comfortable in doing some things that you could do before saying *yes* to God. That discomfort is the Holy Spirit guiding you. It is the Holy Spirit that confirms within us that we now belong to God.

As a baby I was adopted into a wonderful family. I don't know all the circumstances concerning my birth mother, but I do know how much I am loved by the parents that have adopted and raised me. Before saying *yes* to God, many of us were like orphans and street kids fending for ourselves with no real family to love and care for us. God found us and has said; "I want you to be my daughter, I want you to be my son,"—and when we say *yes*, He places His Holy Spirit within us. The Apostle Paul says to us in his letter to the Romans, "*For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship* [or adoption], *And by him we cry, 'Abba* [Aramaic for father], *Father.*"<sup>64</sup> This new Spirit within us testifies, confirms, makes sure, that we know we belong to God. Jesus said,

<sup>63</sup> John 14:26 "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you".

<sup>64</sup> Romans 8:15

<sup>65</sup> John 7:38

<sup>66</sup> John 7:39

*“Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him”.* <sup>65</sup> Jesus was speaking about the Holy Spirit that would flow through us like a river springing from within us. <sup>66</sup> What a wonderful thing to be filled and overflowing with the life-giving Spirit of God. This is the promise to all who put their trust in Jesus and say *yes* to God. Life as one who has said *yes* to God will not always be easy. You will still face difficulties. Others who have said *yes* to God might fail you but you have this promise—that God’s Spirit, the *Counselor* and *Comforter*, will always be with you. Congratulations on your decision to say *yes* to God!

God bless you,  
from The BICF Elders

Heavenly Father,

I thank you for sending Jesus. Jesus, I thank you for the promise of the Holy Spirit. I recognize, precious Holy Spirit, that You are with me even now. Be my comfort and counsel me. Reveal to me the will of the Father. Lord, You have said that those that believe in You will have a life-giving spring, like “rivers of living water” that flow from our innermost being. Let that river flow in me. I want to know the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit in my life. This I ask in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

# Courtesy of the Salvation Army (USA)

## BEGINNER'S READING PLAN

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER - Matthew 6:26	Sunday
HE IS A SPIRIT - John 4:24	Monday
HE ALWAYS WAS - Psalm 90:1,2	Tuesday
HE IS ALL POWERFUL - Matthew 19:26	Wednesday
HE KNOWS EVERYTHING - Acts 15:18	Thursday
HE LOVES THE WORLD - John 3:16	Friday
HE LOVES ME - 1 John 4:7,9	Saturday

JESUS IS THE WAY - John 14:6	Sunday
IT IS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE - Revelation 21:18,19	Monday
IT IS A HAPPY PLACE - Revelation 21:4	Tuesday
IT IS A WONDERFUL PLACE - Revelation 21:10-16	Wednesday
THERE IS NO SIN THERE - Revelation 21:27	Thursday
HEAVEN IS A PREPARED PLACE - John 14:1,2	Friday
GOD'S THRONE IS IN HEAVEN - Isaiah 66:1	Saturday

EVERYONE HAS SINNED - Romans 3:23 & Isaiah 53:6	Sunday
ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS (ANYTHING THAT DOESN'T PLEASE GOD) IS SIN - 1 John 5:17	Monday
GOD HATES SIN - Proverbs 6:16-19	Tuesday
PUNISHMENT FOR SIN - Romans 6:23	Wednesday
GOD WILL FORGIVE - 1 John 1:19	Thursday
DO NOT CONTINUE TO SIN - Romans 6:12-14	Friday
DO NOT CAUSE SOMEONE ELSE TO SIN - Romans 14:13	Saturday

### WEEK 1

#### SOME THINGS I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GOD THE FATHER

Verse to remember  
John 3:16

### WEEK 2

#### SOME THINGS I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HEAVEN

Verse to remember  
John 14:2

### WEEK 3

#### SOME THINGS I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SIN

Verse to remember  
Romans 6:23

**WEEK 4**  
**SOME THINGS**  
**I SHOULD KNOW**  
**ABOUT THE LORD**  
**JESUS**

Verse to remember  
 1 John 4:19

Sunday	<b>HE IS GOD'S SON</b> - Luke 1:32
Monday	<b>WHY JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD</b> - 1 Timothy 1:15
Tuesday	<b>JESUS LOVES CHILDREN</b> - Luke 18:16
Wednesday	<b>JESUS NEVER CHANGES</b> - Hebrews 13:8
Thursday	<b>HE IS CALLED THE GOOD SHEPHERD</b> - John 10:11
Friday	<b>WHY WE LOVE JESUS</b> - 1 John 4:19
Saturday	<b>WHAT JESUS WANTS US TO GIVE HIM</b> - Proverbs 23:26

**WEEK 5**  
**SOME THINGS**  
**I SHOULD KNOW**  
**ABOUT GOD'S**  
**WORD**

Verse to remember  
 Psalm 119:11

Sunday	<b>UNSAVED PEOPLE CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE</b> - 1 Corinthians 2:14
Monday	<b>WHY WE SHOULD STUDY THE BIBLE</b> - 2 Timothy 2:15
Tuesday	<b>GOD'S WORD IS OUR GUIDE</b>
Wednesday	<b>A GOOD PRAYER TO PRAY</b> - Psalm 119:18
Thursday	<b>WHAT CLEANSSES A CHRISTIAN'S WAY</b> - Psalm 119:11
Friday	<b>WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT CLEANSING</b> - John 15:3
Saturday	<b>THE BIBLE TELLS US OF JESUS</b> - John 5:39

