

ENGAGE



One 2 One for Teens

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Youth Pastor at His Youth
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5. Become a Disciplemaker

Jesus called every believer to be involved in discipling. He gave to his disciples, and to us, The Great Commission:

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

In these last recorded words of Jesus on earth, you are called to:

- (1) Go: Introduce people to Jesus – this is evangelising seekers.
- (2) Baptise: Help them grow – this is establishing believers.
- (3) Teach: Teach them to obey – this is equipping workers.

Jesus promised you two gifts if you participate in His mission:

- (1) His Authority (vs. 18)
- (2) His Presence (vs. 20)

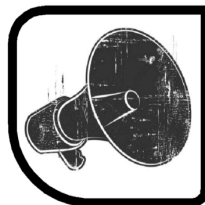


6. Final Challenge

It has been a great experience sharing with you over the past six weeks about growing your relationship with Jesus. We explored the following ways to grow in Jesus:

- A. Reading What God Has Written
- C. Being With God's Friends
- D. Doing What Pleases God
- E. Talking About Your Relationship

In the weeks and months that lie ahead you must continue to practise these skills – like in any sports game, if the players don't consistently do the basics they won't win the game. You will never graduate from practising these relational skills.



4. Find Your Personal Evangelism Style

When we look at how people in the Bible witnessed we see many different styles:

A. Confrontational

Peter was a confrontational person who revealed who Jesus was (Matthew 16:15); walked on the water and confronted people with the fact that they had crucified the Messiah (Acts 2).

B. Intellectual

Paul was highly educated; an intellectual who presented a well-reasoned argument to the philosophers in Athens (Acts 17).

C. Testimonial

The blind man that Jesus healed had something worth talking about (John 9) - he did not enter into theological debate with people, but spoke from his own experience.

D. Interpersonal

After Matthew was called to follow Jesus he put on a banquet for his tax collecting friends (Luke 5:29), inviting them into his home. He cared about them and wanted to influence them.

E. Invitational

After the woman at the well encountered Jesus, she went into the town and brought people to hear Jesus firsthand (John 4). She invited them to an event where they could hear the gospel.

F. Service

Dorcas was a woman wellknown for her loving acts of service that she did in the name of Jesus (Acts 9:36). She used a service approach to evangelism as she made clothing for widows and needy people in the town.

Spend a few minutes thinking through which styles you could naturally practise.

Introduction

Welcome to the family of God! I am sure you have many questions about your new relationship with God.



1. What Happened To Me?

Think of your conversion experience – what took place?

If you could understand what happened when God saved you, you would be amazed. Here is what took place behind the

scenes:

A. Separation

There is an immeasurable gap separating God and man.

Do you ever feel like God is a million miles away? Actually something happened that separated you from God:

Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. Isaiah 59:1-2

B. Sin

The cause of this separation between God and man is sin.

This separation is a moral separation. God is holy, you are not! God is good, you are not! God is just, you are not! Because you have sinned you are eternally separated from God.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus

C. Sacrifice

The justice of God demanded a sacrifice for man's sin.

Sin cannot go unpunished because God is holy, righteous and just. But God is also loving and compassionate and did not want you eternally separated from Him so He created a divine solution. His only Son, Jesus Christ, became the sacrifice for your sin.

But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. Hebrews 9:26-28

D. Substitution

Jesus paid the penalty for your sin. On the cross Jesus took your place and your punishment – he exchanged his righteousness for your sin. He took your curse and gave you his blessing. Because he was sinless he was the only one qualified to pay the penalty for your sin and to bridge the gap between God and man. So your salvation is based on what Jesus did for you on the cross.

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

E. Salvation

You are saved by God's grace when you turn from sin and put your trust in Christ alone for salvation.

You receive salvation when you stop trusting in yourself and put your trust in what Christ did for you.

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. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Romans 10:9-10

Take a moment to pray and thank God for all that He has done for you.



1. Pray for Opportunities to Talk about Jesus

How can you start to talk about your relationship with Jesus? You need to look for natural opportunities to talk about the One who loved you more than anybody else ever did - so much in fact, that he gave his life for you!

You should learn the following prayer: "Lord, open the heart of one of my friends so that I can talk about you. Secondly, open an opportunity for me to start talking, and thirdly, open my mouth."



