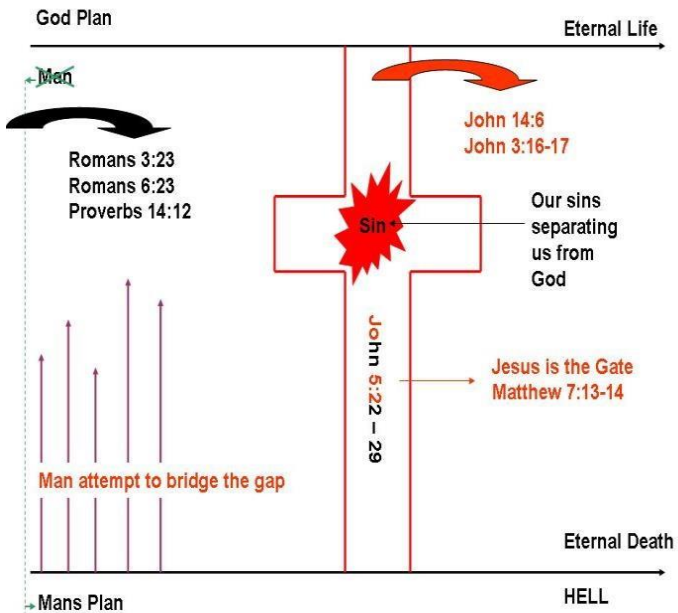


The New Believers Introduction



Scripture References

John 3:16-17	Romans 3:23	Romans 6:23	Romans 10:9
Romans 10:13	1 John 1:9	Proverbs 14:12	Proverbs 16:25
John 14:6	John 1:11-14	John 3:1-21	Revelation 3:20
2 Peter 1:4-9	1 John 3:8-10	Galatians 5:14-26	

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Introduction

Welcome to the Kingdom of God! The choice that you have made to follow Jesus Christ, is the best decision you will ever make and I promise you, that He will never leave you or forsake you! (**Hebrews 13:5**)

This booklet is designed to give you a short introduction of what you need to do, since making your decision for Jesus Christ, and accepting Him as your own personal Saviour.

I guess you are asking yourself since I am born again, what do I need to do next in my walk with Him so that I can grow up to full maturity in Jesus Christ?

Please remember that this booklet, is just an introduction to this topic for new believers in Christ, and not a full discussion on

every topic in a new Christian life, we will discuss the basics for now!

What just happened

I know that you may have many questions about what you just did and especially what to do next since you now have Jesus Christ living in your heart.

As you grow into spiritual maturity, you will realise that to receive anything in the Kingdom of God, will require you to have FAITH in God (**Hebrews 11:1 & 6**) and that LOVE (**1 Corinthians 13**) is the glue that binds us all together in unity.

It was because of God's love for you, and in fact, His LOVE for the ENTIRE human race, those that have ever or will ever live on this earth, that Jesus Christ came into this world, lived a sinless life as a man, then He died a sinless man for the sins of the ENTIRE world so that ALL mankind might be saved.

Jesus is the DOOR or the WAY, in fact, He is the ONLY WAY for man to get right with God – I did not say this, Jesus Christ, Himself said this, we read in **John 14:6** - *“6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

When you got saved, or “Born Again” as we like to refer to this experience in the church, you came through the ONLY WAY that God set up for mankind to become reconciled with Himself and that Way is only through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Once you accepted Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour, you immediately became God's child and you receive TOTAL FORGIVENESS of ALL your sin, the past, present, and future and your name is written in the Lambs Book of Life (**Luke 10:20**).

Now your eternal address has changed from Hell to Heaven! Once you had no hope, now you have the confidence in an incredible future with God in Heaven! (**Philippians 1:3-6**)

This NEW BIRTH/being “Born Again” (**John 3:1-21**), can only be received by FAITH in the FINISHED work of the Cross. Jesus

Christ did it ALL. We just need to accept His finished work for ourselves in FAITH and make Him our Lord and our Saviour.
(Romans 1:16-17 / Romans 10:9)

As you live out your Christian life, there will be some days, that you really don't feel saved or you don't feel worthy of being called a Christian.

