

HOW TO START A
RELATIONSHIP WITH
JESUS!

SAYING YES TO A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

The decision to accept Christ as your savior is the most important decision you will ever make.

**Q HOW DO I HAVE A
PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD?**

You probably have a lot of questions, and we hope that this book will begin to answer them, plus provide a few resources to help you learn more on your own.

We want to share with you the message of God's love and hope for you based on God's word, the Bible. We're praying for you as you begin to explore your faith.

Q

WHY WOULD GOD CARE ABOUT ME?

There are 4 things you need to know:

1. God loves you
2. He chose you
3. He has a plan for you
4. He desires to have a personal relationship with you.

“

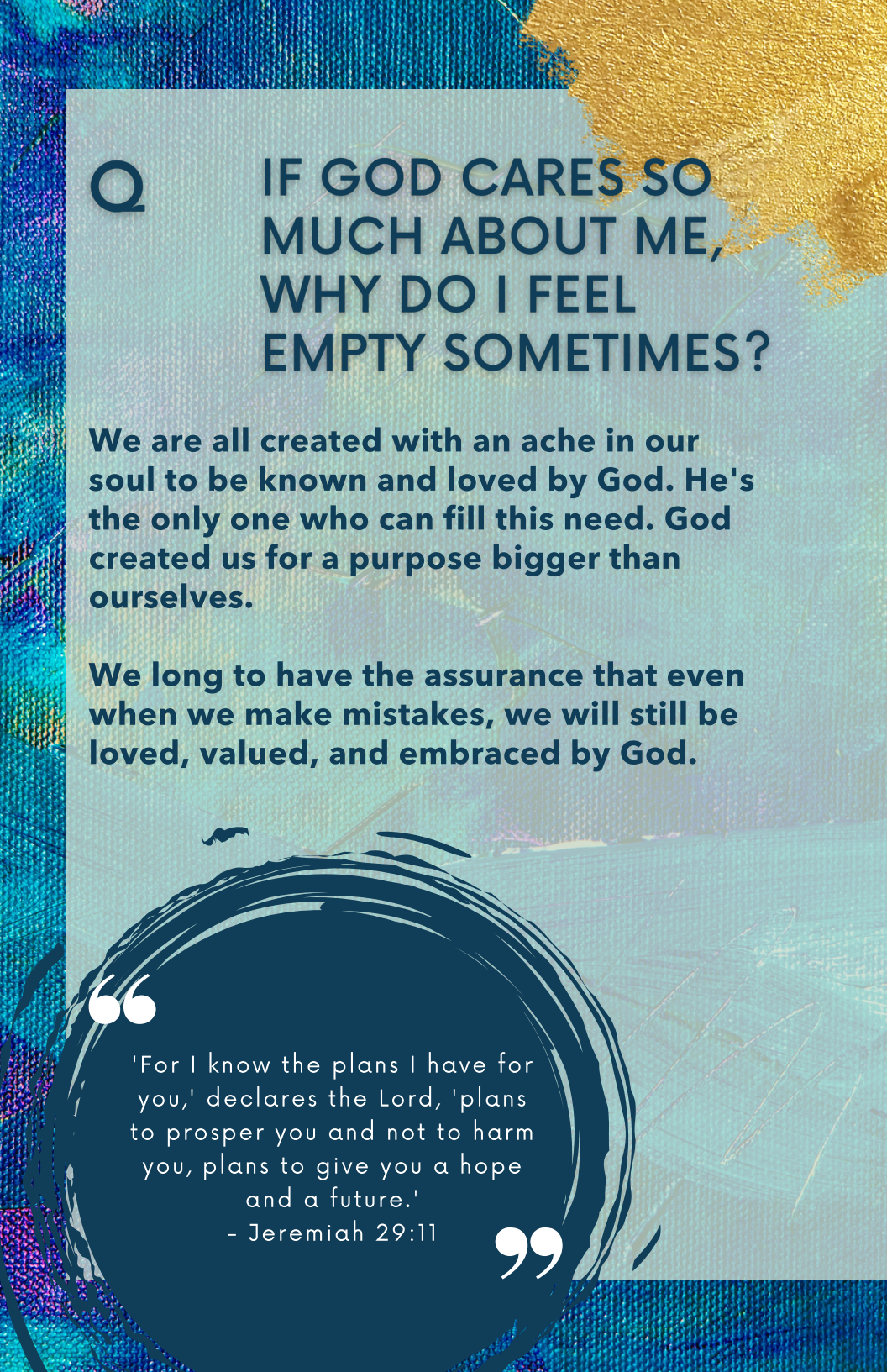
For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him, will not perish, but have eternal life.

