

Who is Jesus Christ?



Discovering New Life in Christ.

WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?, is the first in the **NEW LIFE IN CHRIST** series. It was originally produced in Spanish as ¿QUIÉN ES JESUCRISTO?. Its purpose is to help you discover the true identity of Jesus Christ, and the eternal life he offers. When you finish this Volume, continue with Volume 1, 2 & 3

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You may download a free copy of this book at the following website: www.NewLifeDiscipleship.com

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- 1. We congratulate you for accepting the challenge of discipling new believers using New Life in Christ as your guide. The results of this study can produce eternal fruit.
- 2. Let the Bible always be your authority in answering the questions. The students should look up the Bible passages by themselves and try to answer the questions based on what the Bible says.

Some who have not studied the Bible before might need a brief orientation on how to find the references in their Bibles.

- 3. This manual may be used in many different ways. In most cases, you will study one lesson a week, encouraging the disciple to do all the assignments in each lesson.
- 4. Try not to let your sessions get too long.
- 5. Encourage the students to answer the questions in their own words instead of copying from the Bible word for word. Using their own words will help them to analyze the meaning of the texts studied.
- 6. Avoid preaching. Use questions to discover what the students understand and to stimulate active participation.
- 7. Prepare well for each session yourself. As the teacher, you should be familiar with the content and key concepts of each lesson.

Your preparation should include prayer for your students and for your own heart.

8. Try to have the students think about the practical implications for their lives. Help them to understand specific, practical applications.



When you see the "STOP" sign, pause to meditate on the questions you find there.

Have the students make use of the assignments at the side of each lesson.

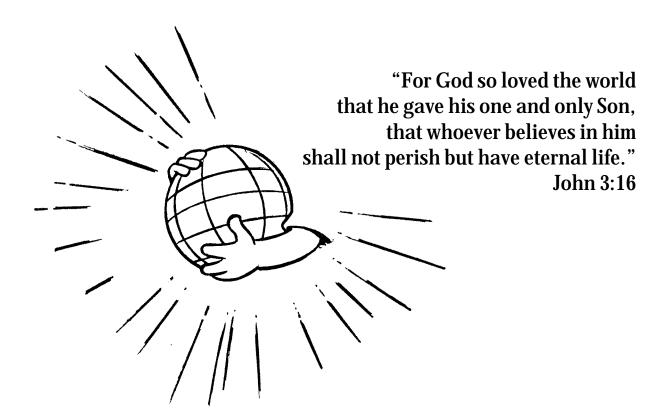
- 9. Help students cultivate the habit of prayer. Teach them by praying together with them.
- 10. It is important to understand that discipleship is much more than studying the lessons of these manuals. Discipleship implies a life change for the disciple.

This manual is just an initial step. The students will need continual help as they seek to change their character, ways of thinking, habits, etc.

11. It is of the utmost importance that disciples learn habits like daily Bible reading, prayer, and Scripture memorization.

Do not scold students who have not completed some of the assignments, but be sure to encourage them to finish.

- 12 Be sensitive to what God is doing in the student's life. Take time out of each session to answer any questions they might have, or to help with facing problems in their personal life.
- 13. Sometimes you will not have time to answer every question, so learn to pick the most important ones to discuss.
- 14. When you finish this manual, encourage the student to continue studying the *NEW LIFE IN CHRIST* series which can be downloaded at www.NewLifeDiscipleship.com





Step 1 Jesus, the Author of Life

| | | True or False? Most people today are looking for a better life. All religions lead us to heaven. If I try hard enough, I will be able to earn eternal life. No one can really be sure if they will go to heaven or not. | | |
|-------|--|---|--|--|
| at as | onderful teacher, while others call him the Son of G the hands of the Roman soldiers. In his day, some a fraud, a dangerous man who would only cause t | fferent answers. Some say he was a great man and God. Others admire him for the way he suffered abuse believed he was sent from God while others viewed him crouble. Since there are so many different opinions, let's up the scripture passages in your Bible. If you don't have ok. | | |
| JES | SUS: THE CREATOR OF LIFE | | | |
| 1. | because Jesus was the way God chose to <i>commu</i> John 1:1 | us? Note: John calls him "the Word" in this passage inicate with men by taking upon himself a human body. | | |
| 2. | was he treated by his own people? v. 11 How is he treated by most people today? There are many who say they believe in Jesus. The | ney claim to be his followers, yet they don't obey his " while others are indifferent. They put him off saying, | | |
| JES | SUS: THE WAY TO LIFE | LIFE | | |
| 3. | In John 14:6 Jesus said he was the way, the truth | and the | | |
| 4. | Many say that all religions lead us to God. What | do you think? | | |
| | According to Jesus, how many ways are there to heaven? | | | |
| | Although it is common to hear that all religions lead to heaven, John 14:6 says otherwise. This isn't something we Christians have invented to exclude others, rather it is what Christ himself claimed. | | | |
| BU | TTHERE IS A PROBLEM | | | |
| 5. | One day Jesus spoke to a man named Nicodemus works, Jesus told him it was necessary to | s, a respected religious leader: yet even with all his good John 3:3 | | |
| 6. | Born again? Why? How? What was Jesus refer | ring to when he spoke of being born again? | | |
| | | | | |