Maybe you sinned, maybe you messed up – but that can NEVER change your situation, and who you are in CHRIST!

God sees you as righteous because He looks at you through the finished work of the cross, He sees Jesus Christ blood sacrificed for your sins and therefore declares you are RIGHTEOUS, in right standing with God because of Jesus Christ's blood and complete work for you on the Cross of Calvary!

This is where your FAITH needs to kick in, for you must NEVER forget that Jesus Christ paid a FULL PRICE for ALL our sins when He died on that Cross for you! He paid it all forever and ever! You have BEEN SET FREE from Sin through the blood of Jesus Christ! **(Galatians 3:13-15)**

Now that you have become God's child, you are also a joint heir of the Kingdom of God with the billions of people who have done exactly what you did throughout the centuries.

You are now a prince or princess of the King of ALL kings, the Lord of all lords, and your future is so bright and secure, that nothing can separate you from the LOVE of God! **(Romans 8:38-39)**

Therefore, we need to start living and reigning with Christ as God planned since the beginning of time and take back our authority from the devil, and overcome our sinful nature, through Jesus Christ.

The Bible says, that when you got, "born again", you have now become the new Creation, this is spoken of in **2 Corinthians 5:17**

– *“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”*

So what is this NEW CREATION, you have become a new person, your old life is now hidden in Christ and you are now called a CHRISTIAN. (**Colossians 3:1-4**)

You have for the first time in your life become a real follower of Christ, you have become just like Christ and therefore are entitled to be called a Christian or Christ-like.

No one becomes a Christian by going to church, reading their Bible, or anything else, because if you could become a Christian by going to church, then you could also become a car by accidentally sleeping in your garage!

So going to church or anything else does not make you a Christian, except becoming that NEW CREATION by accepting Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour, which is what you have just done!

Now that you are that NEW CREATION, you are now called a Christian. So that you can be God’s witnesses or Ambassador to your friends, family, and others here on earth. (**2 Corinthians 5:16-21**)

You have been tasked with telling your story, (we call it a testimony in the church), to others. You tell them what happened to you, how you met Jesus Christ so that they too can have the opportunity, as you did, to choose to receive or to reject Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour.

Your job is to go to your friends, family, and others to tell them about Jesus, share your testimony, your own unique story, of how you met Jesus Christ and became “born again”, and offer them the opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as their own Saviour!

Many will say NO, and that’s okay, it is not their time right now but just go to the next person and tell them your story.

Soon you will find someone who also wants to come to Jesus Christ like you did and then you can lead them to the Lord.

Don't forget your friends that said no, always pray for them, ask God for guidance and follow up with them because I am sure they will be watching you much more closely since you told them your testimony, and when they see this is real to you, and how you have really changed, they will also want what you have and you can reach them for Christ!

What do I need to do?

So there is NO LIST of Does and don'ts, but there are however some good guidelines that I want to share with you today, and hopefully, they will help you to become what God created you to be!

So here is a basic list of things you need to develop or put into action, so that you too, can grow in your spiritual walk with God and become the person God created you to be.

Go to church

If you want to grow up a mature Christian and attain all the things that God has in store for you, you will need to get connected with your fellow believers in Christ and together learn about God through the preaching of the Word of God.

The church is a place of Celebration, where you and fellow **believer's** get together on a weekly basis to praise and worship God and to hear a message from the Pastor that will encourage, build you up and teach you about the magnificence of God.

It is in the church that you will grow, especially in your faith as you hear other testimonies of people just like you who God did incredible things through.

Faith ALWAYS comes when you hear the sovereign undiluted Word of God, it says **Romans 10:17** ¹⁷ *Consequently, faith*

comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.”

And then lastly the Sunday church service is also a place where you get the opportunity to give, tithing, giving of yourself and giving financially to God’s work!

Is the minister after your money? No he/she is not, but the church does cost money to run, and the pastor also needs to live, being a pastor is his job and would you work for nothing?

So make sure you bring something to give at the service, God wants your heart and when you give you show Him that your attitude is correct (**Mathew 6:19-24**).

How much is up to you, the Bible does say 10% of your income? (**Malachi 3:8-12**). I often ask people, do you need a big or small miracle in your life, well then give according to your personal need.