- John 3:16

...We are always thankful that God chose you... To experience salvation- through your belief in the truth.

- 2 Thessalonians 2:13

”



Q IF GOD CARES SO MUCH ABOUT ME, WHY DO I FEEL EMPTY SOMETIMES?

We are all created with an ache in our soul to be known and loved by God. He's the only one who can fill this need. God created us for a purpose bigger than ourselves.

We long to have the assurance that even when we make mistakes, we will still be loved, valued, and embraced by God.

“

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'

- Jeremiah 29:11

”

Q WHY DOES GOD OFTEN SEEM SO FAR AWAY?

Despite our desire to be loved, people have always turned their backs on God. We choose to go our own way and live by our own will and disregard biblical truth. The Bible calls this "sin" and we are all guilty of it.

Sin is what keeps us separate from a relationship with God. When we sin and ignore the truth, death is the result.

Sin has a way of killing our relationships, our joy, and our closeness with God. The payment for sin is death and eternal separation from God.

“

All have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard.
- Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death...
- Romans 6:23

”

Q CAN I WORK MY WAY BACK TO GOD BY BECOMING A BETTER PERSON?

Because of our sin there is a huge impassable gap between us and God. We try to reconcile with God by being a good person, or by following religious rules to work or earn our way back to God, but no human effort can make us good enough to fix our separation from God.

God, who still deeply loves us, desires to have a personal relationship with us, His creation.

“ God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

- Romans 5:8

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

- John 14:6

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

- Ephesians 2:8-9

”

Q

THEN HOW DO I GET
TO GOD?

Because God loves us so much, his solution was to send His Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap between us.

There is no other way for us to get to God other than through Jesus Christ.

Jesus was fully God and fully human, yet He had no sin. Jesus willingly laid down his life and, three days later, rose from the dead. In His death and resurrection, His life paid the price for our sin once and for all.

YOU

JESUS

GOD

SIN

Q

DO I HAVE A CHOICE TO ACCEPT GOD'S GIFT?

Yes. We all have a choice. Forgiveness of our sins is a gift from God when we accept Jesus as the one who saved us. We can't earn it and we don't deserve it - it is simply a gift.

A gift isn't a gift until it has been accepted. We must individually accept that Jesus Christ saved us from our sins to receive eternal life.

“

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

- Romans 10:9-10

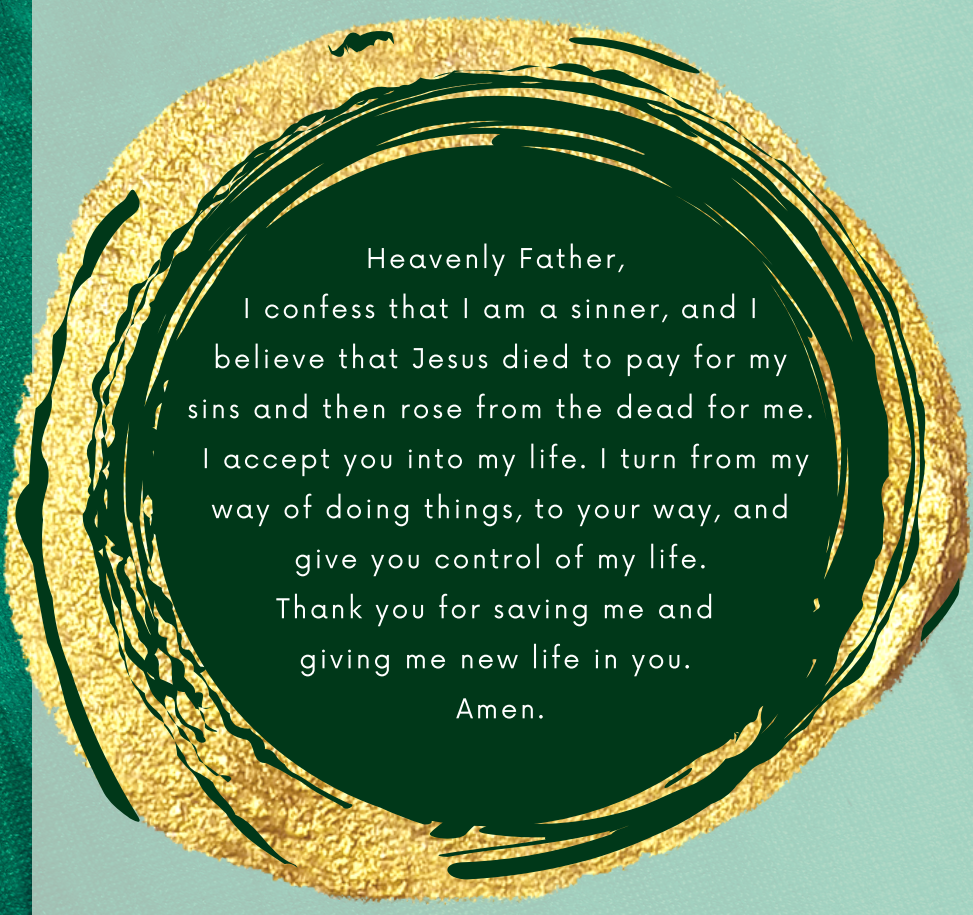
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When we say yes to Jesus, the Bible says that God gives us eternal life, and this life is found in His son Jesus Christ.