**WEEK 6**  
**SOME THINGS I**  
**SHOULD KNOW**  
**ABOUT LIVING FOR**  
**JESUS**

Verse to remember  
 Romans 10:9

Sunday	<b>TALK TO GOD EVERY DAY</b> - Psalm 55:17
Monday	<b>STUDY GOD'S WORD</b> - 2 Timothy 2:15
Tuesday	<b>LET GOD SPEAK TO YOU</b> - Jeremiah 33:3
Wednesday	<b>TELL OTHERS WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU</b> - Romans 10:9
Thursday	<b>TELL OTHERS WHAT GOD CAN DO FOR THEM</b> - Mark 16:15
Friday	<b>DO WHAT JESUS WANTS YOU DO TO</b> - Luke 9:23
Saturday	<b>MEET WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS</b> - Hebrews 10:25

HE IS GOD - Genesis 1:2	Sunday
YOUR BODY IS HIS TEMPLE - 1 Corinthians 6:19	Monday
HE CONVICTS US OF OUR SIN - John 16:8-11	Tuesday
HE GIVES US POWER - Acts 1:8	Wednesday
HE GIVES US HOPE - Romans 15:13	Thursday
HE LEADS US - Romans 8:14	Friday
HE IS OUR TEACHER - 1 Corinthians 2:13	Saturday

**WEEK 7**  
**SOME THINGS I**  
**SHOULD KNOW**  
**ABOUT THE HOLY**  
**SPIRIT**

Verse to remember  
**Romans 8:14**



# 向神说：“是的,我相信”

“是的”是一句很美的、充满喜乐的话。男人向女人求婚时说：“你愿意嫁给我吗？”的时候，难道不希望听到“是的”这句回答吗？而“是的”这句话，正表明着“我愿意进入这段关系”及“我愿意让你成为我生命的一部分”的承诺。

当你向神说“是的”的时候，你正在邀请你的创造主进入你的生命中。而也只有你自己最明白，这句话对你而言究竟意味着什么。也许那时你感到再没有别的事物可以满足你空虚的心了；也许那时你看到了你信主朋友生命中的平安喜乐；也许那是一次意外发生，一份关系破裂，或一次濒死经验，让我们产生这样的想法：“唉，也许该是转向神的时候了！”

无论你因什么事而转向神，可以肯定的是，神早已预备接管你所要交托给他的事。

有句话说：“神一发现空白键，他就按下输入键”<sup>1</sup>。当你说，“是的，神，我已准备好交托给你”的时候——这个愿意接受神的举动，就是你生命中即将发生的巨大改变的开始。<sup>2</sup>一份将你用极大的喜乐充满的关系，只有通过认识神才能找得到。神在创造我们时将渴慕祂的心放在我们心中。伟大的教父奥古斯丁说：“我们每个人心中都有一个上帝形状的空缺。”我们借着追求许多事物来填满这个空洞之处，但惟有那设计我们的主宰能填满它。当你向神说“是的”的时候，你正在邀请神让祂来填满这个奥古斯丁所说，“上帝形状的空缺”。<sup>3</sup>

向神说“是的”，是一个旅程的开始。这是一个让我们发现生命至宝的旅程。圣经说：“神为爱他的人所预备的，是眼睛未曾看见，耳朵未曾听见，人心也未曾想到的。”<sup>4</sup>向神说“是的，我相

<sup>1</sup> Lain Matthew  
《神的影响力》

<sup>2</sup> “凡接待他的，就是信他名的人，他就赐他们权柄，作神的儿女。”  
—约翰福音1:12

<sup>3</sup> “看哪，我站在门外叩门。若有听见我声音就开门的，我要进到他那里去，我与他，他与我一同坐席。”  
—启示录3:20

<sup>4</sup> 哥林多前书2:9；  
以赛亚书64:4



向神说：“是的,我相信”

信”，意味着你的人生旅程正式启动了。

如果你愿意，现在可以参考以下的祷文祷告：

亲爱的天父，我今天用热切的心向你说：是的，我相信！我真心地相信你的爱，相信你的计划，相信你造我的旨意。我愿意放下我的意念，将所有的事情交给你掌管。你是造我的主，你知道我一切所需。我要打开心门向你说，神啊，请登上我心的宝座，掌管我。我要祷告主耶稣的祷告：“不要照我的意思，但愿你的旨意成就。”阿门。

# 认识神的赦免

我们的生命里多多少少都有破坏规则的时候。这规则可能是出于家庭的，学校的，或国家的。同样地，我们也破坏了神的规则。我们极力想做好，努力为善，但是似乎对守住神的律法无能为力。不能守住神的律法对神而言，就是犯罪。圣经告诉我们：“所以，凡有血气的没有一个，因行律法，能在神面前称义。因为律法本是叫人知罪。”<sup>5</sup>