2 Corinthians 9:7 – says *“7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*

So we must each week make a plan on how much we will give God on Sunday, the amount is not important, what is important is obedience and your heart attitude.

We need to be joyful givers, like our FATHER, who is the world’s best giver, giving people incredible gifts. (**2 Corinthians 9:6-15**)

He gave you the very breath, you’re breathing right now for FREE! He gave you His ONLY SON, to pay for ALL your sins, and then, He gave you eternal life for FREE! And He has given us so, so much more!

So make sure you attend church as often as possible, come with the right attitude, to receive a message for yourself from God.

Don’t forget to dress comfortably and modestly and bring your Bible, a notebook, and pen, and do not forget to bring

something to give in the offering, and if you can bring a friend or friends with you that will be great for them to visit too.

Which Church must I go to?

Many people ask me, “Which church is the one I must go to?”, and my answer to this question is, to find a Bible-believing church where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached and where the Holy Spirit is allowed to operate in His fullness with signs and wonders following – you do not want to attend a “dead” church.

If you are not sure where to go or you have no church, why not join our church we would love to help you grow into the man/woman of God you were meant to be!

Get a Bible

There are many places in the world where the Bible is not sold or is illegal to have, but fortunately, in our country, this is not true. So I would encourage you to get yourself your own personal copy of God’s Word.

You might not be aware of this, but many people died the death of a martyr, just to get you a copy of the Bible in English – One of these men was named, William Tyndale, and he translated the scriptures from the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek into English, so that we can read the Word of God today in English – the majority of his work of translation formed the basis in the translation of the King James Version.

The Bible you buy does not have to be an expensive copy, it could be a cheap Bible or an expensive one, but please buy a Bible that you won’t feel bad highlighting and marking, because as God speaks to you and He will, you might want to highlight that specific scripture or even make a short note in the margin.

But get a Bible that you can mark and make notes in because it will become a wealthy resource for your future.

What version of the Bible must I get?

The Bible has been translated in to literally many different English translations, but I would suggest getting a Bible that uses English that you can understand like the NIV (New International Version), NTLV (New Today's Language Version), NASB (New American Standard Bible) or even NKJV (New King James Version).

These all are modern language translations, I would highly recommend the NIV because that is the Bible I started with and still use today but any Bible that you find easy and convenient to read is fine.

I would recommend as a beginners Bible that you steer away, for now, from the KJV for now, because it uses old English, I would rather go for the NKJV which has a more modern English translation of the original KJV, however, feel free to buy a King James Version if you want.

The King James Version is the most accurate of all the translations of the Bible in English because even it has language flaws due to the limits of the English language as a whole to express Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic phrases, words and terms.

Start a daily time with God

Just as when you started any relationship with any person, you needed to spend time with that person and get to know them and develop a relationship with that person.

So building a relationship with God is no different from building any other relationship. You build it by spending time with Him and His Word, finding out what He likes and dislikes and asking Him to make you more like Him and to assist you in your everyday life and your challenges.

Can you remember when you dated your spouse, what were the things you did?

Do you think, it would be remotely possible to fall in love with another human being, without learning who that person was,

what they liked and disliked. Now imagine doing all this without ever speaking or communicating with them?

Would you be able to trust them with your life or even admire them? Would you want to be with someone that never spoke to you?

I guess your answer would be, No! If not I have some property I would like to sell you in Antarctica....

So if we cannot build a relationship without communication, understanding, love, and trust why would we expect that having a relationship with God would be any different?

God wants to have a relationship with you, it has always been His plan to speak to you, (audible, through nature, through your thoughts, His Word, and in other ways), and also for Him to hear you speak to Him and ask Him things.

This relationship is, a two-way communication, unfortunately, many people think, that when they spend time with God it is, give me this, give that, I want it now, thank you amen!

No, prayer is always a two-way communication, reading His Word, and then listening to what He is saying, usually, this is a still small voice inside your mind/thinking, telling you to do something or not to do something and yes it will take a little time to master this skill to hear His voice.

We all have three voices speaking to us, God, ourselves, and the devil. Therefore we need to distinguish which of these are God and that only will come with practice.

