



Your Next Move

EXPERIENCING THE GOOD NEWS

God made the first move... He created everything, including Adam and Eve, and made us all in "His image" to know and love Him as a reflection of His glory (Genesis 1:1; 1:27).

Man made the second move... Though we were made by God and for God, Adam and Eve and all their offspring (including you and me) defiled God's image by sinning against Him (Romans 3:23). Since God is perfectly righteous and just, He had to punish our sin because "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23a). This death not only included eventual physical death, but also spiritual and eternal death (hell). Sadly, we are powerless to change this predicament by any good deed or religious effort (Romans 8:8; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Corinthians 2:14).

SO WHAT CAN BE DONE TO CHANGE THIS HOPELESS SITUATION?

Christ made the third move... God demonstrated His amazing love and mercy by sending His one and only Son, Jesus Christ. His sinless life and sacrificial death on the cross paid our

sin debt in full (Romans 5:8, 2 Corinthians 5:15). His bodily resurrection from the dead validated all that Jesus said and did (Acts 17:30-31).

Now it's your move... God did for us what we could never do for ourselves by providing the complete solution to our sin problem. He provides the gift of eternal life and forgiveness of sin for anyone who wants to receive it. Two words sum it up: TURN and TRUST.

First, you must TURN from your sin recognizing your guilt before God. Jesus said, "Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

Second, you must TRUST Jesus Christ alone to receive His forgiveness and gift of eternal life (John 6:47). Romans 10:9 tells us "that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved."

HOW WILL YOU RESPOND?



Guidelines for Growth

ACCOUNTABILITY — You are now under the lordship of Jesus Christ. He is your Lord to obey (Romans 14:9). The Holy Spirit empowers you to live for Him. (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

BAPTISM — Be baptized with water (Acts 22:16). Jesus commanded that His followers be baptized as a sign that your sins are washed away and that Jesus has taken you as His own.

COMMUNICATION — As you read the Bible, God speaks to you. In prayer you speak to God. You should talk to God daily (Philippians 4:6–7). You should form the habit of praying daily for specific people and needs (1 Thessalonian 5:17).

DISCIPLESHIP — Ask another believer to help you grow in the faith (Hebrews 13:7). Getting connected to another more mature believer will not only help you grow but will provide a great resource for support, accountability, and someone to help answer your questions.

EVANGELISM — Tell others about Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 3:15). Evangelism is telling others about Jesus Christ and His eternal life. Since He has transformed your life, you can't help but want to tell others.

FELLOWSHIP — Find a local church where you can grow and serve (Hebrews 10:24–25). God did not intend for you to do it on your own. He gave you His church family so you could learn and apply His Word together and help one another become fully devoted Christ followers.

GOD'S WORD — God's Word gives you the spiritual nourishment and direction you need to make decisions that will please the Lord and fulfill your life. A daily commitment to read and study God's Word will transform your life. A good place to start is the Gospel of John.