

Friend, now that you have received Jesus as your Savior, you have a new life.

You have eternal life and you can never perish in hell (John 10:28).

You have had a heavenly birth.

To be "born again" (John 3:3) literally means "to be born from above".

**"The Word
of God to all
the World."**

Bible Tracts, Inc.

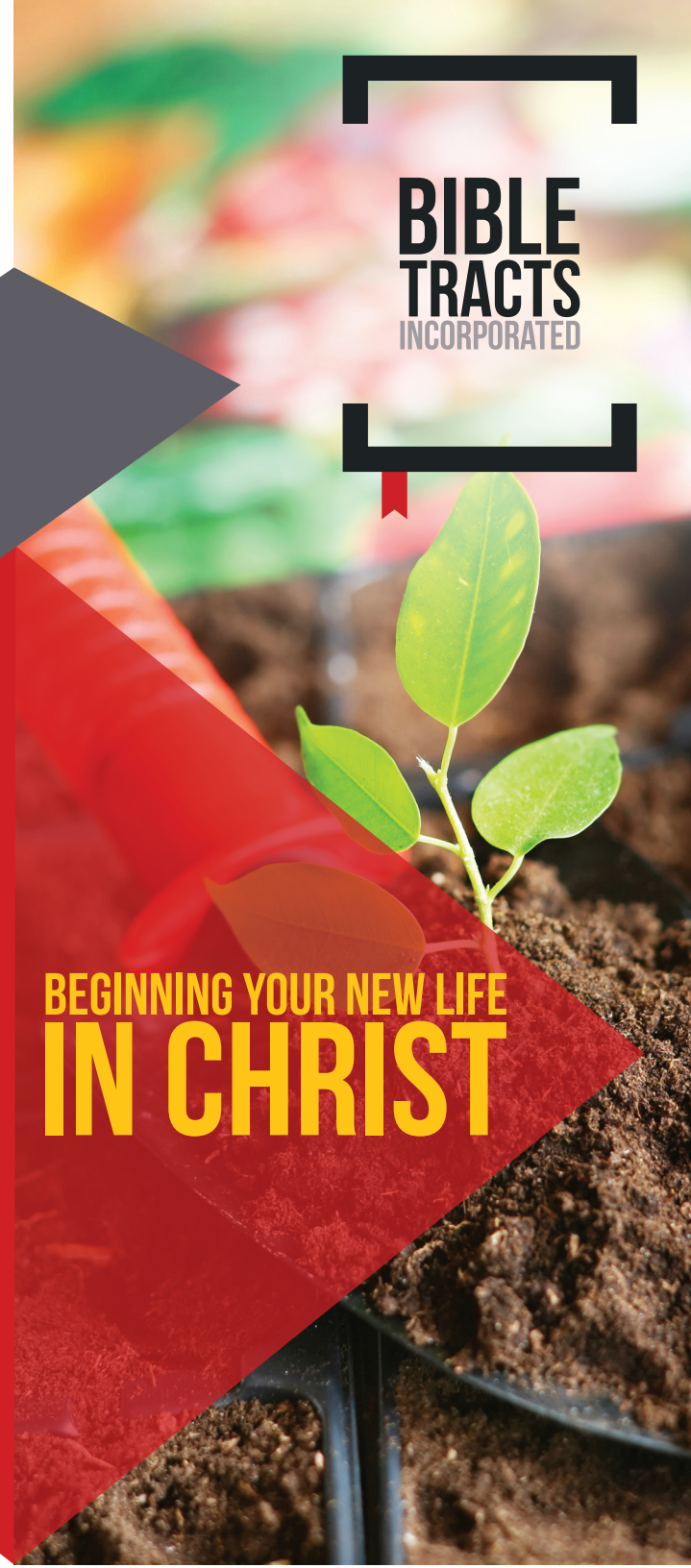
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BEGINNING YOUR NEW LIFE
IN CHRIST

**BIBLE
TRACTS**
INCORPORATED



YOU ARE SAVED FOREVER !

Jesus has given you this new, eternal life.

- Ephesians 2:8 - it was a *gift* from God
- Romans 8:33 - God *justified* you (declared you not guilty)
- Romans 8:35-39 - nothing can *separate* you from God and His love

WHAT IF I SIN?

