

7 New-Found Faith



New-Found Faith



“How great is the love the Father has given us so freely! Now we can be called children of God. And that’s what we really are!” (NirV, 1 John 3:1)

How exciting that you have shared in the privilege of leading a child to Christ. Your preparation and prayers have paid off and now it’s time to Celebrate!

“I tell you, it is the same in heaven.

There is joy in heaven over one sinner

who turns away from sin.” (NirV, Luke 15:10)

Create a faith memory for that child so they will always remember this day!

- Give them a memento for remembrance.
- Share with their parents/care givers.
- Celebrate with them and their church friends.
- Share with the pastoral staff so that the whole church can join the celebration.
- Acknowledge and congratulate the student publicly and in private.
- Follow up their commitment with personal and immediate discipleship.

The following 3 lessons are designed for the child who has just asked Jesus to be their forever friend. The intention is to walk a child through the basic elements of this commitment, help them verbalize this life changing decision, and begin them on their spiritual journey with a solid foundation.

1 Lesson One – Celebrate Your New-Found Faith helps the child see and hear what just happened, identify with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, and introduces the concept of spiritual growth.

2 Lesson Two – Communicate with your New-Found Friend discusses Bible study and prayer providing practical ways a child can begin to implement those into their daily habits. It also covers temptation and how to stay close to Jesus.

3 Lesson Three – Connect with your New-Found Family shares the role of the church, worship, serving, and missional living. This lesson helps the student see how all of these roles contribute to his/her spiritual growth.

The three lessons are intended for one-on-one or small group instruction. They are designed to be highly informational while allowing for student interaction and activity. Please reformat to fit your church's specific need.

New-Found Faith



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Lesson 1
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CELEBRATE YOUR NEW-FOUND FAITH!

Key Verse:

John 3:16 (NIRV) – “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”

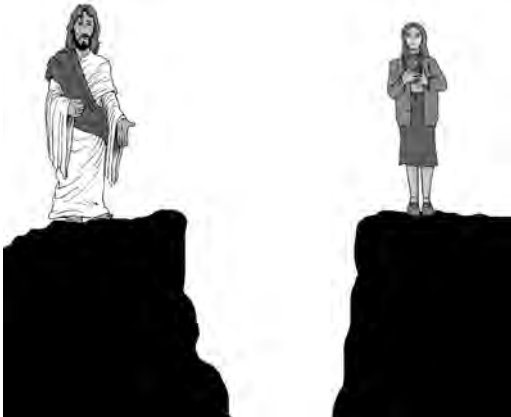
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

Celebrate! Your new-found faith!

God loves you very much and wants to have a relationship with you. But God is perfect and holy, nothing bad can touch God.

The Bible, which is God’s book, tells us that “Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God’s glory.”(Romans 3:23, NIRV) Because of our sin, we can’t get near to God. It is as if there is a big valley separating God from us.

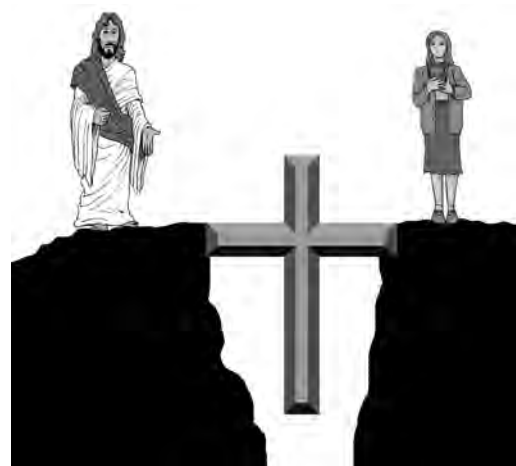




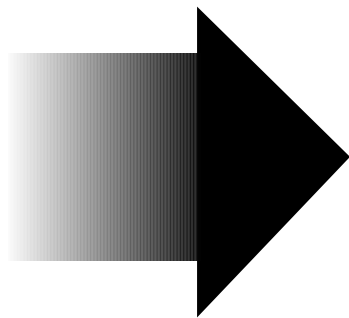
Because God loves us so much and knew we couldn't cross the valley on our own, He sent His only son, Jesus, to be the bridge. Jesus came to earth and lived a long time ago. We can read all about Him in the Bible where it tells us: "God loved

the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." (John 3:16, NIV)

Jesus left Heaven and came to live on earth to show us the way to God. Jesus took the punishment for our sin and died on the cross to make a way for us to reach God. Because Jesus died so we don't have to, we call Him our Savior.