"I remember a year ago when a doctor told me, 'You have an illness from which you won't recover.' I walked out to where I live 5 miles from Portland, Oregon, and I looked across at that mountain that I love. I looked at the river in which I rejoice... I looked up into the great sky where God was lighting His lamps, and I said,

'I may not see you many more times, but Mountain, I shall be alive when you are gone; and River, I shall be alive when you cease running toward the sea; and Stars, I shall be alive when you have fallen...' " 1



HOW TO BE SURE YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE

- Admit that you are a sinner.
 Admit that you are incapable of pulling yourself out of the pit of sin you have fallen into.
- Renounce your sin (repent).
 Ask God for His forgiveness.
- Believe that Jesus died in your place and was raised from the dead.
- Pray, asking Christ to come into your heart, to forgive your sin and to control your life.
 Trust in him alone to save you.

Dear Lord Jesus
I acknowledge that I am a sinner
who needs your forgiveness. I
believe that you died for my sins.
I repent of my sins and want to
leave them behind. I invite you
to come into my life today. I
trust you as my Savior and I will
follow you as my Lord. Thank
you Lord for saving me. Amen

| /. | we need to be born again because we are in |
|-----|--|
| | Ephesians 2:1 |
| | Describe the life of someone without Christ. Ephesians 2:3 |
| | We find evidence of our spiritual deadness in the conflict, tension and hate that exists within families, neighbors and friends. We are not able to control the evil desires within. With egotism and pride we say "me first", "I'm better", "Look at that guy, I'm not as bad as he is." etc. |
| 8. | In spite of being dead, God wants to make us Ephesians 2:5. |
| JES | SUS: THE ONE WHO GIVES LIFE |
| 9. | Jesus said we must be born again (John 3:3). Read John 3:16-18 to find out how to be born again. What does John 3:16 say about God's attitude towards us? |
| | God loved us so much that he gave his son Jesus Christ. What does he offer through Christ? v. 16. |
| | Who can have eternal life? v. 16 |
| | It is important to note that "eternal life" does not just refer to our future in heaven, but also to our life right now. John 5:24 says that the believer "has crossed over from death to life." |
| 10 | . Some people say God is always angry and loves to punish us. What does he really want for the world? John 3:17 |
| | Therefore, if a person is condemned, it is because |
| | John 3:18 |
| 11 | . Far from condemning us, what God really wants is that we become his children. What transforms us into children of God? John 1:12 |
| | What does it mean to "receive him" or "believe" in his name? |
| | Many believe with their heads but not with their hearts. Is there a difference? |
| | Stop for a moment and think about the implications of this lesson. How is your life going? Are you tired of failing to live the way you want? Until now, what's been your attitude toward Christ? Indifference |
| (| ☐ Rejection ☐ Obedience ☐ Respect, yet from a distance. ☐ You rarely think about him. |
| | Have you received the eternal life that Jesus offers? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure |
| | If you died today, and were knocking on heaven's door, and the Lord asked you: "Why should I let you into heaven?" What would you answer? |
| | See the explanation at the left: HOW TO BE SURE YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE |



Step 2 Jesus, the Lamb of God

| True or False? | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| In Biblical times they used a lamb as a sacrifice for sin. | | | |
| The Bible says that Christ was led like a lamb to the slaughter. | | | |
| In order to enter heaven, you must have your name written in the Lamb's book of life. | | | |
| | | | |

A little girl named Liz was suffering from a rare and serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year old brother, who had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness. The doctor explained the situation to her little brother, and asked the boy if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister.

He hesitated for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, "Yes, I'll do it if it will save Liz." As the transfusion progressed, he lay in bed next to his sister and smiled, as we all did, seeing the color returning to her cheeks. Then his face grew pale and his smile faded. He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, "Will I start to die right away?" Being young, the boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give his sister all of his blood. Yet he willingly submitted to the procedure anyway. In this lesson we will look at another sacrifice, the greatest in world history.²

SACRIFICE

1. John called Jesus "the _____ of God, who takes away the ____ of the world". John 1:29 In order to understand the significance of the phrase "Lamb of God" we must return to the Old Testiment where the Jews offered a lamb as a sacrifice for their sins (Leveticuls 4:32). When they were enslaved in Egypt, God sent ten plaques to convince Pharoah to let the Israelites go. The last THE BLOOD OF plague was the death of the firstborn son of each household in Egypt. In order to save their sons, the THE LAMB ON THE DOOR POST Jews sacrificed a lamb and sprinkled the blood on the doorposts of their homes. (Exodus 12:1-13). 2. Since the days of Adam, mankind has been enslaved by sin. What was the price paid to rescue us? Gold or silver? No! According to 1 Peter 1:18-19 the price was much higher. Verse 19 says that we were rescued from our empty way of life with the precious ______ of Christ, a _____ without blemish or defect. 1 Peter 2:24 explains that he bore our _____ in his body on the cross. We didn't have to pay anything to be ransomed from sin; but for Christ, the price could't have been higher. It cost him everything. 3. Isaiah 53:3-7 presents Christ as the Lamb of God. He gave his life for us, yet how was he treated? v. 3 In all of world history, there has never been a greater example of love and sacrifice than that of Jesus. Even so, his sacrifice was ignored or rejected by the majority. Are things any different today? _____. Nothing has really changed, the world keeps on rejecting him. Some scoff, others are indifferent, and the majority doesn't believe. And you, how are you treating Jesus today? _____ 4. Why was Jesus bruised and wounded ? Isaiah 53: 5 5. Verse 6 describes sin as the tendency to Sheep tend to wander in search of pasture, and if left alone will stray from their shepherd, get lost and find themselves in trouble. Sin is not just open rebellion against God, it is seeking our will instead of His. When