若我们想借着好行为来换取神的称赞，那将会是一件十分令人沮丧的事。我们读到圣经中说：“遮掩自己罪过的，必不亨通。承认离弃罪过的，必蒙怜恤。”<sup>6</sup> 向神说“是的，我相信”，能让我们得到神的赦免。圣经上说：“当我们还做罪人的时候，基督就为我们死了”<sup>7</sup> 圣经《罗马书》里讲到神那令人难以置信的赦免包括以下几点：第一，我们都是罪人；第二，基督为我们死了；第三，耶稣在我们还没有接受他之前就自愿地为我们的罪而死。我们许多人都会因为自己的生活一团糟而不敢接近神。我们总想等到变好了再亲近神。其实，不断地提醒自己是罪人是件好事，不是件令人痛苦的事。若我们不感到痛，就不知道要离开火源，同样，若我们没有罪恶感，就不会需要耶稣。因此，向神说“是的，我相信”，关键在于表明对基督在十字架上所成就之事的认同。古往今来，人们不断寻求各种方式来接近神。人们建筑高塔为了达到天庭；人们设计出许多宗教礼仪及道德规条；还有人认为，只要他行善积德达到了神的标准，就可以进入天堂。但是现实的情况是，人人都生在罪中，我们都需要神的赦免。<sup>8</sup>

圣经说：“我们若认自己的罪，神是信实的，是公义的，必要赦免我们的罪，洗净我们一切的不义。我们若说自己没有犯过罪，便是以神为说谎的。他的道也不在我们心里了。”<sup>9</sup> 人的本性是喜欢隐藏自己的罪、并证明自己是对的。当神的爱临到我们时，祂简单地

<sup>5</sup> 罗马书3:20 (TLB)

<sup>6</sup> 箴言28:13

<sup>7</sup> 罗马书5:8

<sup>8</sup> “因为世人都犯了罪，亏缺了神的荣耀。(罗马书3:20)

<sup>9</sup> 约翰福音1:9-10

说：“我会除去你的罪孽，为你预备替代的器皿，使你得洁净，得赦免，得完全。”而主耶稣就是这个器皿。<sup>10</sup> 圣经告诉我们说若不留血，罪就不得赦免。<sup>11</sup> 籍着主流的宝血，也唯有籍着祂的宝血，我们的罪污才能被洗净。<sup>12</sup> 在基督里，一切的罪债都已还清了。海伦琼斯（Helen Johns）在《与神同在的生命》里提到：“你曾经犯过多少错误或失败过多少次并不重要。你现在已经被赦免了。你的罪在你接受主的那一刻已经被抹去了；他们再也不能搅扰你了。你可以从此脱离罪恶，忧愁，愤怒。你已经因信得救得自由了。这是新的生命！是全新的开始。”<sup>13</sup>

当我们向神祷告认罪的时候，当我们明白了主在十字架为我们的罪而死的时候，为罪恶的哀伤带领我们产生真正的悔改。<sup>14</sup> 圣灵会光照我们生命中黑暗的角落，揭开我们的罪。<sup>15</sup> 当我们赤裸裸地看到自己的本性是那么不洁而污秽时，便会发自内心地呼喊：“神啊，赦免我！”。如海伦所说，认识并经历到神赦免我们的罪，将为我们带来新生命。当我们相信神能借着耶稣的宝血赦免洁净我们的时候，我们属灵的生命就此重生了。<sup>16</sup>

现在你可以如此祷告：

慈爱的天父，我现在明白，因着我的罪，主耶稣死在十字架上。赦免我，我真的是存着骄傲，悖逆，顽梗的心，凡事只愿照我的意思行。原谅我\_\_\_\_\_的罪。我现在向你认罪。你在圣经中应许了，只要我认自己的罪，你是信实的，必会赦免我的罪，洗净我一切的不义。在主耶稣里，你已经赦免了我一切的罪，我愿接受你的赦免。在基督里，我已经被赦免了；在基督里，我已经被洁净了。感谢主。奉主耶稣的名祷告。阿门。

<sup>10</sup> 神使那无罪的（原文作不知罪），替我们成为罪。好叫我们在祂里面成为神的义。（哥林多后书5:21）

<sup>11</sup> 希伯来书9:22

<sup>12</sup> 公牛及山羊的血并不够，唯有耶稣的血才能洗净人的罪。希伯来书9:14, 28

<sup>13</sup> 此书第八章

<sup>14</sup> 真正的悔改是转向及离开罪。有的人为罪行感到懊悔但是仍然活在罪恶中。当我们知道我们是用何等的重价所买赎回来的时候，我们就恨恶再把耶稣重钉十字架的罪行。

<sup>15</sup> 约翰福音16:8

<sup>16</sup> 耶稣将属灵的生命用“重生”来形容。

# 耶稣基督

我们祷告求神赦免的时候，我们会用“奉耶稣基督的名求”来结尾。认识耶稣基督<sup>17</sup> 这个人并了解他，是比对神“是的，我相信”更重要的事。因为神应许我们，就是通过耶稣基督我们能得到生命中一切所需。<sup>18</sup> 哇，这是个极大的应许。耶稣自己曾说，他来不只是一要我们得到生活中的需要，更是要让我们的生命更丰盛。<sup>19</sup> 在保罗的哥林多后书中我们读到：“那吩咐光从黑暗里照出来的神，已经照在我们心里，叫我们得知神荣耀的光，显在耶稣基督的面上。”<sup>20</sup> 当我们见到耶稣基督时，神的光及荣耀就照在我们心里。圣经告诉我们要“仰望为我们信心创始成终的耶稣”。<sup>21</sup> 因此，我们不仅要“仰望耶稣”，更可以知道是主耶稣为我们的信心做了“创始成终”的工作。