Just as newly born physical babies have much to learn and will often stumble and fall, so do newly born believers. God calls you a “baby” Christian (I Peter 2:2). Will you live your life without sinning? No! So what does a new believer do when they sin? Let’s let the Bible answer this from 1 John 1:9. “*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*”

- **Confess your sin** - be sorry about doing it and repent (turn away) from that sin.
- **Replace that sin** - replace the sinful act or thought with a new act or thought; things pleasing to God.
- **Own His cleansing** - honest confession brings God’s cleansing; do not let anyone tell your heart that God can’t forgive; He promised He would.

OPENLY OWN JESUS

Hopefully by now you have told others that you received Jesus as your Savior. Verbally owning Jesus is what Jesus told His followers to do (Matthew 10:32). But there is another step to take - baptism.

BAPTISM: One of the very last things Jesus said before returning to heaven is called the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19). In His command to go tell others how to be saved was also His command to baptize new believers.

Baptism was commanded by Jesus

HOW? Let’s let the Bible help us answer this. In Acts 8:35-39 we have a story of a man getting saved and baptized. In vs. 38 it says “*...they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.*” So baptism in the Bible was done *down in water.*

The word “baptize” means to dip or immerse. There is a reason this is important. Going down into water and coming up again pictures Jesus’ death, burial,

and resurrection. It was through Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection that salvation was purchased for you. Romans 6:3-5 says that our baptism is a picture of His death, burial, and resurrection.

YOU NEED A CHURCH

Joining a Bible-preaching church is very important. It is at a Bible preaching/teaching church that you will:

- *Grow in knowledge about Christ,*
- *Develop new Christian friends,*
- *Learn to serve other believers,*
- *Learn how to share the gospel, and*
- *Participate in group prayer.*

A good church will teach you Biblical doctrine (teaching) and it will provide ways for you to serve Christ at every level of your spiritual development.

PERSONAL GROWTH

You also need to help yourself grow in Jesus. Going to church is important, but between church services you need to build yourself up in the things of Christ.

- Read your Bible daily - John 15:3, Hebrews 4:12
- Pray daily - I Thessalonians 5:17, Ephesians 6:18

As you read your Bible be looking for: 1) commands to obey, 2) sins to avoid, and 3) promises to claim. Find a verse each day that helps you focus that day on spiritual things.

Here is a simple prayer plan to help you get started.

- 1) Adoration:** tell God ***WHY*** you love Him.
- 2) Confession:** do not let sins go unconfessed.
- 3) Thanksgiving:** express praise for what God has done for you.
- 4) Supplication:** ask God for your own needs and those of others.

YOUR NEW GOAL

Do you know what God’s goal is for your life? God saved you so that you would be like Jesus (Romans 8:28,29). God’s goal needs to become your goal. Pray that you can become more like Jesus. There are things that will help and hurt this goal.

HELPS: We already listed ways to help become like Jesus. You need to be in His Word, in prayer, in a good church, and be sharing Christ with others.

HURTS: Be alert to anything that hinders God’s goal. Sin habits will hurt growth. Inappropriate activities

will hurt growth. Ungodly close friends can hurt growth.

Your old friends are a great place to go and begin sharing the gospel. Give them tracts, pray for them, and invite them to church. Old friends, though, often want to drag you back into old sinful practices. I John 2:15 says, “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”

EXPECT PROBLEMS

Just because you are saved does not mean you will never have problems. Jesus told His disciples that living in this world will mean you have trials and problems (John 16:33). Believers face the same everyday life problems as the unsaved. Things like sickness, car problems, job loss, leaky roof, etc. happen to everybody. Life is life. Don’t expect everything to always go smoothly.

SPECIAL PROBLEM: As a child of God you are now Satan’s enemy. He is the ruler of this present era (2 Corinthians 4:4; John 14:30). Believers do face trials and temptations that the Devil sends. His goal is to cause us to quit following Jesus.

- Expect trials designed to make you quit.
- Rejoice in these trials - James 1:2
- Trials produce purity - I Peter 1:6-9
- Trials are endurable - I Corinthians 10:13
- Trials allow us to share in Jesus’ sufferings - I Peter 4:12-16

LET’S BEGIN

Begin right now by prayer. Ask God to help you grow and be strong for Him. Read a chapter of the Gospel of John every day. Make a friend of a mature believer. Tell that person what you are learning from God’s Word every day.

Begin with these small steps and stay faithful in them. God will honor your steps of faith and give you His help moment by moment.