God's voice will ALWAYS be according to His Word and will always be the TRUTH (**Numbers 23:19 / Titus 1:2**).

Our voice is usually selfish by nature (**James 1:14-15**), and the devil's voice is always contrary to Godly beliefs, the Bible, and good judgment – even though it might be the Word of God or even sound like the Word of God, do not be deceived because

the devil is wrapping the truth in some kind of lie – Satan can NEVER tell the truth (**John 8:44**)

So YES we CAN hear God's voice because He says so in **John 10:27**, *"²⁷ my sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."*

So if you are one of God's sheep, one of His followers, and you are because you just made a commitment to Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour – You CAN hear the voice of God, we just need to develop this skill.

Therefore you, yes you too, can and should hear His voice, but how would you hear God's voice, if you are too busy or if you are not in a relationship with Him and talking to Him and hearing from Him every day?

That is where setting aside a specific time, every day, to spend time with God is essential to your spiritual growth, and also to hearing God's voice. This we as Christians call a "Quiet Time"

A time, when you find a quiet place in your home, where you can be alone with just you and God!

Get involved in the Church activities

As a new believer, I want to encourage you to attend everything that can fit into your schedule, that your church has to offer, like outreaches, socials, training, home cells, weekly services, and other events. (**Hebrews 10:19-25**)

The more you can immerse yourself in the Word of God and the more you spend time with fellow Christians, and build up a Godly relationship with Christians, the faster you will grow as a Christian.

Get Baptised

Baptism is a very important step for any believer to take. It is a conscious decision that a believer takes where you acknowledge that you have given your life to Jesus Christ and that as you are submerged in the water, you are dying to your old self and as

you come up out of the water, you are raised into your new life in Christ Jesus.

Jesus told Nicodemus, who was a Pharisee (a Jewish priest), when he asked Jesus, what he must do to be born again, Jesus said this in **John 3:5-7** *⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'"*

Jesus said we must be born of Water – Baptism in water and of the Spirit – Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

You have already started with this process, when you gave your heart to Jesus Christ, so all you have to do is be obedient and be baptised with water and baptised in the Holy Spirit.

So ask your pastor, when the next baptism service is going to be, go to the training and get baptised as soon as possible.

It does not matter if you were christened or baptised when you were small, the important thing with being baptised, is it must be your own decision and as an act of your own will and that it is an acknowledgement of your faith in Jesus Christ.

When you were baptised or christened when you were younger, you had no choice in the matter, your parents took you to the pastor and he baptised or christened you.

Remember, Baptism is always a conscious decision you make with your will after accepting Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour and is an outward profession of your faith in Jesus Christ.

You are telling the world and Satan that you are now God's child and you have died to self and have been raised in Christ as a new creation or Christian – Christ-like!

The old you has died and your new life has been risen in Christ Jesus, never to be separated again. (**1 Corinthians 15:1-34**)

Can you be baptised more than once?

Yes, you can! Some people used to serve Christ and were born again but they went astray for a time and feel that they want to be baptised again as a sign of their re-commitment and that is fine, you can be baptised again if you so desire!

Being Baptised in the Holy Spirit

I would encourage you to read **John 14:15-21**, which talks about Jesus Christ saying that He will send them, His disciples, but also us, the Holy Spirit.

And this happened at Pentecost in the upper room in **Acts 2:1-13**.

Before this baptism in the Holy Spirit, the disciples of Jesus were full of fear at His crucifixion, and now after this baptism, they became fearless and preached the Gospel throughout the world even at the cost of their own lives, they each paid the ultimate price for Jesus except John who died of old age in exile.

The process is very simple, but I would encourage you to speak to your pastor and ask him/her to pray for you to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. If they do not know what to pray come visit us we will gladly pray with you for God to touch you and fill you with the Holy Spirit.

Then trust/believe/ have Faith, that, the Holy Spirit, that power will come on you through that prayer and the laying on of hand by the pastor, so that you too, can become a witness for Jesus Christ and accomplish all that God has in store for you!

Usually, during this prayer, you will also receive the gift of tongues. This is where you start to speak in a new language you have never learned, yet which God fully understands and we call this our prayer or heavenly language.