当我们对神说“是的，我相信”而变成神家中的一员的时候，我们很容易把目光定睛在其他弟兄姐妹身上。我们会羡慕其他基督徒的祷告，赞美，敬拜。但我们要把目光放在耶稣基督身上。其他人总有一天会令你失望，但耶稣基督永远不会令你失望。

我们常说，历史的英文拼音HISTORY,中文逐字翻译就是HISTORY他的-故事，耶稣的故事。耶稣基督这个人对历史的影响有多么大，以致于他的出生成为现在公元纪年法划分历史的分界线——BC (before Christ 在基督之前) AD (anno domin 在基督里的年代)<sup>22</sup>。耶稣的出生，生活，使命，死亡，复活是整个历史世界的转折点，耶稣基督就是将新和旧纪元分开的人物。公元年前用“BC”代表，意思是“在耶稣基督出生之前”；在他降生后，我们就活在“与主同在的纪元”中，就用AD“anno domini”来表示。<sup>23</sup> 圣经上说，基督在起初就与神同在。<sup>24</sup> 他被称为阿拉法（起初），及俄梅戛（末了）。<sup>25</sup>

<sup>17</sup> “耶稣基督”是由“耶稣”意即“救主”及“基督”意即“受膏者”这两个单词组成的。

<sup>18</sup> 彼得后书1:3

<sup>19</sup> 约翰福音10:10

<sup>20</sup> 哥林多后书4:6

<sup>21</sup> 希伯来书12:2

<sup>22</sup> “anno domini”意思是“在主里的年代”

<sup>23</sup> 参考[www.gotquestions.org/BC-AD.html](http://www.gotquestions.org/BC-AD.html)

<sup>24</sup> 约翰福音1:1

<sup>25</sup> 启示录1:17, 2:8

保罗在的歌罗西书中这样写到：“爱子是那不能看见之神的像，是首生的，在一切被造的以先。因为万有都是靠他造的，无论是天上的，地上的，能看见的，不能看见的，或是有位的，主治的，执政的，掌权的，一概都是借着他造的，又是为他造的。他在万有之先，万有也靠他而立。他也是教会全体之首。他是元始，是从死里首先复生的，使他可以在凡事上居首位。”<sup>26</sup> 这最后七个字：“在凡事上居首位”是特别重要的。耶稣是好牧人，是我们的保惠师，是罪人的朋友。他是我们的大祭司，代祷者，救主。他是生命的粮，美酒及我们的活水。这些都很好，但他更是掌管万有的至高者。在耶稣的人格中，我们看到了宇宙的创造主，从死里生的，并拥有能力及权柄。死亡，地狱，阴间的钥匙已交给他。<sup>27</sup> 这就是他为何说：“复活在我，生命也在我。”<sup>28</sup> 当我们用耶稣的名祷告时，我们正在向一位拥有统管万有权柄的主祷告。

当我们更深的认识耶稣，我们会发现他是由圣灵感孕的（由童贞女玛丽亚所生），也会更认识他的人性及他的神性。你会发现耶稣是如何成就旧约圣经先知们的应许。<sup>29</sup> 每当你考察耶稣的位格及本质，你的信心会自然增长。耶稣是“神的羔羊”<sup>30</sup>，他为人赎罪会让你更明白旧约圣经里面的献祭制度是怎么一回事。圣经的第一卷书《创世纪》到最后的《启示录》中我们都能见到耶稣的身影。在《创世纪》他是“亚伯拉罕的子孙”<sup>31</sup>。在《出埃及记》他是“逾越节的羔羊”<sup>32</sup>，在《以赛亚书》，他是“以马内利”<sup>33</sup>。有人说他是一条“红线”，贯穿于圣经的每一部分。

公元纪年法划分历史为BC及AD，同样地圣经也被分为“旧约”及“新约”。这个“约”有点像今天的“契约”。在旧约中神借着让百姓遵行律法来祝福他们，<sup>34</sup> 麻烦的是，百姓根本无法守住律法，律法只是更加深我们的罪恶感而已<sup>35</sup>，终于，耶稣降世，

<sup>26</sup> 歌罗西书 1:15-18

<sup>27</sup> 启示录 1:18

<sup>28</sup> 约翰福音 1:29

<sup>29</sup> 耶稣成就了旧约中超过60个预言。预言细节的准确只能令人赞叹圣经信息的精妙绝伦。

<sup>30</sup> 约翰福音 1:29

<sup>31</sup> 创世纪 22:18, 加拉太书 3:16

<sup>32</sup> 出埃及记 1:1-12

<sup>33</sup> 以赛亚书 7:14

<sup>34</sup> 出埃及记 5:29, 33

<sup>35</sup> 罗马书 7:7-13

立了新约，一个新的在神和人之间的约。他在最后的晚餐举起杯来说：“这是用我的血所立的新约”。<sup>36</sup> 当我们接受主耶稣作自己赎罪祭的那一刻，我们就从旧约的律法中被释放。<sup>37</sup> 耶稣正以人的位格来彰显一个恩典之约。

