



Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! The Angels are rejoicing and so are we, because of your decision to live a new life in Christ

We have written this material for you to read, believing that it will assist you as you begin your journey with Christ. Please read it prayerfully, and make every effort to allow Christ to lead you in everything you do.

We are praying for you and encourage you to become an active part of a Bible-teaching church as soon as possible!

Your Brother and Sister in Christ,

Bishop T.D. Jakes

First Lady Serita Jakes

Welcome to the body of Christ The Most Important Decision of Your Life!

Throughout life you have made certain decisions about what you believe; whether it concerns politics, religion, what house you will buy, or who you will marry. There are times when decisions in life can be difficult. Sometimes, it is just a matter of gathering all of the information and facts and drawing an intelligent conclusion. The decisions you will make as you read this information can bring healing, growth, and restoration into every aspect of your life.

Let me ask you this very important question: If you died today, where would you spend eternity?

The Bible says, "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." (John 3:16)

You see, God loves you and He has a great plan for your life. He wants everyone to accept His free gift of salvation and everlasting life.

Let me ask you another question: If you believed something that was not true, would you want to know the truth?

Perhaps, like most people, you believe that just because you are a good person you will go to heaven. However, Romans 3:23 says, "...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Does that include you? Romans 6:23 goes on to say, "...the wages of sin is death." You see, God knows we desire to live an upright and moral life. He knows that we basically want to do the right thing. More importantly, He knows that as humans we are weak and at times are unable to overcome sin in our lives. For that reason, He sent His Son, Jesus, as a substitute to die for our sins. You see, there is power in the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. When we go to God and ask forgiveness of sin, the Blood of Jesus covers our sins. It says, "We are no longer guilty."

Salvation. It's a Free Gift

Receiving the gift of salvation is so simple. All you have to do is invite Jesus Christ into your life to be your Lord and Savior. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith; and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; not by works, so that no one can boast."

Now that you know it is a free gift, the only other thing you need to know is how to receive this gift. Once again, it is not hard. Romans 10:9-10 says, "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." In other words, all you have to do is pray from your heart this simple prayer.

Lord Jesus,

I ask you to come into my life, to be my Lord and Savior. I believe You died for my sins and rose victorious over death. I ask You to forgive me of all my sins. I turn from my sin today, only to follow Jesus Christ all the days of my life. Lord, I give you all of my pain, all of my hurts, all of my fears, and all of my infirmities. Today, I receive total and complete healing in my life. Because of the shed Blood of Jesus Christ, from this day forward, I am a new creation in Christ Jesus.

Thank you Lord!

Joining the Local Church

God places great emphasis on being involved in your local church. In Hebrews 10:25, the Word says, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching." You see, members of a church have an obligation to one another. They are to encourage and pray for one another. There are also special blessings that come to you when you join the local church. You will come under the prayer covering of your Pastor. Healing and restoration will be made available to you because God tells us that there is healing in the storehouse, which is the local church.

In our spiritual walk, we draw strength from one another. A good example of how this happens is when you put one piece of burning coal in a barbecue pit by itself. Soon it will lose its heat and burn out. However, if that same piece of coal is added to a whole pit of heated coals, it will draw from and add heat to the others. Like the coals, our faith is increased as we pray and believe together for one another. The power behind this is described in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 which states, "Two are better than one, because...If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!" In other words, as we come together as one body, our faith is increased and we are able to overcome the traps of our spiritual enemy. You see, the devil knows that if you do not have other Christians around you, it will be very easy for him to isolate you and bring problems and confusion in to your life.

Perhaps one of the most important reasons for you to join the local church is that God has assigned each one of us a specific place in the Body of Christ. I Corinthians 12:28 says, "And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration..." In other words, God has something special for you to do within the Body of Christ. The place God has destined for you to serve cannot be filled by anyone else but you. For that reason, it is extremely important that you come under the authority of your Pastor and begin to fulfill the plan God has for your life.

If you have not found a local church home yet, we would be glad to have you join us for our live Sunday (9am) and Wednesday (7pm) services streamed live over the Internet, during your search.

Water Baptism

Now that you have asked Jesus into your heart to be your Lord and Savior, you may be asking, “What do I do next?” Matthew 28:19 says, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” According to Matthew 28 and Acts 2:38, God’s word tells all Christians that they should be water baptized. Water baptism is not a ritual, but is an outward sign to the world that you have made Jesus Christ, Lord of your life.

The Bible tells us that as we enter the water during baptism, we are identifying with Christ’s death on the cross, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from the dead. As a result, when we go beneath the water, this signifies our sins being buried with Christ. When we rise from the water, this signifies that our old sin nature has been crucified and we now have a new godly nature.