God offers us this free gift of salvation through Jesus, it is called **GRACE**.



How do you accept this free gift of GRACE?

1. You Admit you have sinned and repent, or feel sorry for it.
2. You Believe that Jesus died on the cross and is your Savior.
3. You Confess your sins and ask Jesus to forgive you.

You accept this free gift through **FAITH**. Believing that Jesus is your Savior and Knowing that you can have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



Now you have God's promise of eternal life – or living with God forever! That is why we celebrate. In fact, all of Heaven celebrates too: "I tell you, it will be the same in heaven. There will be great joy when one sinner turns away from sin."

(Luke 15:7, NIV)

Write out your story: How did you come to admit your sins, believe in Jesus and ask for forgiveness?

KEY WORDS:

Savior

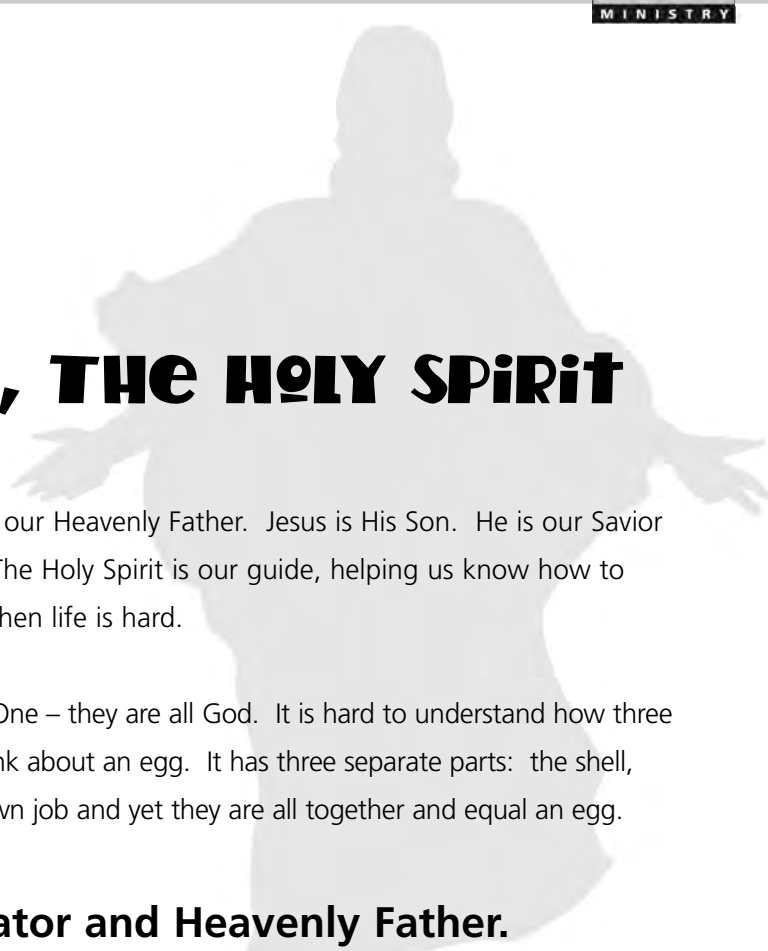
Grace

Faith

Repent

Sin

THE BIG 3 GOD, JESUS, THE HOLY SPIRIT



God is the creator of all things, and is our Heavenly Father. Jesus is His Son. He is our Savior and wants to be our Forever Friend. The Holy Spirit is our guide, helping us know how to choose right and providing comfort when life is hard.

All 3 are different and yet all three are One – they are all God. It is hard to understand how three can be separate and yet the same. Think about an egg. It has three separate parts: the shell, the white, and the yolk each with its own job and yet they are all together and equal an egg.

**God is our creator and Heavenly Father.
Jesus is our Savior and Forever Friend.
The Holy Spirit is our guide and Comforter.**

When you became a Christian – you gained a new relationship with God, a forever friend in Jesus, and a constant companion in the Holy Spirit.



“May the grace shown by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love that God has given us, and the sharing of life brought about by the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

(2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV)

4H: **HEART + HEAD + HANDS + HABITS =** **HOLY LIFE**

God is Holy and wants us to be like Him – Holy too. Holy means that He is pure or without sin. It is possible for you to be holy like God is holy. In fact, God tells us to be holy:

“Be holy, because I am holy. I am the Lord your God.” (Leviticus 19:2, NIV)

The only way to be holy is to let the Holy Spirit help us by the renewing of our hearts, transforming of our heads, giving in service through our hands, and living daily like Jesus through our habits.