在圣经里我们看到：“神使那无罪的（“无罪”原文作“不知罪”），替我们成为罪。好叫我们在他里面成为神的义。”<sup>38</sup> 当神在天上看你，祂看到的并不是你的罪，而是祂的儿子耶稣的公义。这就是福音！

如果你愿意，现在可以借助以下的祷告文祷告：

亲爱的主耶稣，我今天认识你是基督，是神的儿子，是神差来向世人显明他的慈爱的圣者。你从起初就与天父同在，万物也是借着被你造的。你是阿拉法（起初），你是俄梅戛（末了），你是道路，真理，生命。唯有你能为我我的罪献上完全的赎罪祭。主啊，谢谢你让我被神称义。当我说相信神时，我知道，我就是相信你。我献上自己的生命给你，并接受你为我的主，我的神，我的救赎者。阿门。

<sup>36</sup> 哥林多前书11:23

<sup>37</sup> 罗马书8:1-4

<sup>38</sup> 哥林多后书5:21

## 第IV章

# 祷告

也许你从来不曾祷告或是不经常祷告，也许你想祷告但是不知从何开始。祷告像是呼吸，能让我们吸入“属灵的氧气”。我们的肉体离不开新鲜的空气，同样地，属灵的生命也是如此。当开始祷告时，我们在基督里的生命就开始呼吸了。祷告是向神发出邀请，邀请神来充满我们的生命。祷告就像在炎炎夏日里喝上一口沁凉的饮料一样，能更新我们的生命。当我们祷告的时候，所有的重担，忧虑，疑惑及不洁的思想都会一扫而空。有人说：“祷告能让我们明白真理，选择良善，洁净心灵。”我们能在祷告中得到改变。祷告会改变你，改变你周围的环境。我们会发现，生命里充满各样的惊喜，就在我们开始祷告的那一刻。

## 第V章

# 圣经

有句话说：“当我们祷告，是我们在向神说话；当我们读经，是神在向我们说话。”

我们读圣经时候，会发觉这并不是是一本普通的书。圣经是由圣灵默示而写成的，<sup>39</sup> 虽然是由人代为编辑，但是却是出于神亲自的启示。我们读经的时候，会被里面的话语深深感动，明白是神亲自向我们说话。神在圣经里的应许会安慰你；当你读到圣经里的人物，如亚伯拉罕，摩西，基甸，大卫王，彼得，保罗，他们的成功与失败之处，会帮助我们反省自己；当你处在逆境的时候，神的话是你的引导。圣经说：“信道是从听到来的，听道是从基督的话来的”<sup>40</sup> 如果你想对神更有信心，那么就要读经。

圣经包含66卷书，分为旧约<sup>41</sup> 及新约<sup>42</sup> 两部分。内容有历史书，律法书，诗歌书，箴言书，先知书，福音书信，及使徒书信。圣经里几乎提到所有关于人能知道的事。你可以任意选择一个主题，如单身生活，人际关系，亲子关系，金钱，恐惧感，爱，婚姻...这些主题都能在圣经里找到应用的准则。无怪乎历史上许多被广为传诵的伟大诗歌，动人的文学著作，优良的管理制度，其灵感都是源于圣经。圣经是神赐给我们特别的生活手册。

拿到一本厚厚的圣经时，你可能会想：“哇，我读得完吗？”但只要我们开始读并发现里面有丰富的宝藏时，我们就会情不自禁地感谢神，感谢祂赐给我们圣经如此宝贵的每一页。读经将改变你的思维模式，也将改变你的生活方式，给我们生命以热情和追求的正确方向。我曾问我父亲，我应该每天花多少时间读经？他说：“要跟你看报纸的时间一样多。”也许你报纸看得不多，但他的意思是在每天要坚持读经。在本册的最后，有一份读经计划表供你参考。有的人习惯一天读一章，有的人会安排一年把圣经读一遍。你可以按

<sup>39</sup> 彼得后书1:20-21

<sup>40</sup> 罗马书10:17

<sup>41</sup> 旧约圣经是在基督降生之前以希伯来语写成的。

<sup>42</sup> 新约圣经包含福音书主要是由希腊语写成的。

自己喜欢的方式进行，重要的是读时不可着急，而要去默想吸收话语中的亮光。坊间也有许多辅助的书籍可以辅助我们理解难懂的经文，教导我们看清上下文脉络，有的还教我们如何有效率地背经。

<sup>43</sup> 如果你还没有自己的读经计划，我建议你从约翰福音开始。我不建议从创世纪一直读到启示录。先从简单开始，能帮你找到适合自己的读经、默想和应用的方式。

耶稣说：“你们若常常遵守我的道，就真是我的门徒。”<sup>44</sup> 对那些历世历代敬虔的信徒来说，读经是让我们遵守主耶稣的教导最好的方式。

如果你愿意，现在可以借助以下祷文祷告：

亲爱的天父，感谢你赐下这圣经这66卷书。就如诗人所说的，我将你的话藏在心里，免得我得罪你。求你让我在读经时体会里面的亮光及喜乐并且不松懈地研读你的话。求你打开我的眼睛让我得知你的引导，并让我每天不只是听道，而是能去行道。神啊，我已经信了你，现在我也同样相信你话语启示的真理。奉耶稣的名祷告。阿门。