path leads us to make poor decisions, reflect unhealthy attitudes, and act inappropriately.

we go our own way, it may look like we are doing fine, but later we will find ourselves completely lost. Our

| 6. How many of | us have stray | red from God's p | ath to go our o | wn way? Isaías 5 | 53:6 | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|------------------|---|
| 7. What did Go | d do to get us | back on the cor | rect path? v. 6- | 7 | | |
| In Summary: | - | | - | resent him as the imself our sin and | _ | |
| Sin an | d I | | | | | |
| What h | as my daily wal | k been like up unt | il today? Overall, | I have walked: | | |
| UB □ N | ly own path. | ☐ The path God | d has set before r | ne. 📮 I'm not su | ure. | |
| In what ways | does sin reveal | l itself in my life? | | | | |
| Meditate on | your condition | as a fallen person | and on the Lamb | who sacrificed his | life in order to | rescue you. |
| THE LAMB OF GO | DD IN THE FUT | URE | | | | will be in heaven? |
| victorious ove | er Satan. Wha | s of a future time at is it that will m | nake our victory | • | e nam the Lo | nly those whose es are written in amb's book of life." evelation 21:27 |
| "If anyone's name not found writt the book of life | en in D | ho are the only evelation 21:27 | | nter heaven? | | |
| | | | | se names are not | : | Is your name written in the book of life? |
| | • | • | | s book of life? | | |
| ((43) | | | | | | |
| How ca | ın I have my n | ame written dov | | | | |
| | | | | | | See below |
| | | | | | | |
| You may | pray the follo | owing prayer to l | have your name | written in the La | amb's book o | f life: |
| | | | | ours. At times I having to live without ye | | , |
| sins and v for me. I | vas raised from trust in him and | the dead. I accept | ot him as the Lam give my sin and w | crifice. I believe he ab of God who saci vrite my name dow fe. | rificed his life | |
| | | Sincerely, | s lost | | | |



Step 3 Jesus, the Good Shepherd

| True or False | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| | Many of those who claim to be Christ's followers will let you down someday. | |
| | Nobody really loves me or is concerned about me Christ will take care of me for all eternity. | |

"But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd." Matthew 9:36

DOES ANYONE CARE ABOUT ME? John 10

How many of us feel at times like our life is out of control? Many of us feel lonely, insecure, abandoned or mistreated, often alienated from others, especially God. We are like the sheep without a shepherd that Christ mentioned in the verse above.

| or us, but sometimes don't keep their oposedly were on our side yet have t you down? |
|--|
| THE SHEPHERDS VOICE "My sheep listen to my voic |
| I know them, and they follow me" John 10:27 |
| I read how an American, trave ing in Syria, saw three native shepherds bring their flocks to the same brook, and the flock drank there together. |
| After a while one of the shep- herds called out, "Men-ah! me ah!" the Arabic for "follow me All of his sheep left the comm herd and followed him up the hillside. The next shepherd dic |
| the same, and his sheep follow him without his even bothe to count them. |
| ing shepherd if he could put of his shepherd's cloak and take crook, to see if they would for |
| him. He did this and called ou "Men-ah! men-ah!" Not one |
| :11 sheep followed him. They did know his voice. |
| "Will your flock never follow anybody but you?" he asked |
| the shepherd, to which the mareplied, "Oh, yes; sometimes a sheep gets sick, and then he was follow anyone." 3 |
| |

THE SHEPHERDS VOICE

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.." John 10:27

I read how an American, traveling in Syria, saw three native shepherds bring their flocks to the same brook, and the flock drank there together.

After a while one of the shepherds called out, "Men-ah! menah!" the Arabic for "follow me." All of his sheep left the common herd and followed him up the hillside. The next shepherd did the same, and his sheep followed him -- without his even bothering to count them.

The traveler asked the remaining shepherd if he could put on his shepherd's cloak and take his crook, to see if they would follow him. He did this and called out, "Men-ah! men-ah!" Not one sheep followed him. They didn't know his voice.