2. Identify Three Lost People

List the names of three lost people in your life that you want to lead to Jesus (they could be family members or friends):

_____ / _____ / _____



3. Learn How to Share your Personal Testimony

Your own experience of entering into a relationship with Jesus is a powerful tool in telling others about Jesus. Here are some guidelines on how to create a personal testimony:

A. Briefly describe your life before Jesus.

B. Explain how you come to give your life to Jesus.

C. Describe the change that Jesus has made in your life.



talking about your relationship

The first secret to growing your relationship with Jesus is reading what God has written; the second is talking to God; the third is being with God's friends; the fourth is doing what pleases God; and the fifth is talking about your relationship.

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

Telling other about what God has done in your life is a natural response to what God has done for you. As Christians, it is your duty and your pleasure to witness for Jesus - to tell those around us about God's salvation.

I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are at Rome. I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. Romans 1:14-16

You need to learn to talk about you new relationship with Jesus. If people care about somebody, they talk about them. Have you ever met a grandparent? Before long they ask: "Would you like to see a picture of my grandchildren?" They are proud of their grandchildren and cannot help but tell you about them. If you are following Jesus you will find it difficult to keep quiet about Him!

Questions for Reflection:

- * Have you stopped trusting in yourself and started trusting in Christ alone for salvation?
- * Have you turned away from all known sin?
- * Have you confessed Jesus as the Lord and Master of your life?
- * Are you willing to follow and obey Jesus for the rest of your life?



2. Can I Be Sure Of My Salvation?

If you have placed your trust in Christ as saviour you can know with assurance that you are a child of God. The Bible says this assurance is based on what God did and not on anything you did.

To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God John 1:12

I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. John 6:47

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6



3. So What Happens Next?

It is God's desire that you grow spiritually:

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. 1 Peter 2:2

The way you will grow is by developing a relationship with Jesus. Think about a relationship with a friend. What can you do to grow it deeper?

In the next five sessions you will explore five ways that you can grow your relationship with Jesus.

A. Reading What God Has Written

The first way to grow your relationship with Jesus is to spend time reading what He has written to you.

B. Talking To God

The second way to grow your relationship with Jesus is to talk to him – we call this prayer and it involves expressing your love to Him, confessing your sins, thanking Him and asking Him for help.

C. Being With God's Friends

The third way to grow your relationship with Jesus is to spend time with God's friends at church. You need to develop a habit of meeting together regularly with other believers.

D. Doing What Pleases God

The fourth way to grow your relationship with Jesus is to find out how you can please him and avoid things that he does not approve of.

E. Talking About Your Relationship

The fifth way to grow your relationship with Jesus is to talk about your new relationship with your friends and family members.

If you are unsure whether you have repented and trusted Christ for salvation you should pray this prayer:

Prayer for Salvation

Heavenly father...I acknowledge that the separation between us...is because of my sin...I confess that I have sinned...and have fallen far short of your glory...I thank you that you sent your Son, Jesus...to pay the penalty for my sin...I believe that he died on the cross for me...I believe that you raised him from the dead...I am sorry for my sins...and I ask you to forgive and cleanse me...I want to turn away from everything the Bible calls sin...and receive you as my Lord, Master, and Saviour...help me to love, serve and obey you...for the rest of my life...in Jesus' Name...Amen!

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:10-17



5. Receiving Spirit Baptism

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit was:

A. Promised

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

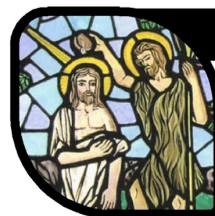
B. Requested

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! Luke 11:13

C. Received

When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. Acts 19:6

Spiritual gifts accompany the Baptist of the Spirit – and the most common is the gift of tongues (Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:6). The gift of prophecy was also given to believers for the strengthening of the church (1 Corinthians 14:1, 3, 4, 5, 14, 15, 39, 40).



6. Experiencing Water Baptism

You need to be baptised because Jesus set the example (Mark 1:9), he commanded it (Matthew 28:19-20) and it shows that you really are a believer (Acts 18:8).