How do you Renew your Heart?

By asking forgiveness for your sins.

How do you Transform your Head?

By learning all you can about Jesus and trying to live like He lived.

How do you Serve through your Hands?

By serving others through your abilities and giving your time and things so that others can know God’s love too.

How do you form Holy Habits?

By doing the things that God asks us to in order to help us be closer to Him every chance we get!

“Brothers and sisters, God has shown you his mercy. So I am asking you to offer up your bodies to him while you are still alive. Your bodies are a holy sacrifice that is pleasing to God. When you offer your bodies to God, you are worshiping him. Don’t live any longer the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what he wants is right. His plan is good and pleasing and perfect. God’s grace has been given to me. So here is what I say to every one of you. Don’t think of yourself more highly than you should. Be reasonable when you think about yourself. Keep in mind the amount of faith God has given you.” (Romans 12:1-3, NIV)

How many new words can you find in these verses?

Can you draw a picture of how this looks to you?

KEY WORDS:

Holy

Habits

Renew

Transform

Sacrifice



**YOU ARE READY TO
GROW...**



**CELEBRATE WHAT GOD HAS
DONE FOR YOU!**

New-Found Faith



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 Lesson 2

SAY WHAT? COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR NEW-FOUND FRIEND!

Key Verse:

Luke 10:27 (NIRV) – “He answered, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength and with all your mind.’
 And, ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”

READ ABOUT YOUR NEW FRIEND (BIBLE STUDY)

How does someone become a really good friend? By spending a lot of time together and getting to know them really well.



Although you can't see God like you do your friends, you can spend time with Him and get to know Him really well. He already knows all about you!

A great way to get to know God is to read His story. He told us all about Himself in **The Bible** – it's God's story.

The Bible also gives us answers on how to live. It is a guidebook to life with your New-Found Friend!

Look up these verses and see what else the Bible is.

Psalm 12:6

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Isaiah 40:8

Ephesians 6:17

Hebrews 4:12

Psalm 119:105

The Bible also tells us all about Jesus – His birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection.

“The Word became a human being. He made his home with us. We have seen his glory. It is the glory of the one and only Son. He came from the Father. And he was full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14 (NIRV)

HOW TO READ YOUR BIBLE:



1. Make sure you have a good translation – one you can easily understand.
2. Set a time to read it every day – at least ten minutes when you’re awake.
3. Pick a spot to read – where you can think and not be interrupted.
4. Decide what to read – Recommend
 - New International Reader’s Version Bible
 - One Year Bible for Kids
 - Magnify, by Tommy Nelson

TALK to YOUR NEW FRIEND (PRAYER)



How do you get to know your friends?

You spend time together and you talk to each other.

You share your ideas, thoughts, fears and dreams.

Jesus wants to be your friend. He wants to know your ideas, thoughts, fears and dreams.

Prayer is talking with God.

We can talk to God out loud, in our minds and with our hearts.

We can talk with God at church, in our bedroom, at school, outside – anywhere.

Jesus showed us how to pray in The Lord's Prayer. Matthew 6:9-13.

[Read that verse together. What are the things Jesus did in His prayer?]

What are things you can do when you pray?

1. Praise God and tell Him how wonderful He is. Psalm 103:1-2
2. Thank God for all He's given to you. I Thessalonians 5:18
3. Confess your sins to God – tell Him about the bad things you've done and ask Him to forgive you and help you not to do them again. I John 1:9
4. Ask for something for others, your family, or yourself. When we ask God for something sometimes He answers "yes", sometimes He answers "no" and sometimes He answers "wait" but He always answers. I John 5:14

Prayer is also listening to God.

When you talk with a friend, some of the time you do the talking and the other times your friends does the talking. When your friend is talking, you listen.

When we pray with God, sometimes we talk and sometimes we listen. To listen we need to be quiet and still.



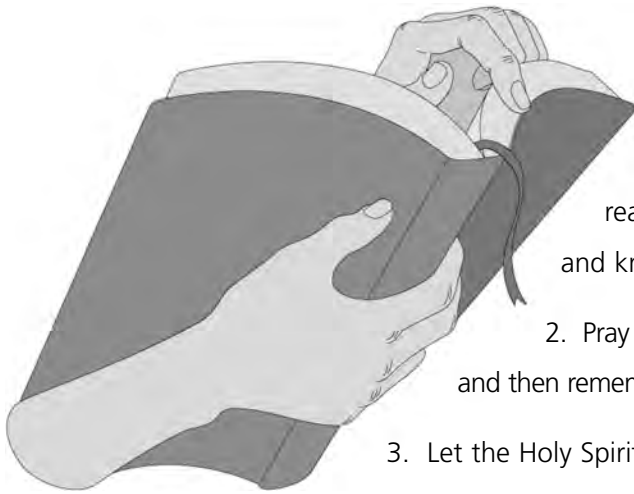
"He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be honored among the nations.
I will be honored in the earth.'"