"Will your flock never follow anybody but you?" he asked the shepherd, to which the man replied, "Oh, yes; sometimes a sheep gets sick, and then he will follow anyone." 3

| 6. | In addition, the good shepherd his sheep. John 10:14 No circumstances better than him. | body understands our needs and |
|------------------|---|--|
| S | Of all your friends, which ones are really concerned about you? | |
| | Is there someone who cares for your more than Jesus? | |
| | Is there anyone who has sacrificed more for you than Jesus has? | |
| TH | HE DOOR TO THE SHEEPFOLD | |
| <i>(ga</i> ga an | addition to being the good shepherd, Jesus also said v. 9: "I am the door ate)". In biblical times the sheepfold was often a wall of rocks without any ate. The "door" was just an opening in the wall where the sheep entered and left the fold. At night the shepherd slept in this opening to protect his seep. He was literally the door to the fold. | |
| 7. | Jesus said in John 10:9 "I am the gate; whoever through n By saying "I am the gate" he was indicating that the only way to enter the | |
| 8. | Would you like a shepherd to take care of you? The Bible teaches that there is only one way to get to heaven, by means of faith in Jesus Christ. Neither your religion nor your works can save you, only Christ alone. | Entering by the Door |
| | Which of the following phrases best describe you? | Lord, I know that I have been like a lost sheep. |
| | STOP C | I'm tired of living on my |
| | ☐ I am trusting in Jesus alone to save me. | own, far from your care. I believe that you died for me |
| | ☐ I am trusting in Jesus, my good works and my religion to save me?. | on the cross. Right now, |
| | ☐ I'm sure I am a member of Jesus' flock. | I invite you to be my good shepherd. I put myself under |
| | ☐ I'm not sure whether I'm part of his flock or not. | your authority and your care. |
| | | By faith I receive the |
| | If you aren't sure, this prayer will help you to know the good shepherd. | eternal life that you offer. |
| 9. | Jesus said: "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow How often do you listen to the voice of Jesus? Regularly Very lit How can we hear his voice today? | tle 🚨 Hardly ever |
| 10 | D. Do you follow him? Regularly Very little Hardly ever Is there something holding you back from following Jesus? What is it? | |
| | 11. Jesus promises eternal life to those who below believed in him as your Savior and good shept How secure is your future? John 10:28 Why | nerd you're one of his sheep. |
| | Jesus is calling you, Are you listening for his voice? Permit Jesus to take care of you when you "Cast all your anxiety on him because he | |
| | for his voice? Cast all your anxiety on him because he | |



Step 4 He's alive!

| HE | HE'S ALIVE | True or False It doesn't really matter how we live because everything ends when we die. Everyone will be resurrected after their death. It's possible to approach death without fear or desperation. |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | - | n when suddenly, the tranquility of the moment was |
| 2. | What did the angel tell the women? Matthew 2 Although they were surprised, Jesus had already | 8:5-6 predicted his death and resurrection. Matthew 16:21 |
| 3. | • | t he also |
| 4. | ficult to believe. Romans 1:4 emphasizes the im | rld history, so extraordinary in fact that many find it dif- portance of the resurrection when it says that Jesus was by |
| | Why is it important for us to know the | |
| 5. | 5. What would happen if Jesus did not rise from the | ie dead? |
| | 1 Corinthians 15:12-13 | |
| | 1 Corinthians 15:17 | |
| W | WHAT AWAITS US AFTER WE DIE? | "If the dead are |
| 6. | 5. Some people do not believe that we all will be rewould agree with those in 1 Corinthians 15:32: | "If the dead are not raised let eat and |
| | us and for tomorrow | tomorrow |
| | Many want to believe that everything ends wher idea of being accountable to God for the way th live the way they want without having to think a | ey have lived. They'd rather |
| | Do we need to concern ourselves about what ha Why? | ppens after our death? John 5:28-29 |
| | | sand when it feels threatened, believing that this will this is foolishness, just as foolish as those who believe st because they choose to deny it. |
| 7. | 7. When Jesus heard that his friend Lazarus had die | d, what did he say to his sister Martha? John 11:25-26 |
| | | He who in me will, even |
| | | |



DYING STATEMENTS OF THE SAVED?

Some fear death while others await it with tranquility. Here are some words from believers as they approached death.

> "Eternity rolls up before me like a sea of glory." 4

"I go with the gladness of a boy bounding away from school. I feel so strong in Christ." 5

"The sun is setting: mine is rising. I go from this bed to a crown. Farewell." 6

"Weep not for me, but for yourselves. I go to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." 7

THINK ABOUT IT

Ephesians 1:20-21 explains that the power of God was what resurrected Christ from the dead.

| Now He is sitting at | |
|----------------------|-------|
| | v. 20 |

Now sitting at the right hand of God, Christ is above all rule and authority... not just in this age but in the one to come.

Think about the importance of knowing that Christ is above all authority and power.