Now, You Need the Power of the Holy Spirit

Before the day of Pentecost, the disciples were afraid of persecution and death threats. When the power of the Holy Ghost fell on the day of Pentecost, common fisherman turned from being cowards to being world changers and history makers. After they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, they were afraid of nothing. Prison did not scare the disciples, torture did not frighten them, and persecution just made them stronger.

You see, if you need a breakthrough in your life, you need the power of the Holy Spirit and a baptism of boldness. The Holy Spirit will give you strength that you do not have in the natural.

If you need this power in your life, all you have to do is ask. Luke 11:9-10 says, “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”

The Bible also tells us that all of the following things happened to the disciples on the day of Pentecost. “Suddenly a sound like a blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” (Acts 2:2-4). God is no respecter of persons. What He did for the disciples, He will do for you. Just as your salvation was a free gift from God, so is the infilling of the Holy Spirit. If you want

this Power in your life, all you need to do is ask. Begin by following these four simple steps:

Step 1: Praise Him. Begin by being thankful to the Lord for His goodness. Thank Him for His grace and mercy in your life.

Step 2: Now pray this prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank you that I am born again and on my way to Heaven. I desire today to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Luke 11:10 says, "For everyone who asks receives..." I ask You to fill me with the Spirit to overflowing.

Step 3: Now close your eyes and raise your hands to the Lord. This is simply a sign to the Lord that you surrender all to Him.

Step 4: Open your mouth and speak out by faith. Say nothing in English. Your heavenly language will bubble up on the inside of you and come right out of your mouth. You must make the sounds and the Holy Spirit will form the words. Don't worry about what you are saying or anyone around you. Lock in with God. Give Him your tongue and give Him the breath in your body. Just open your mouth and begin to speak. Let it out. Don't worry about what it sounds like to you. Don't be ashamed, or embarrassed or timid. He's right there with you.

****If you prayed to receive the Holy Spirit and for some reason you did not receive, you must understand that there is nothing wrong with you. On occasion, some people need a little help. Please feel free to come to the alter at the conclusion of any church service and ask a minister to pray with you.**

If You Need Healing

It is not God's will that you or your family suffer with disease or sickness. His word says in 3rd John Chapter 2, "Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well." Healing is for today and it is for you! The devil wants you to believe that God brings sickness and disease to punish you, but that is a lie. God's word says in 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." In other words, when God sent Jesus, He also made provision for us to receive healing. So when sickness appears in your life, recognize that it is not of God and begin to speak God's word over your situation.

The following are some scriptures dealing with healing:

Proverbs 4:20-22: “My son, pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to a man’s whole body.”

Mark 11:24: “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

James 5:14: “Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.”

Psalms 103:2-3: “Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.”

Don’t Get Discouraged!

If it looks as though your healing did not happen immediately when you prayed, do not get discouraged. Healing is already yours. Just continue to pray the healing scriptures. Remember, “trust in the LORD with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5). “So is my word that goes out from my mouth; it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it (Isaiah 55:11). In other words, your healing will be made visible because God’s word says in the scriptures, “You are already healed!” (1 Peter 2:24)

Priorities for a Successful Start as a New Convert

1. Make sure that you follow up your new commitment by finding yourself a good Bible-believing church. Experience the free-flowing power of God, which you so desperately need. “Let us not give up meeting together.” If you haven’t found a church that you feel comfortable attending yet, we would love to have you be a part of our eChurch via our live web stream.
2. Be baptized according to Scripture, which is commanded of Jesus to all new converts. (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 19:1-6)
3. Read your Bible each day so you can grow, receive direction, and be strengthened in your spirit. As you read the Word, you are allowing God to talk to you as well. (II Timothy 2:15; Psalms 119:11; Matthew 4:4)
4. Pray each day. Prayer is simply talking to God. Set aside time and find a quiet place where you can be alone with Him. It is important to be consistent. (Luke 11:1; James 5:16; Philippians 4:6-8)

5. Begin tithing as you are commanded by God. The word “tithing” means “tenth”. One tenth of your total income belongs to God. He leaves in our trust 90% of our income but expects the first 10%. (Numbers 18:24-28; Malachi 3:8-10)
6. Become involved in the different ministries within your new church home. This will give you the opportunity to function within your God-given spiritual and motivational gifts. (Ecclesiastes 9:10; I Corinthians 12)
7. Do not allow yourself to do the same things or frequent the places, which may cause you to stumble. You have a new life in Christ. Enjoy that life by developing a new lifestyle and experience the freedom God has for you. (Romans 8:1-2; II Corinthians 6:14-18; I Thessalonians 5:22)

We trust that these things implemented in your everyday walk, as a child of God will help you to grow and become strengthened in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If you walk with God, He will walk with you.

We rejoice in the fact that you have personally accepted Christ as your Savior today, and our prayer for you is that you continue to abound in the grace of God that is able to keep you from falling.