Satan has no clue what you are saying, but only God knows what you are praying. You are not praying with your mind but with

your spirit. You are speaking directly to God - Spirit to spirit! (**1 Corinthians 14:2**)

Speaking in tongues is not a prerequisite or proof that you have or have not, received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit but only one of the evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Just as a matter of interest there are nine gifts of the Spirit and speaking in tongues is only one of them, please read, **1 Corinthians 12:1-14:39**, for more information on this topic.

The gift of tongues is the one gift that will benefit you for the rest of your life and allow you to pray with fire and power because you are praying with your spirit and you are speaking to God, Spirit to spirit.

How to pray

Many people think that prayer is only reserved for elite Christians and that one must know your Bible and be a mature Christian before one can pray.

This is a lie from Satan because all that prayer is, you speaking/communicating with God. You tell Him what is on your heart and you listen to what He is saying or what is on His heart.

When I was born again many years ago, I discovered a prayer outline that made sense to me, and I have used it extensively in my quiet times, and that I use to teach new converts to Christ how to pray. NEVER forget that pray can CHANGE ANYTHING or any SITUATION.

ACTS Prayer method

Please, if you are comfortable praying, then go ahead and pray the way you are comfortable with, this method just helps one to be focused and pray for things in four specific areas.

Also, we have the outline of the Pray that Jesus prayed in **Matthew 6:9-14**, you are also welcome to use this or any other prayer outline that will help you pray effective prayers.

But whatever you do please start learning to read you Bible aloud and praying out loud so that you can hear what you are reading and saying.

This method is called the ACTS method and this is how it works.

This method has four sections that just flow into one another, you do not start and say Adoration – God I adore you... then you say, okay now Thanksgiving, God I thank you for

No, it is should just flow, once you have run out of things to say about God and what you adore in Him for, start to Confess your sins then when you have done that start to Thank Him etcetera.

Also, I will mention the name, God, in this prayer but you are welcome to pray to God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit or just refer to them a God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit. They are all the same person, remember God is three in one being.

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit but they are all ONE GOD! So do not get hung up on that right now, it is more important that you pray and speak to God and hear from Him.

A-Adoration

I always start my prayer with ADORATION towards God. During this phase of your prayer, you tell God how amazing and worth He is to be praised and worshipped.

Tell God why you love Him and why He is so amazing.

C-Confession

During this part of the prayer, you remember what sins you have committed and you tell God, that you are sorry for these sins and ask for and receive His forgiveness for your sins.

Remember that Jesus Christ paid for all your sins, past, present and future sins on the Cross of Calvary, however as a Christian God wants us to acknowledge when we have sinned and ask God to forgive us and receive our forgiveness.

1 John 1:8-10, *“⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.”*

Confession has at least four parts

When we confess our sins to God, there are at least four-parts to any confession.

1. Firstly, we realise and acknowledge that we have transgressed God will which is sin and we tell God that we are sorry for the sin.
2. Secondly, there is repentance – repentance means we turn away from that sin, in other words, it is like walking into a wall and turning around in a new direction.

We make a conscious decision to turn from the sin, in other words, once we thought that sin was okay but now we turn our back on that sin and walk in another direction.

3. Thirdly, we renounce that sin in our life.

Here we take authority in JESUS NAME over that sin and we renounce that sin in our lives and break its power over ourselves and our loved ones.

4. Fourthly, we receive God’s forgiveness for our sin and we also forgive ourselves for making the same mistakes.

Confession Prayer example:

Lord, I confess that I took that last cookie in the jar, and then lied about that to my wife, it is wrong, I acknowledge it was a sin, and I am sorry for telling both a lie and being a glutton.

Now, Lord, I repent of the sins of lying and of gluttony and I ask You to forgive me of the sin of lying and gluttony and I turn away from the sin of lying and Gluttony.

Lord, I renounce these sins of lying and gluttony in my life. It will have no hold over me in Jesus's Name and will have nothing to do with lying and gluttony in my life, I renounce it in the name of Jesus Christ, and I accept your forgiveness and I forgive myself for these sins, Amen!