| | from | nen asked Martha: "Do you believe this?" Later when Lazarus rose the dead many believed in him, but not all. Some only saw this ent as a threat to their traditions and way of life. John 11:45-48. |
|-----|--------|---|
| 8. | Read | Acts 17:30-32. Paul spoke to the men of Athens urging them |
| | | because God has established a day when he |
| | will _ | v. 30-31 |
| | | t himself will be the judge whose authority was established when God d him from the dead. (v. 31). |
| | V. 32 | When they heard about the resurrection, some, |
| | while | e others said |
| | | |
| S | | There will always be some who will scoff and others who want to know more. Therefore, we should each ask ourselves: |
| | | Do I believe that Jesus rose from the dead? |
| | TD) | Do I believe that I will be raised after my death either for eternal life or for condemnation? |
| | | It is not sufficient to know there will be a resurrection; we must believe . As we saw in John 11:25-26, those who believe in Jesus will never die. |
| 9. | says | orinthians 15:55 says" Where, oh death, is your victory?". While God there is victory over death, many today deny it. are you going to believe? |
| | VVIIO | are you going to believe: |
| 10. | | ething big awaits those who believe in Jesus. What is it? |
| | | One day we will be |
| | | od's presence forever, along with all who have believed in Christ. efore, v. 18 says that we should not focus our attention on things |
| | that | are rather on those which are |
| | Why | ? |
| | | |
| | | Through the resurrection of Jesus, we know that something much more than the grave awaits us. He was the first to ascend to heaven, but not the last. Our death will be a step |
| | 1 | to something much better than we could ever imagine. |
| Dis | cuss: | |
| | How | can we be sure we will be raised to eternal life and not to |
| | | lemnation? |

Should we be concerned if the majority of our friends do not believe in Christ, or if they are indifferent to his promises? Why?



A curious story...

Step 5 Christ, my advocate

| | True or False When we stand before God at the final judgement, we will need someone to defend us Our attorney, Jesus Christ, only defends guilty clients. There are many intermediaries between God and man. | |
|--|---|--|
| A curious story | | |
| A little girl's mother had just dressed her in her best outfit because they were expecting special visitors that day. Busy with all the preparations, she left her daughter after warning her not to get her clothes wet playing with the water in the laundry room as she loved to do. The water however was too big of a temptation and quickly forgetting the warning she began to play in the sink. While playing, she heard someone knocking at the door but while heading inside she noticed that the edge of her dress was all wet. "Oh no! Mommy is going to punish me for playing in the water! What can I do?" Her little mind began to formulate a plan. She grabbed a pair of scissors and cut off the wet part of her dress. Content with her work, she said to herself. "Now | Remember the silly things you did as a kid? Believe it or not, the little girl's story at the left is true. Wouldn't it be great if we could solve our problems as easily as she thought she could solve her's with a pair of scissors? Think about the following questions for a moment: Yes No Do you have secrets you don't want anyone to know about? Yes No Does your conscience bother you or do you sometimes feel shame? Yes No Do you feel like others hold your past against you? Yes No Do you sometimes feel so bad about your mistakes that you doubt there's any remedy for them? Yes No Is there any cure for a guilty conscience? Feelings of guilt and shame often leave us with a sense of helplessness. We ask ourselves: "What will others think? ¿Can God ever forgive a person like me?" | |
| Mommy won't know I got my dress wet." Confident that she had eliminated the evidence of her mischief she marched into the living room to greet the visitors." 8 | My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 1 John 2:1 | |
| 1. Why do we need attorneys? | | |
| , | need an attorney to defend you before God? | |
| Some don't think they have a serious problem with sin because they say "God will forgive me; and besides there are others who are worse than I. What does the Bible say to the person who thinks he is good enough to get into heaven without help? Isaiah 64:6 | | |
| | | |
| | rate? Read 1 John 2:1-2 and answer the following questions: | |
| | | |
| | ade the decision to repent of their sins and invite Jesus Christ to be Although he desires that we not sin, he recognizes that there will be | |
| . What recourse do we have in moments of failure? v. 1 | | |

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" Romans 3:23



CONTRACT WITH MY ATTORNEY

Lord Jesus,

I need your help to defend me because I am guilty of the serious charges against me. I have no defense or excuse to justify my conduct. I repent of all the evil I have done.

I believe you shed your blood for me to pay the debt I had before your father. I understand that you took my place and have paid in full my sentence with your death.

By means of this accord, I contract you to be my lawyer, inviting you to defend me against the charges that have been brought against me. I accept you as my only mediator and renounce any others besides you that I have trusted in the past.

I can't pay you for your services since I'm without resources. The best that I could offer you would not be enough. The only thing I offer you is my trust and faith in you. Additionally I offer my life to serve you.

I will be needing your services continuously during the course of my life since I will be struggling against sin until the day I die.

| Sincere | ly wi | ll al | l my | heart, |
|---------|-------|-------|------|--------|
|---------|-------|-------|------|--------|