Psalm 46:10 (NIRV)

**We can know that
God always hears our prayers.**

stay close to JESUS

Jesus wants to be your forever friend. To stay close to Jesus there are some things you need to do:



1. Read your Bible regularly. The more you read about Him, the more you'll know Him and know how to live.
2. Pray every day. Talk to Him all the time about everything and then remember to listen for Him to talk to you.
3. Let the Holy Spirit guide you – listen with your heart.

There is someone who doesn't want you to stay close to Jesus. It is Satan. He'll try to pull you away. This pull is called temptation.

Temptation will come. Temptation is the thought to do the wrong thing or to sin. Temptation makes that choice seem fun or exciting. You can fight temptation.

Jesus was tempted. Read about His temptation and what He did in Matthew 4:1-11.



When you are tempted:



Stop – whatever you are doing and admit the temptation

Pray – talk to God about the temptation

Read – look in the Bible for a verse to help you be strong

Listen - to the Holy Spirit to help you stay close to Jesus

What is a temptation you face?

How can you face down temptation and stay close to God?

YOU CAN GROW . . .

Read the Bible, Pray with God and
stay close to Jesus!

KEY WORDS:

Bible

Guidebook

Translation

Pray

Confess

Temptation

New-Found Faith



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Lesson 3
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I BELONG: CONNECT WITH YOUR NEW-FOUND FAMILY

Key Verse

I Corinthians 12:27 (NIRV) – “You are the body of Christ.

Each one of you is a part of it.”

HANGING OUT WITH FAMILY (CHURCH/WORSHIP)

When Jesus became your Forever Friend you also gained a whole new family! Everyone else who is Jesus’ friend is now part of your New-Found Family – You Belong! You are all children of God.

1 John 3:1 (NIRV) “How great is the love the Father has given us so freely! Now we can be called children of God.

And that is what we really are!”



Isn't it great to belong to God's family?

What things do families do together?



What are some things you can do with God's family?

Fellowship – spending time together, eating together, sharing life together

Discipleship – growing more like Jesus every day

Worship – showing God love, honor and respect

Service – helping others, using your gifts and abilities, sharing God's love with others



We spend time with God's family at church. Church is where we learn about God. We learn how to stay close to Jesus and how to say no to temptation. We make friends there and show God we love Him.

To Keep Growing like Jesus – we need to spend time with His family at church!

HELPING OUT THE FAMILY (SERVING/GIFTS)

The church is made up of people with all kinds of abilities and gifts – or things they do really well. Abilities that God gave them to help the church grow. Everyone needs to do their part so the church can function well.



God gives special gifts to people in His family, the church. I Corinthians 12:4-11 lists some of the gifts. Can you find any? God will give you a spiritual gift too.

God said the church is like a body – and we are all its parts. Read I Corinthians 12:14-27. Can you name some of the body parts mentioned? Which part of the body are you? What can you do to make the church better?



**You GROW when
you serve and use your
gifts for God!**



REACHING BEYOND MY FAMILY (MISSIONAL LIVING)

God not only expects us to be active in His family, the church, and be a good body part by using our gifts and abilities to serve Him, God wants us to share His love with others outside of the family.

Matthew 28:19-20 is Jesus' last command to all of us, His Forever Friends: to go and make disciples – or followers of Jesus. "So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end." (NIRV)

How can you do that?

With your Life – living a life that is pleasing to God and shows others what a difference Jesus makes. How can you do that?

With your Mouth – sharing with your friends your story of what Jesus did for you and His story of how He came to earth, died and rose again for them.



Write out how you could share your story and His story with a friend:

With your Stuff – God has blessed you with a lot of things and money. You can help make followers of Jesus by giving your money or your things to people in need.

What are things you have that other people might need?



How can your money be used to make disciples?

You are commanded to share God's love.

You can share it as you live your life.

You can tell your friends and family about what Jesus did for you.

You can give your money and things to others in need.

You can go to a place where people don't know Jesus.

GROW!

You will GROW when you reach beyond God's family to share His love.

KEY WORDS:

Fellowship

Gifts

Discipleship

Disciple

Worship

Command