T--Thanksgiving

Next, I start to thank God for what He has done for you, how He has protected you, used you, and come through for you in the past day.

S--Supplementary

During this phase, your prayer for all the other things in your life like your spouse, your children, parents, family, and friends, pray for your government and country, ask God for Godly leaders at work or in the country, and don't forget to pray for yourself.

This is also the area where you ask God for things and pray for other people and do not forget to pray for your pastor too!

Receiving and Giving Forgiveness

Forgiveness is received and given. Yes, you have the power to forgive yourself and others who have hurt you. If you will deal with your hurt and unforgiveness God will make you free of all guilt and shame. **1 John 1:9**

So what is CONFESSION

Confession is where we tell God we are truly sorry for what we have done, we acknowledge that we have transgressed God's will and missed His perfect plan and we repent or turn away from the sin.

Confession always has at least FOUR steps. (See Page 17)

1. Confession
2. Repentance
3. Renouncement

4. Forgiveness

Forgiving others

All of us have people we have hurt or who have hurt us in our lives. God wants us to deal with these hurts we have and the hurts we have caused other people.

So how do we do it? You start by taking some paper and make two lists, a list for those who have offended or hurt you, and the second list of those you have hurt or offended.

Now find a quiet place where you can talk to God – ALOUD and work through your list and forgive each person who has hurt you!

Forgiving others Prayer

This is just a sample of a prayer that you can pray, remember if you confess your sins, God WILL forgive and cleanse you! Pray this pray like you mean every word, do not just recite it! Pray this prayer over and over for every person that has hurt you!

PRAYER

Father, I want to acknowledge that **<name>** has hurt me in the area of **<speaking the areas>** and I want You for forgive **<name>** and I forgive **<name>** for the sins of **<speaking the areas>** and I choose to forgive **<name>** and ask I ask You to forgive **<name>** too for these sins and to remove any offence from their account and mine and to please remove the unforgiveness I have towards **<name>** in the Name of Jesus, I thank you I am free of this bondage, I am free in Jesus Name! Amen! **(Romans 8:1)**

Forgiving Your offences to others Prayer

Pray this prayer over and over for every person that you have hurt or offended!

******Remember - when you offend others you might need to also to contact them and ask them to forgive you! Sometimes this is not possible, maybe this will cause more hurt or even strife but if possible,***

even writing a letter to them when you acknowledge you have sinned against them and you ask for their forgiveness no strings attached!

PRAYER

Father, I want to acknowledge that I have hurt **<name>** by doing **<speaking the areas>**. I acknowledge this as sin and I want You for forgiving me and to realise **<name>**, from the offences I have caused.

I ask you to restore **<name>** for the sins I have committed against them, and I ask You to wipe the slate clean and to bless **<name>**. Help them to forgive me and to release me from my guilt.

I now receive Your forgiveness for these sins and I ask You to wash me in Your precious Blood Lord Jesus, make me white as snow, remove the bondage this sin had over me and **<name>**. I now received Your forgiveness for these offenses against **<name>**. In the Name of Jesus I pray, I accept Your forgiveness and I am now free in Jesus's Name! Amen! **(Romans 8:1)**

Bible Facts

This is a short introduction to your Bible. The Bible is the VERY WORDS of GOD and is His COMPLETE revelation of what He wants you to know about Himself and every issue you will face in life. **(2 Timothy 3:16-17)**

It is the Greatest Love Story ever published and is even today, still the most translated, most published, most purchased book in history – no other book comes even close to it in comparison.

The Library

The Bible has sixty-six books, which are divided into two parts namely the OLD TESTAMENT (Thirty-nine books) and the NEW TESTAMENT (Twenty-seven books)

The OLD TESTAMENT is Jesus Christ Concealed and the NEW TESTAMENT is Jesus Christ Revealed.

In other words in the OLD TESTAMENT, Jesus Christ is present but in a hidden form, often referred to as the Word, Angel of

God, or other references. Jesus is the coming Messiah that the Jewish people were looking for and prophesied about.

The NEW TESTAMENT is all about Jesus Christ and His revelation of this work, firstly in the four Gospels or accounts of Jesus' life, death, and ministry on earth and the rest of the New Testament.