| Sign | | | |
|----------|--|--|--|
| Date | | | |

| he | s Think about what this means for your life. |
|---------------|---|
| Wh | at does our lawyer have to work with? How strong is our case? |
| wh | esiastes 7:20 says "There is not a righteous man on earth who does t is right and never sins." Our case is hopelessly weak because we d guilty before God, without justification for our sin. |
| Ho | n that we are guilty, is there a chance we will escape punishment? can Jesus successfully defend guilty clients like us? According to |
| | hn 2:2 he is the for our sins. |
| pos der | means that he is the sacrifice that satisfies God's wrath and makes ible the forgiveness of our sin. Since his blood satisfies God's just ands against us, our heavenly father doesn't demand anything (like our good works, penance, etc.) |
| | Some truths about our lawyer.: |
| / | He is just. He doesn't win with legal tricks or maneuvering that distorts the truth. He cannot be bribed, nor does he use lies. |
| / | Christ defends guilty clients. Without him, we would have no defense or hope of triumph. |
| 1 | Jesus defends us alone before God, without calling us to testify. What could we possibly say in our defense since we are without excuse? |
| / | The devil accuses us continually before the father. (Rev. 12:10-12). Jesus refutes the accusations with his blood which paid the price of our guilt. |
| / | He doesn't proclaim our innocence, but rather admits our guilt. He argues that the debt has already been paid in full by his death. |
| 1 T | mothy 2:5-6 says there is only one God and one |
| bet | veen God and man, the man who gave |
| him wh | self as a ransom for all people. What is a mediator? It is someone intercedes between two parties, trying to reconcile them when e are problems. |
| Ho | many mediators are there according to 1 Timothy 2:5? |
| Ma | y people don't believe that Jesus is the only mediator between and man, instead they look to others to intercede for them. |
| | o or what are some of the intermediaries people seek to intercede hem before God? |
| STOP @ E | The truth is that we are in no condition to defend ourselves before a holy God. Only Jesus can! |
| A CO | Have you contracted Jesus Christ as your lawyer or are you trusting |
| | in yourself or someone else? |
| | If not, read and sign the "Contract with my Attorney" in the column at the left if you are in accord with what it says. |

5. Some people don't trust lawyers. Is Jesus different? According to v. 1



Jesus, My Attorney

After living a "decent" life, my time on earth came to an end. The first thing I remember is sitting on a bench in the waiting room of what I thought to be a court house. The doors opened and I was instructed to come in and have a seat by the defense table.

As I looked around I saw the "prosecutor." He was a villainous looking gent who snarled as he stared at me. He definitely was the most evil person I have ever seen. I sat down and looked to my left and there sat my lawyer, a kind and gentle looking man whose appearance seemed familiar to me. The corner door flew open and there appeared the judge in full flowing robes. He commanded an awesome presence as he moved across the room. I couldn't take my eyes off of him. As he took his seat behind the bench, he said, "Let us begin." The prosecutor rose and said, "My name is Satan and I am here to show you why this man belongs in hell." He proceeded to tell of lies that I told, things that I stole, and in the past when I cheated others. Satan told of other horrible perversions that were once in my life and the more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed that I couldn't look at anyone, even my own lawyer, as the Devil told of sins that even I had completely forgotten about.

As upset as I was at Satan for telling all these things about me, I was equally upset at my representative who sat there silently not offering any form of defense at all. I know I had been guilty of those things, but I had done some good in my life - couldn't that at least equal out part of the harm I've done? Satan finished with a fury and said, "This man belongs in hell, he is guilty of all that I have charged and there is not a person who can prove otherwise."

When it was his turn, my lawyer first asked if he might approach the bench. The judge allowed this over the strong objection of Satan, and beckoned him to come forward. As he got up and started walking, I was able to see him in his full splendor and majesty. I realized why he seemed so familiar. This was Jesus representing me, my Lord and my Savior. He stopped at the bench and softly said to the judge, "Hi Dad," and then he turned to address the court. "Satan was correct in saying that this man has sinned, I won't deny any of these allegations. And yes the wages of sin is death, and this man deserves to be punished." Jesus took a deep breath and turned to his Father with outstretched arms and proclaimed, "However, I died on the cross so that this person might have eternal life and he has accepted me as his Savior, so he is mine." My Lord continued with. "His name is written in the book of life and no one can snatch him from me. Satan still does not understand yet. This man is not to be given justice, but rather mercy." As Jesus sat down, he quietly paused, looked at his Father and replied, "There is nothing else that needs to be done. I've done it all." The judge lifted his mighty hand and slammed the gavel down. The following words bellowed from his lips...

"This man is free. The penalty for him has already been paid in full. Case dismissed."

As my Lord led me away, I could hear Satan ranting and raving, "I won't give up, I'll win the next one." I asked Jesus as he gave me my instructions where to go next, "Have you ever lost a case?" Christ lovingly smiled and said, "Everyone that has come to me and asked me to represent them has received the same verdict as you, Paid in Full." 9

PAID IN FULL
CASE DISMISSED



My Refuge

A group of pioneers were making their way across one of the central states to a distant place that had been opened up for homesteading. They traveled in covered wagons drawn by oxen, and progress was necessarily slow. One day they were horrified to note a long line of smoke in the west, stretching for miles across the prairie, and soon it was evident that the dried grass was burning fiercely and coming toward them rapidly.

They had crossed a river the day before but it would be impossible to go back to that before the flames would be upon them. One man only seemed to have understanding as to what could be done. He gave the command to set fire to the grass behind them. Then when a space was burned over, the whole company moved back upon it.

As the flames roared on toward them from the west, a little girl cried out in terror, "Are you sure we shall not all be burned up?" The leader replied, "My child, the flames cannot reach us here, for we are standing where the fire has been!"

What a picture of the believer, who is safe in Christ! He is our refuge who suffered the fire of God's judgment on our sin. All those who trust in Christ are safe forever from the fires of God's wrath.