Baptism reflects Jesus' burial and resurrection (Colossians 2:12) and your new life as a Christian (Romans 6:4), and like a wedding ring it's an outward symbol of a heart commitment. Every person who has believed in Christ should be baptised (Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12). If you wait until you are perfect before you get baptised you will never be ready.

One way to learn how to obey Jesus is to ask yourself a simple question each time you encounter a situation that requires a decision. The question is: What Would Jesus Do? Think about what Jesus would do if he were in your situation. During your prayer time each day, look back over the day and identify situations in which you did not obey God. Admit your failings and ask God to help you obey him more in future.



4. Engaging in Spiritual Warfare

The devil, your enemy, has three main weapons:

A. Temptation

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 1 Corinthians 10:13

B. Deception

But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. 2 Corinthians 11:3

C. Accusation

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. Revelation 12:10

The devil accuses God, producing doubt; fellow Christians, resulting in division; spiritual leaders, creating gossip; and us to ourselves, causing condemnation

Good News! God has given us spiritual armour and weapons:

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

!

reading what god has written

Now that you have trusted Christ for salvation you have started a relationship with Jesus Christ. To grow your new relationship you need to read what God has written.



1. To Grow You Must See The Bible As:

A. The Key to Spiritual Growth

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. 1 Peter 2:2

B. The Way to Victory over Temptation

The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:3-4

C. The Secret to a Pure and Holy Life

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:9-11

D. The Pathway to Success

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Joshua 1:8

E. The Guide to God's Will for Your Life

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2



2. To Grow Closer to God You Need:

A. Time

You need to set aside a regular time to relate to God through reading the Bible. Jesus set an example of getting up early each morning to meet with his Father.

B. Place

You need a place where you will not be disturbed or interrupted. That place should become your regular place of meeting with God.

C. Book

You need a book to read. God has given you the Bible to help you grow spiritually.



3. To Get into God's Word you need to:

A. Meet a Person

You are not just reading a book – you are meeting a person. As you read the Bible you are spending time hearing from God.

B. Make a Connection

Ask yourself: "How does this verse or passage relate to what I am going through in my life right now?"

C. Write it down

You should keep a journal so you have a written record of the relationship with Jesus.

D. Lordship is a Continuous Walk

Lordship is about developing a lifetime walk with God – it is not a one time action. *So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him. Colossians 2:6*



2. Living a Life of Faith

You are called to live a life of faith – understanding faith is critical to your relationship with Jesus:

A. Faith is Essential for Salvation

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

B. Faith Pleases God

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6

C. Faith Obeys God

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. Hebrews 11:8

D. Faith Overcomes the World

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 1 John 5:4-5



3. Dealing with Sin

If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. John 14:23-24

The proof of whether you love Jesus is determined by your desire to obey him! You are not saved because you obey him, but once you are saved you want to obey him. Complete the following sentence and for the next seven days remember to bring it before the Lord in prayer: One thing I want Jesus to change in my life is...

doing what pleases god

4

The first secret to growing your relationship with Jesus is reading what God has written; the second is talking to God; the third is being with God's friends; and the fourth is doing what pleases God. There are a number of areas in which you can obey God:

1. Submitting to the Lordship of Jesus



Lord means master, the one who calls the shots; the one who makes the decisions. So what is lordship?

A. Lordship is Essential for Salvation

You must submit to Jesus' lordship in every area of your life.

You cannot receive Jesus as Saviour and not as Lord.

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

B. Lordship Demands Obedience

If you say that Jesus is your Lord you must do as He says – your lifestyle must back up your claim to be a Christ follower.

Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. Luke 6:46

C. Lordship Begins in the Heart

Submitting to Christ's lordship is not about following a set of religious rules and traditions – it is a matter of the heart – eventually it will show itself in outward obedience.

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 1 Peter 3:15



4. Having Daily Devotions

During the coming weeks I want to help you get into reading and studying the Bible for yourself – set aside 20 minutes to half an hour each day (preferably in the morning) to read the Bible.

Start reading through the gospel of Mark in the New Testament, one chapter or a smaller section each day. As you read you should encounter Jesus as you read, ask yourself how what you have read connects with your life and keep a record of the insights you receive.