Here Jesus is called, the Messiah, Christ or Jesus Christ – the anointed one, openly by His disciples and followers.

History

The Bible was written by over forty authors over a period of one thousand five hundred years (1,500).

All these books, which were written by these different authors are inspired by the Holy Spirit because each book collectively agrees with the rest of the Bible as a whole and there is a fine thread running through each book that is unbroken.

The order of the books in both the OLD and NEW TESTAMENTS are NOT in historical order and so often when you are reading through the Bible from cover to cover you will find events being repeating, this is just because of the different time each book was written.

Authors

The Bible was written by more than forty authors but the following is a list of a few people who wrote the many parts of the Bible.

Moses wrote the first 5 books of the Bible known to Jews everywhere as the Torah, (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy). Moses also wrote a few Psalms, for example, Psalm 90 & 91.

Many but not all the Psalms were written by King David, his son Solomon wrote many psalms too, and also the Books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Paul wrote the majority of the NEW TESTAMENT (Roman, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews)

The Apostle John, the beloved disciple wrote five books of the NEW TESTAMENT namely the Gospel of John, 1, 2 & 3 John and Revelation.

Division

The Bible is divided into groups or sections.

The thirty-nine books of the OLD TESTAMENT are divided into:

- Torah – The first 5 books of the Bible (Torah means 613 – there were 613 Levitical Laws each Jew need to keep)
- History – Joshua to Nehemiah
- Poetry – Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon and Lamentations
- The Major Prophets (only major because they wrote lots of things) – Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel
- The Minor Prophets – Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Haggai, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Zechariah, Malachi

The twenty-seven books of the NEW TESTAMENT are divided into:

- Gospels – The first 4 books of the New Testament
- History – Book of Acts
- Pauline Epistles - (Roman, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews)
- Other Works – James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1,2 & 3 John, Jude
- Prophecy – Revelation

Reading through your Bible

Is it possible to read through your Bible in a year? The answer is yes, you can even do it in much less time providing you read more!

There are one thousand one hundred and eighty-nine (1189) chapters in the Bible, 929 in the Old Testament and 260 in the New Testament, so that would mean if you read 3.25 chapters a day for one year, you would read through your Bible in a year.

And if you had the time, and you read approximately 30 chapters a day, you could do it in 40 days!

But whatever way you read your Bible, make sure you are reading it and applying what it says in your life. Don't just read it like another book, because the Bible is not just any other book, we need to read the Bible with the reverence and the respect it deserves.

I believe that each believer must at least read through their Bible, once in their lifetime, because it is a complete work and thus must be read as a complete work.

Not many people only read half a novel, so why would you only want to read half of your Bible or only the good parts?

New Believer Reading Plan

As a new believer, I would suggest, you read my booklet, "Believers introduction to developing a quiet time", where I take you through a short, daily devotional journey of one of the books of the New Testament, 1 John, and I teach you to develop a daily time with God which we call a "quiet time"

For those who want to try the scriptures on their own, remember to read the Bible in short chunks that you can understand and read.

You choose the number of verses or chapters you want to read but read with understanding and read until something "jumps

out” at you – in other words, read until God reveals something to you. This is called Rhema or God revealing, the written Word of God is called Logos.

Here is my recommendation, I have put this plan in an order that will help you to read easy-to-understand passages, for you to get the reassurance of your Salvation and also get an understanding as you read.

We do not want you to start in a difficult book like Revelation and give up.

The secret to your Bible reading plan is repetition and also reading the Bible methodically and in small or large parts with understanding and comprehension.

Also do not forget that you can ask the Holy Spirit to give you, insight and understanding of the passage of scripture before you start your reading (**James 1:5**)

If you reach a part you do not understand ask the Holy Spirit or ask your pastor for help!

- Read 1 John (at the back of your Bible)
- Read the Gospel of John
- Read Psalms and Proverbs
- Read the Gospel of Luke
- Read Acts
- Read from Romans – Jude
- Read the entire New Testament
- Read the entire Old Testament

Lost or Missing Books in my Bible

All Bibles have sixty-six (66) Books and are divided into the OLD and NEW TESTAMENTS.