"On Him Almighty vengeance fell, Which would have sunk a world to hell. He bore it for a chosen race, And thus becomes our Hiding Place."¹⁰





From the passages on the right we can learn the following about the second coming of Christ:

- ✓ Everyone will see him come. Now he is invisible but on that day he will be seen by all.
- ✓ He will be recognized in all the earth and in the heavens as the King of Kings.
- ✓ Before establishing his kingdom, Christ will judge the unbelieving nations with fury. They will cry out when they realize that they have chosen the wrong side, yet it will be too late.
- ✓ His kingdom will never end. There will be stability, unlike the insecurity of the present world.

Think About It

- 1. How does it make you feel when you read these passages?
 - I'm afraid because I don't know how I will fare on judgement day.
 - ☐ I feel secure.
 - ☐ These passages encourage me to follow Christ even if others laugh at me.
- 2. Do you have your passport into Heaven ready?

3. Will you be among those who rejoice or among those who weep when Christ, our great King returns? _____

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

Philippians 2:9-11

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.

Revelation 1:7

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."

Revelation 11:15

Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:15-16



Step 6 **Christ the King**

| | | True or False Some day Christ will reign, bringing the peace that the world so desires. For many, the return of Christ to earth will be a moment of lament and tears. The world is lost and there is no hope for anything better than the chaos in which we currently live. | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over | THE COMING KING Isaiah prophesied that baby Jesus, who was born into a humble home and began his life as a carpenter, would not only be worshiped by the shepherds and wise men, but one day would reign over God's kingdom and be proclaimed the <i>Prince of Peace</i> (Isaiah 9:6-7). Let's learn more about Jesus, the coming King! 1. What did the angel tell Mary in Luke 1:31-33 about her son's future? | | | | |
| | his kingdom, forever." Isaiah 9:6-7 | | | | | |
| 2. | King David, would reign king, yet instead of bein not be fulfilled, only that What does Philippians 2 Jesus humbled himself | s's throne" refers to the Old Testament prophesies that Jesus Christ, a descendent of a over Israel forever. History tells us that Jesus presented himself as the promised and acclaimed, he was rejected and crucified. This doesn't mean the prophecies will at we will have to wait a bit more to see his kingdom. 2:7-8 say about Jesus? as a servant, becoming a man and dying on the cross; yet does the story end to come? Let's keep reading. | | | | |
| 3. Even though he was rejected in the past, what will his future be like? Philippians 2:9-11 | | | | | | |
| 4. | Can we truthfully say that every knee on earth is bowed before Jesus today? | | | | | |
| TI | HE KINGDOM OF GOD | | | | | |
| 5. | Although Jesus often spoke about the <i>kingdom of God</i> , we don't see a visible kingdom today. Instead, Christ reigns in the hearts of his followers. How can we tell today if someone has really submitted to God's rule in their life? Matthew 7:21 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| 6. | Matthew 13:31-32 compares the kingdom of heaven to a | | | | | | |
|----|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | it grows to become the biggest of plants. When someone joins Christ's MY KING | | | | | | |
| | kingdom, he is part of something big. He is on the winning side when | | | | | | |
| | all is said and done. Many today don't give much thought to follow- ing Christ. They would rather seek the approval of their friends and the God, read the Sermon on the | | | | | | |
| | comfort of their possessions, yet time will show that the most important things in life aren't what we see but the eternal things that are invisible. | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| 7. | Matthew 13:45-46 compares the kingdom of heaven to a merchant looking for | | | | | | |
| | When he found one of great value he went and sold and and | | | | | | |
| | What does this parable tell us about the value of belonging to Christ's kingdom? | | | | | | |
| 8 | What is needed to enter th | e kinadom of God? John | 3·3 | | | | |
| O. | | What is needed to enter the kingdom of God? John 3:3 | | | | | |
| 9. | Matthew 6:33 tells us to se | Matthew 6:33 tells us to seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness. What does this passage tell us | | | | | |
| | about our duties as member | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | Which kingdom First, I must seek his kingdom, which means to submit myself to Christ as my | | | | | |
| | Which kingdom do I belong to? | king. He needs to be number one in everything I do? Who rules my life? | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | 1257MT J | In light of the above, we should ask ourselves: | | | | | |
| | <i>42/</i> / | Am I a member of the kingdom, a citizen of heaven? 🖵 Yes 🖵 No 🖵 Not sure | | | | | |
| | \prec | If not, whose kingdom of | do I belong to? | | | | |
| | Do T | Am I living as a faithful | citizen of the kingdom? | ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I struggle | | | |
| | Do I already have my | Who rules my life? | | | | | |
| | passport to heaven? | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | TALKING WITH MY KING | 6st | | f the universe revolved around as the way I was too, but I real- | | | |
| | Oh King Jesus. I recognize you as maker and supreme ruler of all creation. I humble myself before your power and majesty. I invite you to the throne of my life. Control my mind so that I may begin to think as you do and control my feet so I can follow your ways. | | | am only a little fish in a vast | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | by the world which wants to | | | |
| | | | mold me into its ways. Help me to resist the temptation to follow any other king or to declare myself | | | | |
| | I want to proclaim your glory when you come to reign. I want you to rule, not just in me, but in the whole world. Oh eternal king, I eagerly await the day when every knee | | the ruler of my own life. ` | You are my hope for the present | | | |
| | | | and for all eternity. | | | | |
| | will bow before you. | | Your humble s | servant, | | | |
| | The world is sunk in confusion | | | | | | |
| | doubt and scoff at you. They think they are so wise and | | S | ignature | | | |

WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?

