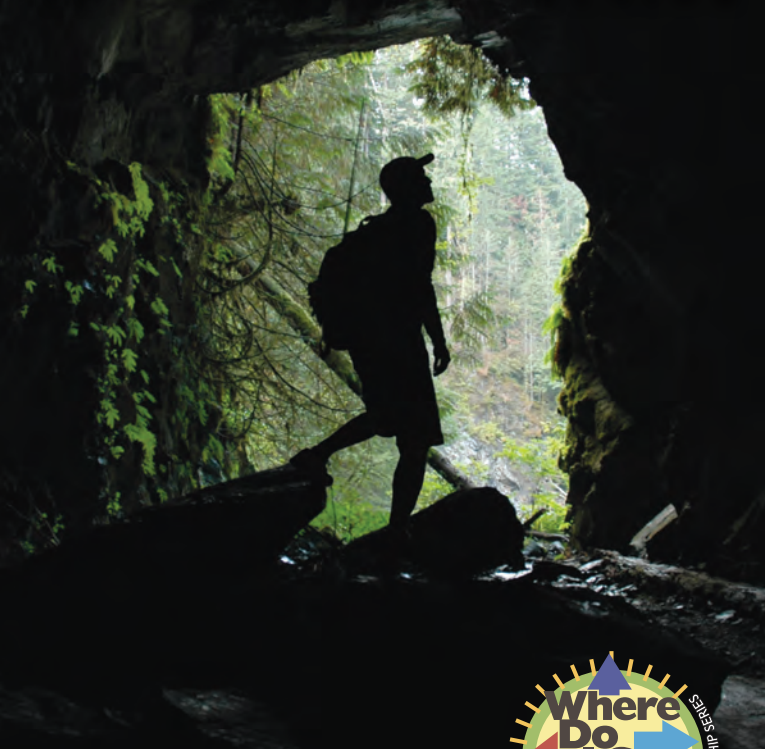


# FIRST STEPS

## THE ADVENTURE BEGINS



A PERSONAL GUIDE  
FOR NEW BELIEVERS



# WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE? FIRST STEPS

The first steps of any adventure can be exciting and scary at the same time. The novelty creates anticipation and the unknown fosters fear.

I remember the first time I worked my way through a high ropes course at camp. I was doing okay until I came to the Two Line Bridge, which was 1/2-inch thick and forty feet off the ground. The instructor told me to step out onto the wire. I felt anticipation and fear simultaneously.

You have been given this book because you have just begun the greatest adventure of your life. You started this journey when you said "yes" to Jesus and invited Him into your life. You are probably wondering, "Where do I go from here?" and "What are the first steps?"

It is all new and exciting but you are still facing some unknowns. I want to encourage you to read through this booklet to learn more about what's next. You will discover six of the "first steps" of your new adventure. This does not cover everything you will want to know about the Christian life but it will give you a jump-start.

In the New Testament book of Colossians, we find a challenge for new believers beginning a new adventure.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 2:6-7



The Apostle Paul condenses the Christian life down to three basic stages:

**Know:** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord...

**Grow:** ...so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught...

**Show:** ...as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

This booklet will investigate each of these three stages and answer some vital questions you may be asking. So, you have taken the all-important step of saying "yes" to Jesus; now begin taking the "first steps" of the adventure of the Christian life.



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# KNOW

**Question:**

**Topic:**

**Theme:**

**Answer:**

**What just happened?**

**Salvation**

**New Birth**

Several years ago on our family vacation, we stopped at a major university to take a self-guided tour. At the time, the basketball team from this campus had won the National Championship for the second consecutive year, so my kids were hoping to get a glimpse of a couple of the players.

The excitement built as we approached the gymnasium where the team practiced, and then it happened. The team had just finished practice as we walked through the doors and they were all standing there talking. My kids grabbed paper and pens and began working the team asking for autographs.

After the team left, my kids just stood there in utter amazement. They all had that look on their faces that said, "What just happened?" Perhaps you feel the same way about your new-found faith. You are excited but a little blown away by the experience.

Maybe the person who introduced you to Jesus used a term like "trusting Jesus," "inviting Jesus into your life," "accepting Jesus," "being born again," or "knowing God." Regardless of the wording, here is what happened when you said "yes" to Jesus Christ and put your faith in Him.





**1. YOU REALIZED AND ADMITTED YOUR SINFUL NATURE.**

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

We are all sinners by nature; that means no one had to teach us to sin.

**Romans 6:23—For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**


Our sin has separated us from a personal relationship with God and will keep us from spending eternity with Him in Heaven. But Jesus made it possible for us to have that personal relationship. He paid the price for our sin and offered us the free gift of salvation.

You confessed (admitted) your sin. Maybe you spoke out loud or maybe it was just a quiet prayer you said in your heart, but you admitted to the fact of your sin.

**2. YOU ACKNOWLEDGED THAT JESUS DIED, WAS BURIED, AND ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD TO PAY THE PRICE FOR YOUR SIN.**

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4—For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.**

Jesus did not just die; He rose from the dead. There have been many spiritual leaders who claimed to be God, but Jesus is the only One who came back from the grave.



**Romans 10:9-10—That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

The Bible clearly states that when we confess Jesus as Lord and believe that God raised Him from the dead, we will be saved.

When you recognized that Jesus died and rose again, you acknowledged that He is God. You acknowledged that He is the only One capable of giving you new life.

### **3. YOU PUT YOUR SIMPLE FAITH AND TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE FOR SALVATION.**

**John 14:6—Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**

Jesus clearly states that He is the Way, Truth, and Life. There is no other way to a personal relationship with God other than through Him. There is no other source of eternal life but Jesus.

**Ephesians 2:8-9—For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.**

You came to the realization that while good works, going to church, or even being baptized are good things, they will not save you from your sin. They are evidence that Jesus is your Savior, but your salvation is not based on your works but on Jesus' finished work on the cross.

**Romans 10:13—For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”**

You talked to God maybe for the first time and gave Him a personal invitation into your life.

So the answer to the question, “What just happened?” can be mind-blowing. When you admitted you were a sinner, acknowledged Jesus’ death and resurrection, and said “yes” to Jesus being your Savior, you were born again. That’s right; you became a child of God’s and a part of His family. With this new birth came new life.

Keep reading this booklet to find out more incredible answers about your new life in Christ.