It is helpful to read a passage a few times and then see if the passage has answers to the following questions:

1. Are there Sins to Avoid?
2. Are there Promises to Claim?
3. Are there Examples to Follow?
4. Are there Commands to Obey?
5. Are there Blessings to Enjoy?

Hey, why not try it right now – use the first chapter of the gospel of Mark, read it a few times and answer the five questions

Reading: Mark 1

1. Is there a Sin to Avoid?
2. Is there a Promise to Claim?
3. Is there an Example to Follow?
4. Is there a Command to Obey?
5. Is there a Blessing to Enjoy?

talking to god

The first secret to growing your relationship with Jesus is reading what God has written; the second is talking to God.

1. The Right Attitudes for Prayer



A. Be Real

When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. Matthew 6:5

B. Be Relaxed

But when you pray go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:6

C. Be Revealing

Don't recite the same prayer over and over as the heathen do, who think prayers are answered only be repeating them again and again. Remember, your Father knows exactly what you need before you ask Him! Matthew 6:7-8

then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. 1 Corinthians 12:27-28

3. What Does the Church Provide?



There are many benefits for those who are a part of the church:

A. Friendship

True friends encourage us to become more like Jesus.

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24

B. Fellowship

As you connect with other believers you will stay on fire for God.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

C. Worship

You gather together with other believers to express your love, devotion and commitment to God.

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Acts 2:46-47

D. Teaching

As a follower of Jesus you must teach others to follow Jesus.

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 2 Timothy 2:2

4. What Christian Friends Do You Have?



Name 3 Christians you can call in case of a spiritual emergency:

A. _____ B. _____

C. _____

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:19-22

C. Bride

The church as a bride reminds us that we must view ourselves as joined to Christ in a faithful love relationship.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. Ephesians 5:25-27



2. What Does the Church Do?

As we look at the early Church in the New Testament we discover that Christians gathered together to:

A. Study God's Word, Fellowship, Break Bread, Pray

They met in small groups to engage in practises that would help to sustain their relationship with Jesus.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

B. Encourage Each Other

They met together to encourage each other to continue following Jesus and to practise deeds of kindness.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25

C. Practise Spiritual Gifts

They used the spiritual gifts God gave them to build the body:

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers,



2. The Content of Prayer

So what do you pray about? Jesus gave a model prayer that we call the Lord's Prayer – here is what you should pray for:

A. God's will

Pray for God's will for your life, family, church, city and nation.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10

B. Provision

Pray for personal and family needs to be met.

Give us today our daily bread. Matthew 6:11

C. Forgiveness

Pray for forgiveness from God and forgive those who offend you.

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. Matthew 6:12

D. Victory over Temptation

Pray for victory and protections from the devil's schemes.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13



3. Learning How to Pray

If prayer is new to you, you can start by writing a letter to God and then reading it to Him. The following headings can be used:

A. Adoration

Dear Lord, I love you because ...

B. Confession

I am sorry for ...

C. Thanksgiving

Thank you for ...

D. Supplication

Please help me ...



4. Confessing Your Sins in Prayer

You will grow in your relationship with Jesus if you engage in regular confession of your sins.

A. Confessing Sin

You must admit your personal guilt and specific sins.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" – and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Psalm 32:5

B. Receiving Forgiveness

When you confess your sins God responds with forgiveness.

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

C. Practising Forgiveness

You must also forgive people who have sinned against you.

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Matthew 18:21-22

Make it your regular habit to keep short account of sins (as soon as you know that you have done something that displeases Jesus, turn to him in confession and ask for forgiveness) – don't wait until the end of the day to confess your sins. Be sure to offer forgiveness to those who have sinned against you.



being with god's friends

The first secret to growing your relationship with Jesus is reading what God has written; the second is talking to God; and the third is being with God's friends.



1. What is the Church?

When you became a Christian God joined you with other believers into Church. The word church comes from a Greek word which means: "called-out ones". The church is made up of people who have been called out and brought together for a common purpose. The Bible uses several figures of speech to describe the church:

A. Body

The church is a body of believers who have been called together. Each person is unique, but connected to each other.

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:4-5

B. Building

The church is a building that God has designed. As we grow we become a building in which God lives by his Holy Spirit.