If you accepted Christ as your personal Savior while studying this manual, your teacher will be able to give you advice about what to do next. If you haven't had a teacher, then take the following advice into account:

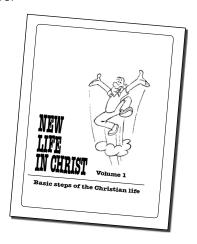
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!". 2 Corinthians 5:17



You have been born again! Your sins have been forgiven and you have become a new person in Christ! God is just beginning to change your life. Live by faith, entrusting yourself to his care, letting the Holy Spirit do the work of transformation in your life. It is God himself who will change you.

As a newborn in Christ, you now begin the process of growth. This is called discipleship. There are certain spiritual disciplines or exercises that will strengthen you as a new believer. The more you practice them the stronger you will become.

- 1. Pray to God constantly throughout the day, every day. Prayer is talking with God, telling him of your joys and burdens. You can praise him, thank him, confess your sins to him and ask for his help.
- 2. Read the Bible every day. A good place to start is with the book of John in the New Testament. Before you begin tell God: "Here I am Lord, ready to hear your voice." Read the Bible slowly, meditating on its meaning. It is often wise to read the passage several times to understand it better before moving on to the next passage. Above all, remember that in addition to being read, God's Word is to be obeyed.
- 3. Look for and attend a Bible believing church. The believers from church are your brothers and sisters in Christ, your new family. Ask the pastor for help in becoming involved in your church.
- 4. Speak to others about Christ. Tell them what he has done in your life.
- 5. Separate yourself from the world of sin in which you previously lived. Pray to God, asking his help to resist temptation. If for some reason you fall into sin, confess your sin directly to God as soon as you become aware of it.
- 6. Submit yourself to Christ moment by moment, letting him control all areas of your life.
- 7. Begin to study the **New Life in Christ** series of discipleship books. There are three volumes that you may download for free from the following website: www.newlifediscipleship.com



BIBLE PASSAGES TO ACCOMPANY EACH LESSON

Step 1

John 1: 1-4

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was with God in the beginning.
- 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
- 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men.
- John 1:11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him
- John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- John 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.

Ephesians 2:1-5

- 1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,
- in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.
- All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.
- 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,
- 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

John 3:16-18

- 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.
- 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.
- John 5:24 "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 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

Step 2

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!.

1 Peter 1:18-19

- 18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers,
- 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.
- 1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

Isaiah 53:3-7

- 3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- 4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

- But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.
- We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Revelation 12:10-11

- 10 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.
- 11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Revelation 21:27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 20:15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Step 3

John 10:1-15

- 1 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber.
- 2 The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep.
- The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
- When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.
- But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice."
- 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them.
- 7 Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep.
- 8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.
- 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.
- 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it.
- 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.
- 14 "I am the good shepherd: I know my sheep and my sheep know me—
- 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:27-29

- 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
- 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.
- 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

Step 4

Matthew 28:1-6

- 1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.
- 2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.
- 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.
- 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

- 5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was cruci-
- 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.
- Matthew 16:21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Acts 1:9-11

- 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.
- 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.
- "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."
- Romans 1:4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord,

1 Corinthians 15:12-13

- But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
- 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.
- 1 Corinthians 15:17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.
- 1 Corinthians 15:32 If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus for merely human reasons, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

John 5:28-29

- 28 "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice
- and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.

John 11:25-26

- 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;
- 26 and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Acts 17:30-32

- 30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.
- For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."
- When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject."

2 Corinthians 4: 14, 18

- because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence.
- So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Eph 1:20-21

- 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,
- far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Step 5

- Isaiah 64:6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.
- Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 John 2: 1-2

- 1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
- 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 Timothy 2:5-6

- 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,
- 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.

Step 6

Luke 1:31-33

- 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.
- 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,
- and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.

Philippians 2:7-11

- 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature[b] of a servant, being made in human likeness.
- 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!
- 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,
- 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 13:31-32

- 31 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.
- Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

Matthew 13:45-46

- 45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.
- 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.
- John 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."
- Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Quotes

- 1. W. B. Hinson
- 2. Author unknown.
- 3. Cited by Dick Innes, Daily Encounter www.actsweb.org/detoday. Used with permission.
- 4. Margaret Prior
- 5. Adoniram Judson
- 6. B.S. Bangs
- 7. John Bunyon
- 8. Related by the little girl to the author.
- 9. Author unknown.
- 10. H.A. Ironside, <u>Illustrations of Bible Truth</u>, Moody Press, 1945, pp. 34-35

Certificate

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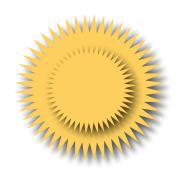
who has satisfactorily completed all the lessons of the course

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Who is Jesus Christ?

Discovering New Life in Christ

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16



Pastor or Teacher

D. 24.0

. Teacher