<sup>43</sup> 在Navigators organization (一个校园事工团体) 的网站 [www.navpress.com](http://www.navpress.com) 提供了很有系统的背经体系。

<sup>44</sup> 约翰福音8:31

## 第VI章

# 教会

相信神之后，我们自然地成为神大家庭的一员，这个“大家庭”我们称之为“教会”或是“基督的肢体”。<sup>45</sup> 教会是普世性的，也是地方性的，所有相信耶稣的人都被认为是普世教会的一分子。另一方面教会或称为“基督的肢体”，也有其地域性的机能。这并不是代表教会是有形的建筑物本身，而是说一群相信神的人一起过着敬拜神并彼此分享的团契生活。<sup>46</sup> 有时我们称其为“信心的团体”。在地方教会中，我们过着敬拜，团契，领圣餐<sup>47</sup>，洗礼，委身，及奉献的生活。下面我们对此进行逐一说明。

**敬拜：敬拜被视为“爱及爱的回应”<sup>48</sup>**。有人这样形容恋人对彼此的爱慕：“他赞美她走过的每一寸土地。”这样的说法虽然夸张了点，但是这种情感确实从某种程度上表达了我们对上帝的敬拜之情。当你相信神的时候，你回应了神渴望与你交流的心。敬拜是一种与神亲近的举动。耶稣说，我们要凭着心灵及诚实来敬拜。<sup>49</sup> 当你更深入地认识神，认识祂地慈爱、能力和威严时，就会不由自主地开口敬拜祂。当大卫提到神的伟大时说：“我的心哪，你要称颂耶和华。凡在我里面的，也要称颂他的圣名。”<sup>50</sup> 敬拜是向神献上赞美，是被造者尊崇他们的创造主。有人说：“敬拜是一种心里向着神，用我们的全心全人向神献上感恩，赞美，崇拜，爱慕，并把我們一切所有的归荣耀于神的态度。”<sup>51</sup> 敬拜在哪里都可以进行。在家里听敬拜音乐，在我们自己的祷告中，或在教会与其他弟兄姊妹一起都可以。

**团契：团契生活**是为了让我们彼此鼓励而得力量。信主之后，我们会感到与兄弟姐妹在一起是十分美好的事。随着我们在主里的成长，我们的兴趣及价值观会不断地改变，我们会越来越渴望与一群有着同样经历的人在一起。这种亲密关系的培养可以通过小组聚会，门徒训练，及参与教会活动等各种方式建立。

<sup>45</sup> 基督的身体这个概念是出于新约圣经。这里用了人的身体来比喻比耶稣的跟随着们一起同工的关系。

<sup>46</sup> 使徒行传2:42，“都恒心遵守使徒的教训，彼此交接，掰饼，祈祷。”

<sup>47</sup> 教会的“圣礼”是由初代教会的信徒们设立的传统。他们认为这对信徒的信心有极重要的意义。洗礼和圣餐是教会的两个最重要的圣礼。

<sup>48</sup> 《让我们来敬拜》  
Judson Cornwall, 第14页

<sup>49</sup> 约翰福音4:20-24

<sup>50</sup> 诗篇103:1

<sup>51</sup> 《让我们来敬拜》  
Judson Cornwall, 第66页

圣经中提到的团契活动包括一起用餐，一起赞美，一起祷告，一起学习。我相信即便是“一起玩”也是一种团契方式，这能让我们在团体里分享彼此共同的兴趣。固定的团契时间是十分重要的。这好比你的好朋友每周可能会约你见一次面一起“团契”一样，是很自然的。

**圣餐：**圣餐是为了纪念耶稣的在十字架上的死。在受难之前，主耶稣与门徒共进了最后一顿晚宴，就是大家熟知的“最后的晚餐”或“主的晚餐。”<sup>52</sup> 主耶稣在晚宴上拿起饼来，祝谢了，擘开说：“你们拿着吃，这是我的身体。”<sup>53</sup> 然后他举起杯来祝谢了，并分给门徒们说：“这是我立约的血，为多人流出来，使罪得赦。”<sup>54</sup>，从那时起，这掰开的饼就被视为主的身体，这杯酒（或葡萄汁）就被视为主的宝血。

圣经上主关于圣餐的教导是：“你们当如此行，为的是纪念我。”<sup>55</sup> 有些教会每周都有圣餐礼，有的教会一个月举行一次。一般教会只允许受洗的信徒领圣餐。在进行圣餐礼的时候，牧师或长老会告知谁才可以领受圣餐。圣经告诉我们，在领受圣餐之前必须查验我们的心，不可以用随便的态度来到“主的桌”前，而应该以肃穆的心来再一次思想主为我们所成就的事。<sup>56</sup>

**洗礼：**洗礼是向世界宣告我们是真心地相信神。在水中受洗比较普遍。耶稣也在水中受洗，并被神确认他神儿子的身份。<sup>57</sup> 当一个人被放到水里，是向大家表明以往的旧性情已经死去，而在耶稣基督里重获新生。洗礼是向世界宣告：“我今后要为主而活。”洗礼(baptism)的英文，意思是，完全被归入或被放进另一个地方。当我们相信神，接受主耶稣的那一刻，我们正被“洗礼”，籍着圣灵归入基督的肢体。<sup>58</sup> 绝大多数教会要求接受洗礼的人必须先经过基本