4 QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- 1. Do I know that God loves me and has a plan for my life?**
- 2. Do I understand that I've sinned and that my sin is a barrier to my relationship with God?**
- 3. Do I believe that Jesus Christ paid the penalty for my sin and is the only way to find forgiveness for my sins?**
- 4. Have I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior by believing in him - by saying yes to Him?**

**IF YOU SAID YES TO THE 4
QUESTIONS ON THE PREVIOUS
PAGE, YOU CAN START YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD RIGHT
NOW BY TALKING TO HIM.**



Heavenly Father,
I confess that I am a sinner, and I
believe that Jesus died to pay for my
sins and then rose from the dead for me.
I accept you into my life. I turn from my
way of doing things, to your way, and
give you control of my life.
Thank you for saving me and
giving me new life in you.
Amen.

DID YOU SAY **YES** TO JESUS TODAY?

YOU HAVE A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD,
AND A NEW FUTURE, ALL OF HEAVEN IS
REJOICING - AND WE ARE TOO! WELCOME TO
GOD'S FAMILY!

If you said yes to Jesus, then God has forgiven
you, has adopted you into His family, and has
come into your heart and life - you are a new
person in Him.

God has given you eternal life in Heaven through
his Son, Jesus Christ and given you the Holy Spirit.
God's Spirit - which guides you and reveals God's
truth - lives in you.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new
creation has come: The old has gone, the
new is here!

- 2 Corinthians 5:17

CONGRATULATIONS

God will begin to change you and give you new desires, new passions, and a new hope. Now you will begin to make decisions and navigate your life with God's plan in mind.

If you prayed today to say yes to Jesus, sign & date here for you to remember this day:

Name:

Date:

Let us know you made this decision by texting 'JESUS' to (763) 452-9522

“

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

- John 5:24

”

NEXT STEPS

Deciding to follow Christ is more than just trying to live a better life. You need to make your faith personal. If your heart is changed, your outward actions and ambitions will follow. Growing in your relationship with God will take time. Here are a few ways that will help you.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Tell someone about your decision! Tell your friends, family and co-workers. Celebrate your decision and don't keep it a secret!

If you declare 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 profess your faith and are saved.

- Romans 10:9-10

ATTEND CHURCH

Spend time with other Christ followers worshipping God, being in community and serving in a church where God's message of love and hope are shared.

Do not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
- Hebrews 10:25

GET BAPTIZED

FINDGRACE.COM/BAPTISM

Celebrate your new life in Christ by participating in a believer's baptism, as Jesus commands. Saying yes to Jesus is our first step of faith. Saying yes to baptism is our first step of obedience.