In 325AD, the First Council of Nicaea met together at the request of Emperor Constantine, to lay the foundations of which religious books/manuscripts in circulation were God inspired or not.

This Council accepted the whole Old Testament as Canon because they had original copies of these scriptures, however, there were many letters and documents claiming to be scriptures and they met to read, test and compare these articles to see if they were truly Godly inspired.

Of the hundreds of books, writings, manuscripts and other sources found, only twenty-seven pass all the tests and were added to the Canon, as the New Testament.

You might find some people claiming that they have found new, or lost Godly inspired or Biblical books like the Gospel of Mary, The book of Jasper, the Acts of Peter, the Gospel of Judas etcetera, but none of them is considered inspired by the Holy Spirit and neither are in agreement with the whole Canon of scripture that we have today.

Some Bibles might have an extra twelve books called the APOCRYPHA. This is NOT considered God-inspired and was left out of the Church Canon of Scriptures because they were believed NOT to be inspired by the Holy Spirit but are accepted by the Catholic Church as Canon.

You might also come across other religions bibles like the Jehovah's Witness Bible, the Book of Mormon and other religious books, NONE of these are Holy Spirit inspired and none are accepted as part of the CANON of scripture.

[Good online Bibles](#)

For those of you who do not have a Bible or who would like a good Bible application on your phone.

YOU VERSION

Let me introduce you to YouVersion. It is a safe application that I have used for over 10 years now.

You can download the Bible on your smartphone, go to your app store or Google Play and download YouVersion there.

You can also access YouVersion online at www.youversion.com.

This Bible application has multiple Bible translations in multiple languages including English, French, German, Zulu, Xhosa, Afrikaans, Sotho, Chichewa etcetera and YouVersion, even has daily devotionals and also Bible reading plans.

As I said before I HIGHLY recommend this application and I have used it to read through the Bible multiple times a year, since 2005, I have used Youversion every day.

Blue Letter Bible

An online Bible I use a lot when I prepare messages or to compare scriptures to one another is the Blue Letter Bible found in your app store or Google Play store or at www.blueletterbible.org

Bible Gateway

The Bible gate Bible is an online Bible that you can use and is found at www.biblegateway.com.

SCRIPTURES

Here are some scriptures to read and meditate on, they are in no specific order except biblical book order:

OLD TESTAMENT - Genesis 1:1-3:19 / Genesis 8:22 / Genesis 50:15-17 / Exodus 20:1-17 / Numbers 23:19 / Deuteronomy 28:1-68 / Joshua 1:6-9 / Joshua 24:15 / 2 Chronicles 7:14-15 / Psalm 1:1-6 / Psalm 34:4-11 / Psalm 91:1-16 / Psalm 103:3 / Psalm 107:20 / Psalm 119:9&105 / Proverbs 1:7 / Proverbs 3:5-13 / Proverbs 6:6-11 / Proverbs 20:22 & 24 / Isaiah 1:18 / Isaiah 53:4-5 / Jeremiah 29:11-14 / Jeremiah 33:3 / Daniel 11:32 / Malachi 3:8-11 / Malachi 4:2-3

NEW TESTAMENT - Matthew 5:17-18 / Matthew 7:7-12 / Matthew 7:15-23 / Matthew 10:28 / Matthew 11:28-29 / Mark 11:22-24 / Mark 16:15-18 / John 1:1-18 / John 3:16-17 / John 14:1-6 / Acts 4:12 / Romans 3:20-26& 28 / Romans 6:20-23 / Romans 8:1-4 / Romans 10:9-13 / Romans 12:1-2 / 2 Corinthians 5:7 & 17-21 / 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 / Galatians 5:16-26 / Ephesians 6:10-18 / Philippians 4:4-14&19 / Colossians 3:1-4 / Hebrews 4:12 / Hebrews 11:1&6 / James 1:22-25 / James 4:7-11 / 1 Peter 2:24 / 1 John 1:4-10 / Revelation 12:11 / Revelation 21:01-22:21

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“¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

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All scriptures referenced in this document are from the:

*The Holy Bible, New International Version. Grand Rapids: Zondervan House,
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