<sup>52</sup> 最后的晚餐是达芬奇绘画里最出名的主题之一。被发现于米兰的 Santa Maria Delle Grazie 修道院。

<sup>53</sup> 马太福音 26:26

<sup>54</sup> 马太福音 26:28

<sup>55</sup> 哥林多前书 11:24

<sup>56</sup> 哥林多前书 11:27, 28

<sup>57</sup> 约翰福音 1:32, 33

<sup>58</sup> 哥林多前书 12:13, “我们.都从一位圣灵受洗，成了一个身体。饮于一位圣灵。”使徒行传 2:38 “彼得说，你们各人要悔改，奉耶稣基督的名受洗，叫你们的罪得赦，就必须受所赐的圣灵。”

洗礼的培训。

**会友：**会友关系是有关一个人对一个团契或教会的委身。以牧师或长老的观点，教会会友是与路过教会的访客有所区别的。一个牧师会对教会的会众有所期待，而会众同样也会对牧师有所期待。会友关系更多地强调彼此的委身，通常是建立在“团契之约”上。<sup>59</sup> 通过这“团契之约”的形式能体现出整体教会的基本信仰，核心理念，及会友们共同的期待。一个人要成为耶稣的跟随者，未必要进入一定的组织，但若我们都是基督肢体的一部分，我们就有与其他人维持这份团契关系的义务。将我们的才干，恩赐，及金钱奉献于神，是我们的特权。当我们相信神的时候，我们在某种程度上也认同了自己一切所有的都是属于神的。我们越来越采用神管家的态度去管理一切我们所有的，我们就能越来越放下自己缺乏安全感的“所有者”的态度；当我们对天国的认识越来越真切，我们就越来越不把这个世界当成永远的家；当我们越来越明白我们的生命是个朝圣的路程，我们就懂得将生命投资于最终的盼望。当你相信神并接受主耶稣的那一刻，你人生的终点已经改变了。圣经的经文不断激励我们去思考自己的人生。耶稣说要我们将财宝放在天上<sup>60</sup>，他也教导门徒，施比受更有福。<sup>61</sup> 当我们把自己的才能、时间、金钱奉献给神的时候，是将财宝累积在天上。圣经也教导我们若遵守圣经上的原则，将所得的十分之一奉献给神，神必会祝福我们。这叫做“什一奉献”。我不是要求你马上把收入的十分之一拿出来，而是说，我们要把心转向神，让奉献成为生命的一部分。<sup>62</sup>

在教会中，你会发现有许多在世界上“失落的关系”会被找到。你会发现你突然多了个妹妹，或有了你一直想要的能照顾你的哥哥，或找回了失落的母爱或父爱。神会赐给你这些特别的关系，好叫你的人格成为健全。做好神家中的一员，也是信主之后一件重要的大事。

<sup>59</sup> “团契之约”是为了更好的维护教会的立场，保证着一个教会的最低线原则的持守。

<sup>60</sup> 马太福音6:19

<sup>61</sup> 使徒行传20:35

<sup>62</sup> 参考[www.crown.org](http://www.crown.org)有更多关于基督徒理财方面的资料。

现在，如果你愿意，可以借助以下的文字祷告：

主耶稣，谢谢你邀请我成为神家里的一份子。我明白当我走进与你的关系的同时，我也走进与其他相信你的人之间的关系。敬拜，赞美，受洗，奉献，对我而言都是新事，但是我愿意去学习。请教导我跟随你真正的意义是什么。奉耶稣的名祷告。阿门。

# 一个新的灵

在结束这个主题之前，我想与你谈谈与你有关的一个新的灵。相信神并接待祂到你的生命中，让你能够享受圣灵的保守及同在。耶稣称圣灵为我们的保惠师或训慰师。<sup>63</sup> 他恒久地帮助我们在基督里过一个新的生活。当你向神认罪并愿意接受主耶稣成为你个人的救主的时候，圣灵就与你同在。他（圣灵）会帮助我们分辨善恶，你会感到在做某些事情时心里不太平安，而这是在信主之前习以为常的事。这样的不平安就是圣灵在引导你。内驻的圣灵提醒我们，我们是属神的。保罗在《罗马书》中提到：“你们所受的不是奴仆的心，仍旧害怕。所受的乃是儿子的心，因此我们呼叫阿爸，父。”<sup>64</sup> 与我们同在的圣灵不断地向我们证明，确认，保证，好叫我们知道自己是属于神的。

小的时候我被收养在一个幸福的家庭。我对自己的生父母一无所知，只知道我是被现在养父母所爱着的。在相信神之前，我们就像是一个弃婴或流浪街头的孩子，被一个不真实的家庭照顾着。神找到我们并对我们说：“我要你成为我的女儿 / 儿子”——当我们说愿意时，圣灵就与我们同在。耶稣说：“信我的人，就如经上所记，要从他的腹中，流出活水的江河。”<sup>65</sup> 耶稣提到，圣灵会像河水一样从我们的生命中流露出来。<sup>66</sup> 能被神的灵充满真是何等美好的事！这是给所有将自己交托于主并信靠神之人的应许。一个信靠神的人生并不是这么容易，你总会遇到难题，其他的信主之人也有可能让你跌倒。但是，所应许给你的圣灵，这位保惠师，安慰者，会永远与你同在。