Believe and be baptized...
- Mark 16:16

ATTEND GROWTH TRACK

[FINDGRACE.COM/GROWTH-TRACK](https://findgrace.com/growth-track)

Growth Track is a class to help you experience Grace to the fullest. You will learn all about Grace Fellowship, how to connect with others, discover your purpose, and how to make a difference in others.

But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul.

- Deuteronomy 4:29

JOIN A SMALL GROUP

[FINDGRACE.COM/GROUPS](https://findgrace.com/groups)

We value doing life together at Grace. We want every person to be in a group, making friends, learning the scriptures, and supporting each other in the challenges and joys of day-to-day life. Grace Fellowship is a church OF small groups, not a church WITH small groups.

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

- Matthew 18:20



START SERVING

FINDGRACE.COM/SERVE

We call it the DREAM TEAM! Our teams are made up of people who are volunteering during Sunday services and during the week.

GUEST SERVICES

IT WEEKEND SUPPORT

KIDS MINISTRY

YOUTH MINISTRY

WORSHIP

BUILDING CARE

CARE

CONNECTIONS

GLOBAL MISSIONS

GROUPS

GROWTH TRACK

LOCAL COMPASSION

LOCAL OUTREACH

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

- 1 Peter 4:10

THINGS TO KNOW

PRAYER

Prayer is a conversation between you and God. Start by thanking Him for what's in your life. Confess your sin to Him and your desire to turn away from it. Ask God to guide your life and for the power to trust Him more and more.

Lord, teach us to pray...
- Luke 11:1

BIBLE

FINDGRACE.COM/BIBLE

Know the heart of God better by connecting with His written words.

There are different versions of the Bible, we recommend the New International Version (NIV) to get started.

Grace would love to get you a Bible of your own and help you with resources to help you read it! Check out the website above.

We've included a 31-day Bible Reading Plan on the next page.

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
- Psalm 119:105

RECEIVE CARE

FINDGRACE.COM/CARE

Grace offers different support groups throughout the year - contact us for info on:

Grace Recovery Group

Grief Share

Divorce Care

Guidance from a Stephen Minister

Hospital Visits

Prayer

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11

SHARE CHRIST WITH OTHERS

When appropriate, share your story about the difference Jesus is making in your life. Demonstrate your new life in Christ by showing your love and care for others.

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

- Matthew 4:19

31 DAY BIBLE READING PLAN

- Day 1–Luke 1–Preparing for Jesus’ arrival
- Day 2–Luke 2– The story of Jesus’ birth
- Day 3–Mark 1–The beginning of Jesus’ ministry
- Day 4 - Mark 9–A day in the life of Jesus
- Day 5–Matthew 5–The Sermon on the Mount
- Day 6–Matthew 6–The Sermon on the Mount (part 2)
- Day 7–Luke 15–Parables of Jesus

- Day 8–John 3–A conversation with Jesus
- Day 9–John 10–The Good Shepherd
- Day 10–John 14–Jesus’ final instructions
- Day 11–John 15–Jesus’ final instructions (part 2)
- Day 12–John 16–The work of the Spirit
- Day 13–John 17–Jesus’ prayer for his disciples
- Day 14–Matthew 26–Jesus’ betrayal and arrest

- Day 15–Matthew 27–Jesus’ execution on a cross
- Day 16–John 20–Resurrection
- Day 17–Luke 24–Jesus’ appearance after resurrection
- Day 18–Romans 3– Paul’s theology in a nutshell
- Day 19–Romans 5– Peace with God
- Day 20– Romans 7– Struggles with sin
- Day 21– Romans 8– Life in the Spirit

- Day 22– Romans 12–Life in the world
- Day 23– Ephesians 2–Our life in Christ
- Day 24–Ephesians 4–Unity in Christ
- Day 25–Ephesians 5–Living in Christ
- Day 26–Philippians 2–Being Christ-like
- Day 27– Philippians 3–Maturing in Christ
- Day 28–Philippians 4–Trusting Christ through trials

- Day 29–Galatians 5–Life in the Spirit
- Day 30–Colossians 3–Life in Christ
- Day 31–2 Timothy 2–Being strong in Christ

FIND GRACE

If you're ready to take some of these next steps, check out our website at:

findgrace.com

On the home page you will find the **NEXT STEPS** button with all the information you will need to get started in your relationship with Jesus and with your community at Grace.

763.496.5545