祝贺你，做了向神说“是的，我相信！”这样的决定。

BICF 长老

<sup>63</sup> 约翰福音14:26 “但保惠师，就是父因我的名所要差来的圣灵，他要将一切的事，指教你们，并且要叫你们想起我对你们所说的一切话。”

<sup>64</sup> 罗马书8:15

<sup>65</sup> 约翰福音7:38

<sup>66</sup> 约翰福音7:39

如果你愿意，可以参考以下方式祷告：

慈爱的天父，感谢你赐下主耶稣；主耶稣，我感谢你所应许给我们的圣灵。宝贵的圣灵我现在就知道你与我同在。请安慰我教导我，向我显明父神的心意。主啊，你曾说凡信你的人会有活水一般生命，请让这样的生命充满我，也请让我更加认识圣灵在我生命中的引导及能力。以上祷告是奉主耶稣基督的名求的。阿门。

# 初信者读经计划

我们的天父 – 马太福音6:26	星期日
祂是个灵 – 约翰福音4:24	星期一
祂不改变 – 诗篇90:1-2	星期二
祂不改变 – 诗篇90:1-2	星期三
祂是全知的 – 使徒行传15:18	星期四
祂爱世人 – 约翰福音3:16	星期五
祂爱我 – 约翰一书4:7,9	星期六

## 第一周 认识父神

背诵经文  
约翰福音3:16

耶稣是道路 – 约翰福音 14:6	星期日
天堂是个美丽的地方 – 启示录 21:18,19	星期一
天堂是个欢乐的地方 – 启示录21:4	星期二
天堂是个美好的地方 – 启示录 21:10-16	星期三
天堂里没有罪恶 – 启示录 21:27	星期四
天堂已经预备好了 – 约翰福音 14:1,2	星期五
神的宝座设立在天国 – 以赛亚书 66:1	星期六

## 第二周 认识天堂

背诵经文  
约翰福音14:2

世人都犯了罪 – 罗马书3:23 & 以赛亚书 53:6	星期日
所有不符合公义（不讨神喜悦的）的都是罪 – 约翰一书 5:17	星期一
神恨罪恶 – 箴言书 6:16-19	星期二
对罪的审判 – 罗马书 6:23	星期三
神会赦免 – 约翰一书 1:19	星期四
不要再犯罪 – 罗马书 6:12-14	星期五
不要让人犯罪 – 罗马书 14:13	星期六

## 第三周 认识罪

背诵经文  
罗马书6:23

## 第四周 认识主耶稣

背诵经文  
约翰一书4:19

星期日	祂是神的儿子 – 路加福音 1:32
星期一	为何耶稣要来到世上 – 提摩太前书 1:15
星期二	耶稣爱孩子 – 路加福音 18:16
星期三	耶稣永不改变 – 希伯来书 13:8
星期四	祂是好牧人 – 约翰福音 10:11
星期五	为何我们爱耶稣 – 约翰一书 4:19
星期六	耶稣希望我们做什么 – 箴言书 23:26

## 第五周 认识神的话

背诵经文  
诗篇119:11

星期日	未得救的人不能理解圣经 – 哥林多前书 2:14
星期一	我们为何要读圣经 – 提摩太前书 2:15
星期二	神的话语是我们的引导
星期三	一个好的祷告 – 诗篇 119:18
星期四	用什么来洁净基督徒的行为 – 诗篇 119:11
星期五	耶稣所讲的洁净是什么 – 约翰福音 15:3
星期六	圣经告诉我们有关耶稣的事 – 约翰福音 5:39

## 第六周 认识 为主而活

背诵经文  
罗马书10:9

星期日	每日与神交通 – 诗篇 55:17
星期一	学习神的话 – 提摩太后书 2:15
星期二	让神向你说话 – 耶利米书 33:3
星期三	向人传讲神为你做了何等的大事 – 罗马书 10:9
星期四	向人说明神能为他们带来什么 – 马可福音 16:15
星期五	做耶稣要你做的事 – 路加福音 9:23
星期六	与其他基督徒接触 – 希伯来书 10:25

## 第七周 认识圣灵

背诵经文  
罗马书8:14

<b>祂是神</b> – 创世纪1:2	星期日
<b>你的身体是神的殿</b> – 哥林多前书 6:19	星期一
<b>祂显明我们的罪</b> – 约翰福音 16:8-11	星期二
<b>祂给我们能力</b> – 使徒行传 1:8	星期三
<b>祂给我们希望</b> – 罗马书 15:13	星期四
<b>祂引导我们</b> – 罗马书 8:14	星期五
<b>祂是我们的导师</b> – 哥林多前书 2:13	星期六





# 是的我相信 YES I BELIEVE

**YOUR GUIDE TO NEW LIFE IN CHRIST**  
为你在基督耶稣里获得新生命

Have you recently accepted Jesus Christ  
as your personal Lord and Savior?

Wondering what to do next with a new faith in God?

Using five short Bible studies, this booklet takes you through the first few steps of being new believer and gets you started on the path of living an effective Christian Life.

Welcome to the family of God!

你是否刚接受耶稣基督为你的救主？

在接下来的新生命里，

你是否想了解该怎样对上帝建立信心？

这本小册子将通过五课简短的圣经学习帮助你建立初信者的信仰基础并帮助你开始有效的基督徒生活。

欢迎你来到上帝的家中！

